

Pathophysiology

- An autoimmune disorder that prevents motor neurons and muscles from communicating with each other and contracting as they should, leading to muscle weakness.
- Antibodies attack the receptors for acetylcholine at the neuromuscular junction, leaving less acetylcholine available to bind to the receptors and facilitate muscle contraction.

Signs and Symptoms

- Vision changes
- Ptosis
- Weakness in the face, neck, arms, legs, hands
- Dysphagia and gagging
- Difficulty protecting airway and breathing
- Slurred speech or hoarseness
- Tiredness and progressive weakness throughout the day

Topic/Disorder

NEUROLOGICAL MYASTHENIA GRAVIS

Nursing Assessment

- Respiratory assessment
- Vision assessment
- Ability to swallow and gag reflex
- Tensilon (edrophonium) test
- Assess for myasthenic or cholinergic crisis

Nursing Interventions

- Emergency equipment ready
- Assist with intubation
- Elevate head of the bed
- Monitor timing of meals
- Safety with ambulation
- Organize higher energy tasks in the morning
- Educate the patient on managing symptoms and triggers
- Encourage rest
- Medication management
 - Anticholinesterase
 - Plasmapheresis

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: This concept map is intended for educational purposes only. This is not medical advice and errors may occur. Never treat a patient or make a nursing or medical decision based solely on the information provided in this concept map. You should always assess the individual person and provide care based on your own assessment, the assessments and recommendations of that individual's medical team. Never practice nursing or medicine unless you have a proper license to do so.

4 CORE METHOD  **CONCEPT MAP**

Step 3  NursingSOS
Build Your Study Plan