

INtroducing

Inflammatory Neuropathies UK

is the only charity in the UK and Ireland dedicated to helping people affected by the conditions outlined in this leaflet.

We're a team made up of staff, trustees, a multi-disciplinary medical advisory board, and of course, our incomparable volunteer and member base.

IN action

We support people via:

- Peer Support
- Get Togethers
- Personal Grants
- Mental Health Counselling
- Reliable and Fact-Checked Information

We impact the industry by:

- Promoting and facilitating field changing research
- Conducting targeted awareness campaigns
- Advocating for our community in parliament
- Working with organisations across the globe to improve care and support

Inflammatory Neuropathies UK

Keep IN touch

@InflamNeuroUK



inflammatoryneuropathies.uk
hello@inflammatoryneuropathies.uk
Office: 01529 469910
Helpline: 0800 374803

Get INVolved

We rely on the kindness of our community to provide our support.

If you'd like to make a one-off or a recurring gift, visit our website.

If a personal challenge is more your cup of tea, why not consider taking on a sponsored event?

Or give the gift of time, skills and knowledge by volunteering.

Visit our website for more on getting involved.

Registered Charity 1154843 & SCO39900
Glennys Sanders House | Pride Parkway
Sleaford, Lincolnshire | NG34 8GL

Inflammatory Neuropathies UK

Peripheral Neuropathies

A Quick Guide

The UK's only charity 100% dedicated to supporting people affected by Inflammatory Neuropathies such as Guillain-Barré Syndrome, CIDP, and MMN.

**IN this
together**

inflammatoryneuropathies.uk

What are Peripheral Nerves and Neuropathies?

Peripheral Nerves connect the **Central Nervous System** (your brain and spinal cord) to the **Peripheral Nervous System** (your sensory receptors and muscles). An illness of the **Peripheral Nerves** is called a **Peripheral Neuropathy**.

These fall under the follow categories, **acute**, **chronic**, and **subacute**.

Acute

Sometimes a **Peripheral Neuropathy** develops very rapidly over the course of a few days or weeks, this is called **Acute**. One example of an Acute **Peripheral Neuropathy** is **GBS**.

Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)

GBS also known as **Acute Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy**, is a very rare condition that affects the **Peripheral Nerves**.

It mainly affects the feet, hands, and limbs, causing problems such as numbness, weakness, and pain. Symptoms include:

- Mobility & dexterity issues
- Weakness in arms, legs, or face
- Numbness, pain, or a tingling or burning
- Balance & coordination issues
- Extreme tiredness

It can be treated and most people will eventually make a full recovery, although this can take months or even years.

Physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech and language therapy can help recovery and with coping with lasting difficulties.

Very occasionally, GBS can cause life-threatening problems such as severe breathing difficulties or blood clots. Overall, around 1 in 20 cases are fatal.

Other **acute** associated conditions include

MFS: Miller Fisher Syndrome

AMAN: Acute Motor Axonal Neuropathy known as Axonal GBS

AMSAN: Acute Motor Sensory Axonal Neuropathy

Brachial Neuritis: also known as Parsonage Turner Syndrome or Neuralgic Amyotrophy
Vasculitic Neuropathy

Chronic

Usually, **Peripheral Neuropathies** develop very slowly over several months or years. This is a clinical course called **Chronic**.

Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)

CIDP, once known as **Chronic GBS** is a similar but longer lasting illness and regarded as a related condition.

Like **GBS**, **CIDP** can improve without treatment. However, recovery may be slow and illness can either get progressively better or worse or can follow a relapsing/remitting course.

Most patients are given treatment in the forms of **immunoglobulin**, **plasmapheresis** or **corticosteroids**. Other drugs may be used in some cases.

Other **chronic** associated conditions include

CIAN: Chronic Idiopathic Axonal Neuropathy

CMFS: Chronic Ataxic Neuropathy with Ophthalmoplegia, IgM Monoclonal gammopathy, cold Agglutinins and Disialogangliosides antibodies

MMN: Multifocal Motor Neuropathy

MMNCB: Multifocal Motor Neuropathy with conduction block

MADSAM: Multifocal Acquired Demyelinating Sensory and Motor neuropathy also known as Lewis-Sumner syndrome

PDN: Paraproteinaemic Demyelinating Neuropathy sometimes described as CIDP with Paraproteinemia

POEMS: Polyneuropathy, Organomegaly, Edema/Endocrinopathy, Monoclonal gammopathy and Skin changes syndrome

Chronic Axonal Neuropathy

Sensory Neuropathy: also known as sensory ganglionopathy, dorsal root ganglionopathy or sensory ganglionopathy

Subacute

Developing over about four-eight weeks, intermediate courses are **Subacute**.

Subacute Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy (SIDP)

SIDP is an intermediate form of **progressive symmetrical sensory** and/or **motor disorder** between **GBS** and **CIDP**.