Understanding Painful Diabetic Neuropathy

While you may experience the pain of diabetic neuropathy more or less over time, it is very important to understand that the nerve damage that causes the pain is permanent. The best thing you can do to prevent further damage to the nerves is to control your blood sugar levels. The American Diabetes Association recommends a goal of hemoglobin A1c 7% or lower. Your doctor can help you achieve this goal. You can also make a difference by keeping a careful watch on these things:

- If you smoke cigarettes, make it your goal to quit.
- Be sure to eat healthy and nutritious meals, and keep your weight in check.
- If you have high blood pressure, make sure to follow your doctor's directions for controlling it, including taking your prescribed medications every day.
- Make sure to check your feet every day for infections, or cuts and bruises, and make sure to look between all of your toes. If you find anything out of the ordinary, contact your doctor.
- Routinely check your vision as high blood sugar can cause damage to your eyes



for Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy

For more information please call

Benjamin Joslin Northwestern University

Chicago, IL (312) 503 -7504 ben.joslin@northwestern.edu visit www.VM202.com





If you have

Painful Peripheral Neuropathy

With Diabetes and Pain in Both Legs

Join Our Phase 3 Study for the Treatment of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy

Recognizing the Symptoms

An estimated 25% of people who have diabetes are affected by painful peripheral neuropathy (DPN). You may describe the pain in your lower legs as pins and needles, throbbing, tingling, or stabbing. The pain may also feel like a shooting, burning sensation, or very cold, and may often times be more intense at night.

DPN can begin with pain or tingling in your hands or feet. Over time, numbness can gradually increase until eventually, you may lose feeling completely. This may cause small infections or cuts to go unnoticed. In extreme cases, untreated ulcers may lead to amputation.

On a day-to-day basis, getting up and down out of a chair can become challenging, walking a few steps, or driving can become very difficult if you are experiencing diabetic nerve pain symptoms.

If you have some or all of these symptoms, we would like you to consider participating in our study. Taking part in this study may reduce the pain related to your diabetic neuropathy, and will help scientists to better understand the disease's progression and treatment.

DPN Research and You

We are conducting a research study for the potential treatment of pain associated with DPN. You were given this brochure to read because you may be able to participate in this research.

Research has discovered that Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), a protein that your body naturally produces, can cause growth of new blood vessels and protect nerves. Unfortunately, your body only makes a small amount of HGF. VM BioPharma is conducting a research study on a drug that increases your body's production of HGF.

Along with other requirements, patients taking part in this study must:

- Be between 18 and 75 years of age
- Have type I or type II diabetes with treatment control, defined as hemoglobin A1c less than 10%, and currently taking medication and/or insulin for diabetes with no significant changes anticipated in diabetes medication regimen
- Have pain in both lower legs for at least 6 months
- Have no new symptoms associated with diabetes within the last 3 months





Your Daily Life

Living with diabetes and the pain of diabetic peripheral neuropathy can be difficult. The aching, tingling, shooting pain that comes with the disease is very different from common types of pain like a headache or a bruise. Every day tasks can be difficult if you are suffering with the pain of DPN. Because of this, a strong support system can be very helpful.

Your medical team is there for you, and you should contact them you when you feel the need. We also encourage you to rely on your family, friends, and caregivers when you need help. The more they understand the disease, the more they can assist – so let them know what you need, and then let them help! Chances are you will all feel good about it.

