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Peripheral neuropathy

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Definition

Definition

By Mayo Clinic Staff

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Symptoms

Causes

Peripheral neuropathy, a result of damage to your peripheral nerves, often causes weakness, numbness and pain, usually in your hands and feet. It can also affect other areas of your body.

Appointments & care

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Risk factors

Complications

Preparing for your appointment

Tests and diagnosis

Your peripheral nervous system sends information from your brain and spinal cord (central nervous system) to the rest of your body. Peripheral neuropathy can result from traumatic injuries, infections, metabolic problems, inherited causes and exposure to toxins. One of the most common causes is diabetes mellitus.

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Lifestyle and home remedies

Alternative medicine

Prevention

Products and services

People with peripheral neuropathy generally describe the pain as stabbing or burning. Often, there's tingling. In many cases, symptoms improve, especially if caused by a treatable underlying condition. Medications can reduce the pain of peripheral neuropathy.

Symptoms

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Dec. 02, 2014