

Mayo Clinic Minute

What is MS?

VIDEO	AUDIO
	Imagine this headphone cord represents a normal nerve. This is what that same nerve might look like after the protective covering is damaged by multiple sclerosis.
Title: Dean Wingerchuk, M.D. Neurology Mayo Clinic	“Something triggers this attack. And, then, intermittently, it flares up and causes damage to the actual nerves within the brain or the spinal cord.”
Graphic: MS symptoms vary	Neurologist Dr. Dean Wingerchuk says MS symptoms can vary, depending on the location of the nerve damage.
Dean Wingerchuk, M.D.	“If it hits the optic nerve, which is for vision, it could cause loss of vision in one eye.”
Graphic: Vision Numbness in limbs Tingling or shock sensations Dizziness Slurred speech	Other common symptoms include numbness in one or more limbs, tingling or electric shock sensations, dizziness and slurred speech.
Dean Wingerchuk, M.D.	“It also tends to strike people in early adulthood, so most people are developing their first symptoms in their 20s or 30s.”
Graphic: No cure yet More drug therapies Research continues	Dr. Wingerchuk says, although there is currently no cure for MS, several drug therapies are now available, and real strides are being made in research.
Dean Wingerchuk, M.D.	“We’ve got a lot of really brilliant people throughout the world who are doing their best to try to crack the mystery that’s MS and put a stop to it.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jeff Olsen.