

Peripheral Neuropathy

There are many types of peripheral neuropathy. Patients generally present with a variety of symptoms ranging from pain and numbness in the hands and feet to tingling or burning and a loss of sensation. With 100 known types of peripheral neuropathy, the causes are just as numerous. When the peripheral nerves do not relay information from your central nervous system (the brain and spinal cord) to the muscles, organs, including the skin and the joints back to the brain properly, neuropathy will occur. A single nerve or nerve group can be involved, or possibly multiple nerves.

Conditions that might result in neuropathy include:

Hereditary disorders

Systemic or metabolic disorders

Infectious or inflammatory conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis

Exposure to toxic compounds

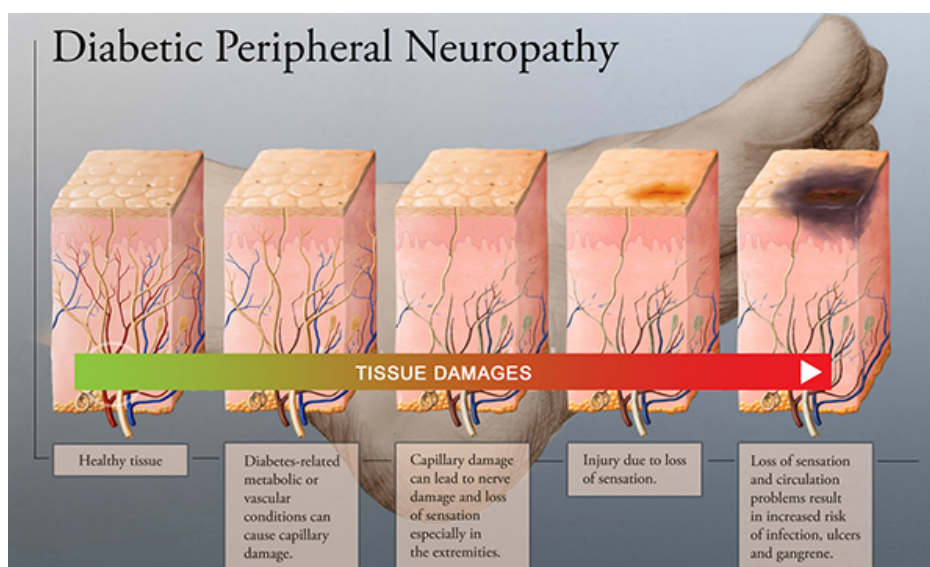
Repetitive trauma

Certain drugs and medications

Biomechanical problems

Ischemia (inadequate blood supply to an organ or part of the body)

One of the most common causes of the peripheral neuropathy is diabetes. High blood sugar levels can damage the nerves that control sensation in your body.



Diabetic neuropathy develops gradually and you may not notice the problem until the damage has already occurred.

