

September is

INTERNATIONAL

ATAXIA

AWARENESS MONTH

What is Ataxia?

Ataxia is a neurological condition which affects the coordination of muscle movements. It can affect several movements and cause difficulties to speak, move the eyes and swallow

Causes of Ataxia

Hereditary Ataxia

Hereditary Ataxias are genetic, which means they are caused by a defect in a certain gene that is present from the start of a person's life, inherited from your parents.

Nonhereditary Ataxia

With nonhereditary Ataxia, there is an external cause because of something that happened during their life such as:

- Brain surgery
- Head injury
- Alcohol abuse
- Exposure to toxic chemicals
- Multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, and some other neurological conditions
- Brain tumors

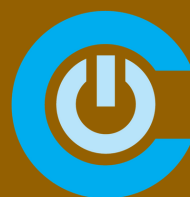
DID YOU KNOW

150,000

PEOPLE IN THE U.S. ARE
AFFECTED BY ATAXIA

Common Symptoms

- Lack of coordination
- Slurred speech
- Trouble eating and swallowing
- Difficulty with fine motor tasks, such as eating, writing or buttoning a shirt
- Difficulty walking
- Gait abnormalities
- Eye movement abnormalities
- Tremors
- Heart problems
- Problems with balance
- Hearing and vision problems
- Depression - as a result of having to live and cope with the symptoms.



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