

MG FACT SHEET

Learn more about MG at myasthenia.org.

What is Myasthenia Gravis, or MG?

- A rare neuromuscular, autoimmune disorder.
- Causes extreme fatigue and profound muscle weakness.
- Impulses from the brain travel down nerves but are blocked by antibodies before impulses reach muscle. The body is essentially attacking itself and impeding muscle function.
- Can impact a person's ability to see, swallow, smile, walk, breathe, or engage in normal, everyday activity.



How Do You Treat MG?

- There is no cure for MG, but there are treatments to manage symptoms.
- Some people can go into remission, but for many people, MG is a chronic illness.



What Should You Know About Having MG?

- Everyone's disease presents a little differently — that's why MG is known as a "snowflake disease."
- MG can be difficult to diagnose. Some people go years without a correct diagnosis.
- MG symptoms often improve with rest.
- Symptoms can fluctuate throughout the day, week by week, or month by month.
- People with MG are so much stronger than their weakest moments!



Who Gets MG?

- Anyone can be diagnosed with MG, though it's more common in adults than children.
- MG can occur regardless of race, gender and age.
- More than 70,000 people are diagnosed with MG in the United States alone.
- A neurologist or neuromuscular specialist usually diagnoses MG with a blood test or specialty tensile tests. It can be diagnosed with other kinds of tests as well.



Myasthenia Gravis Looks Like...

- Drooping eyelids
- Double vision
- Trouble smiling
- Trouble breathing or swallowing
- Extremely weak arms, hands, or legs
- Profound tiredness
- Impeded mobility and movement

