

# LIFE AFTER GBS

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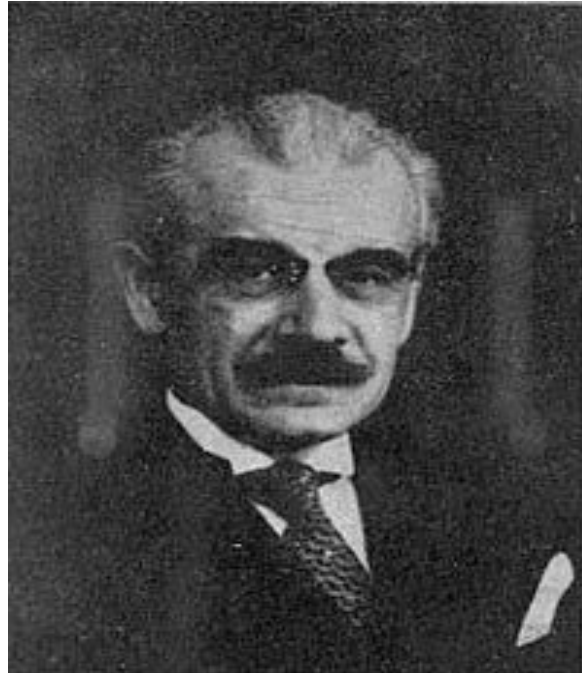
# OUTLINE

- Who are Guillain and Barré ?
- What is GBS ?
- What causes GBS?
- What are the symptoms of GBS ?
- What kind of GBS do I have ?
- How is GBS diagnosed ?
- What now ; what is the clinical course of GBS ?
- How is GBS treated ?
- Will I get better and when ?

# GUILLAIN-BARRÉ SYNDROME



Georges Guillain (1876-1961)



