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Myofascial pain syndrome

REVIEWED*By Chris Tighe at 11:08 am, Oct 24, 2017*[Print](#)[Basics](#)[Care at Mayo Clinic](#)[In-Depth](#)[Resources](#)[Definition](#)[Symptoms](#)[Causes](#)[Risk factors](#)[Complications](#)[Preparing for your
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Definition

By Mayo Clinic Staff

Myofascial pain syndrome is a chronic pain disorder. In myofascial pain syndrome, pressure on sensitive points in your muscles (trigger points) causes pain in seemingly unrelated parts of your body. This is called referred pain.

Myofascial pain syndrome typically occurs after a muscle has been contracted repetitively. This can be caused by repetitive motions used in jobs or hobbies or by stress-related muscle tension.

While nearly everyone has experienced muscle tension pain, the discomfort associated with myofascial pain syndrome persists or worsens. Treatment options for myofascial pain syndrome include physical therapy and trigger point injections. Pain medications and relaxation techniques also can help.

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