

Multiple System Atrophy

Symptoms and Support Services



AdventHealth

AdventHealth Neuroscience Institute

407-303-5295 | AdventHealthNeuroInstitute.com

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ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al número siguiente 407-303-3025.

ATANSYON: Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele nimewo ki anba an 407-303-3025.

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Expert Support That Helps You Cope With MSA Symptoms

Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) is a rare, progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects both the autonomic nervous system, which controls involuntary body functions such as blood pressure, and movement. The first symptoms that appear are often thought to be due to Parkinson's disease. However, over time, other symptoms appear more prominently that are different than what is typical in Parkinson's disease.

Although there is currently no cure for MSA and no specific treatments that will slow down the progression, we offer services that can help you cope with symptoms.

Common Signs and Symptoms of MSA

- Slowness of movement
- Tremor
- Rigidity
- Poor coordination or clumsiness
- Impaired speech with croaky or quivering voice
- Fainting or dizziness due to drop in blood pressure (orthostatic hypotension)
- Bladder control problems
- REM sleep behavior disorder

MSA tends to progress faster than Parkinson's and can have additional symptoms including contractures, Pisa syndrome (a leaning to one side of the body) and head drop. People with MSA may also suffer from depression, anxiety and panic attacks.



Managing MSA

Education and support are an important part of living with MSA. A team approach to management of the disease is the best way to optimize your health and should include a neurologist, physical therapist, speech therapist and social worker. The AdventHealth Parkinson Outreach Center offers support to patients and their loved ones including:

- Consultation with a clinical social worker
- Support groups and educational presentations
- Caregiver support
- Arts and wellness programs

For more information on support group dates and locations or to speak with a social worker, call the Parkinson Outreach Center at 407-303-5295.