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Multiple Sclerosis - GENERAL

Background:

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is an idiopathic inflammatory demyelinating disease of the central nervous system, most commonly presenting as an individual mix of neuropsychological dysfunction which tends to progress over years to decades.

The diagnosis is based on a classic presentation (i.e., optic neuritis, transverse myelitis, internuclear ophthalmoplegia or paresthesias) with other neurologic abnormalities scattered in time and space as identified by patient history and exam, together with typical findings on MRI.

- In the U.S.: MS is the most common debilitating illness among young adults. The
 prevalence is 0.5-1:1000 with a 0.2% lifetime risk for the general population. There are
 approximately 25,000 new cases each year/
- Internationally: Approximately 1:1,000,000

Sex:

Women are affected almost 2:1 more often throughout adulthood.

Causes:

MS is commonly believed to result from an autoimmune process.

Tests:

- Lab Studies
- Blood Work
- CT Scan Head
- MRI
- CT of the Cervical Vertebra
- Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF)

Treatment:

- Medication
- · Physical Medicine Rehabilitation