

PAIN & DISABILITYSM

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Numbness in Limbs - GENERAL

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Numbness:

Numbness is complete or partial loss of sensation in an area of skin.

Neurological Causes of Numbness:

Neurological causes of numbness include pressure on a nerve, such as the sciatica nerve along the back of the leg; spondylosis (a degenerative condition of the spine); carpal tunnel syndrome (a disorder of the wrist); and polyneuritis. Numbness may also result from disorders of the central nervous system, such as a stroke, multiple sclerosis, syringomyelia (a disorder of the spinal cord), tabes dorsalis, or locomotor ataxia (a disorder of the nervous system). Numbness may also be caused by a deficiency of vitamin B12, resulting in polyneuritis and degeneration of the spinal cord.

Treatment:

The treatment depends on a correct diagnosis of the cause. This can be made only by a physician, who should be consulted when any numbness persists.

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