



Atypical Parkinsonism (Parkinsonism Plus Syndrome)



Overview

This syndrome is a set of symptoms that mimic those of Parkinson's disease. In fact, sometimes it's mistaken for Parkinson's disease. But the symptoms are not exactly the same. And, atypical parkinsonism may involve some nerve cells that don't play a role in Parkinson's disease.

Causes

What causes this disorder? Well, we don't know, exactly. There may be many causes, and many factors may play a role. More research is needed.

Symptoms

What are the symptoms? You can have things like tremors, stiffness, and slow movements. You may have trouble with balance and coordination. You may have a stooped posture. You may have speech problems. These are all things we associate with Parkinson's disease. But you can also have symptoms that people with Parkinson's disease don't have. These may include things like a worried facial expression, seeing things that aren't there, and sudden jerking movements. There are different forms of atypical parkinsonism. They don't all have the same symptoms. Ask your doctor for a full list of the symptoms you may experience.

Treatment

How do we treat it? There is no cure for this disorder. It gets worse over time. But we can help you cope with the symptoms. You may benefit from physical and occupational therapy. And, you may benefit from medication. Your doctor will create a plan that's right for you.