

Facts on Neurofibromatosis

Also called NF

A condition that causes tumors to form in the brain, spinal cord, and nerves.

Chronic: can last for years or be lifelong

Neurofibromatosis is usually noncancerous. There are three types of this condition. Type 1 usually appears in childhood, while Types 2 and 3 appear in early adulthood.

Type 1 can cause bone deformities, learning disabilities, and high blood pressure. Type 2 can cause hearing loss, vision loss, and difficulty with balance. Type 3 can cause chronic pain throughout the body.

Symptoms:

- Pain in the face
- brown spot on skin, armpit freckles, or lumps
- balance disorder
- high blood pressure
- learning disability
- short stature
- hearing loss
- attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- bone deformities,
- enlarged head,
- ringing in the ears
- scoliosis
- seizures
- vision disorder

Genetic or chromosomal- genetic

Treatments:

- Cant be cured
- Procedures: Laminectomy, Spinal fusion
- Cochlear implant
- Primary care provider (PCP): Prevents, diagnoses, and treats diseases.
- Neurologist: Treats nervous system disorders.
- Neurosurgeon: Specializes in nervous system disorders.
- Medical geneticist: Diagnoses and manages hereditary disorders.
- Ophthalmologist: Specializes in eye diseases.

Is it rare- very rare Fewer than 200,000 US cases per year