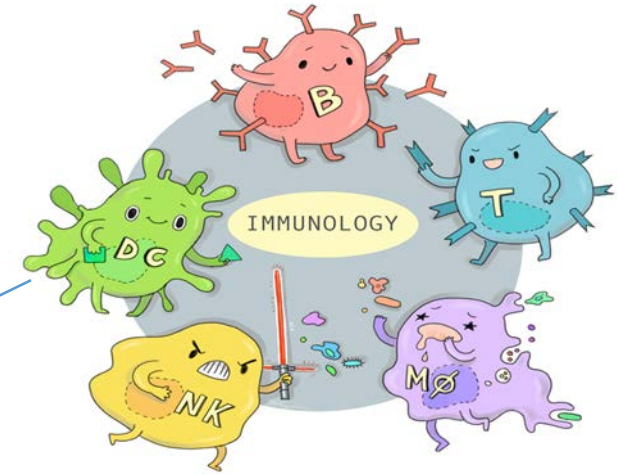
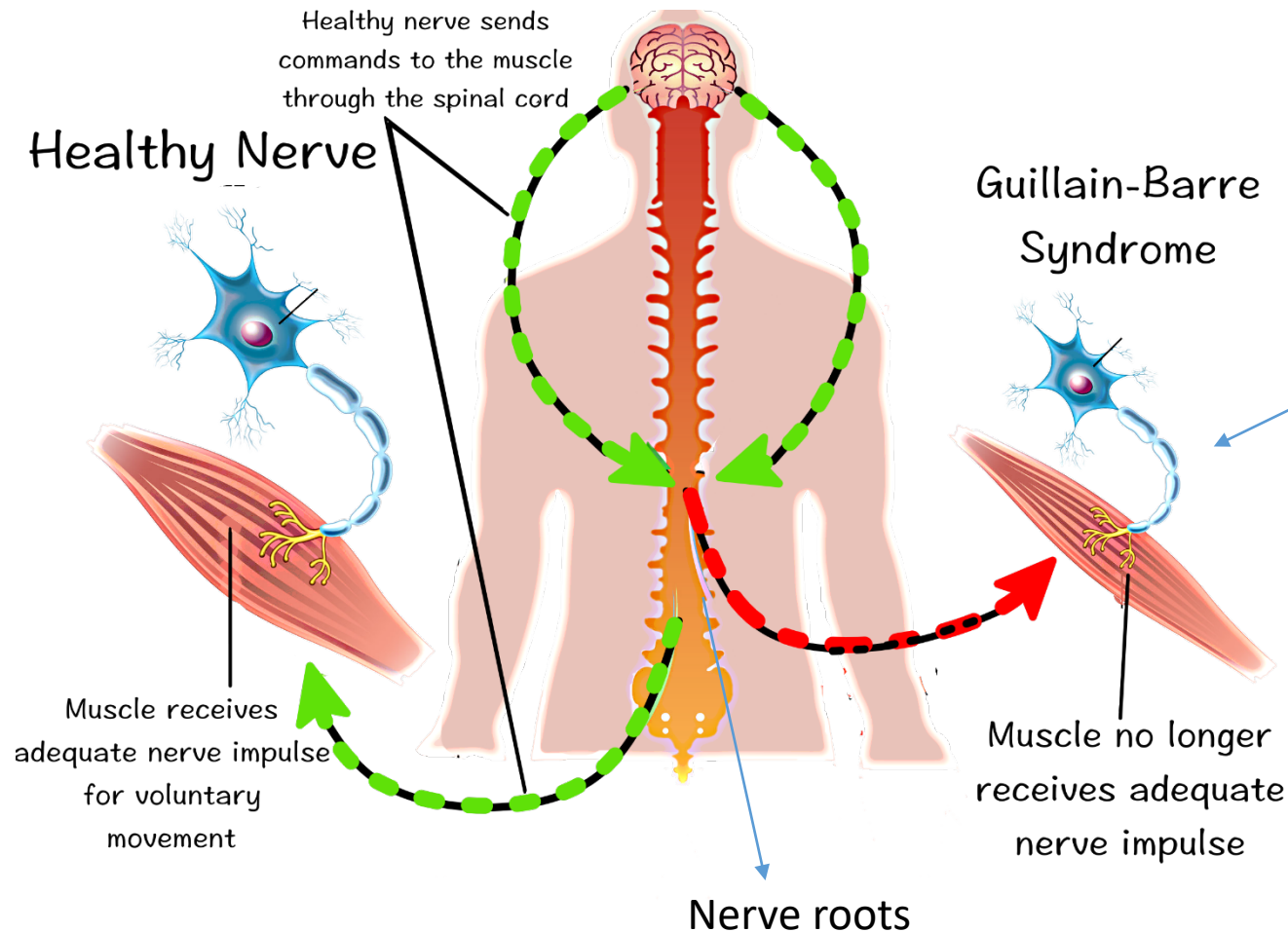
Jean Alexandre Barré (1860-1967)



André Strohl (1887 -1977)

GBS was described in 1916 by George Guillain, Jean-Alexandre Barré, and André Strohl

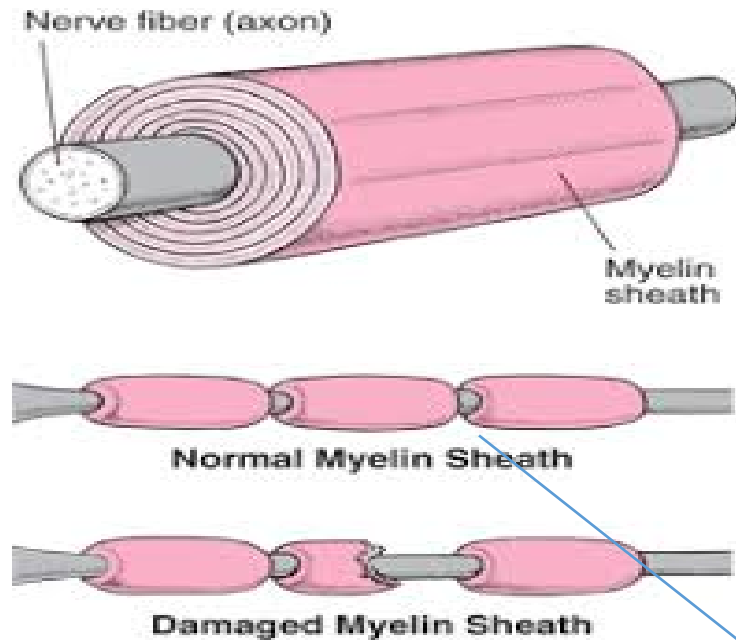
# What is Guillain-Barré syndrome?



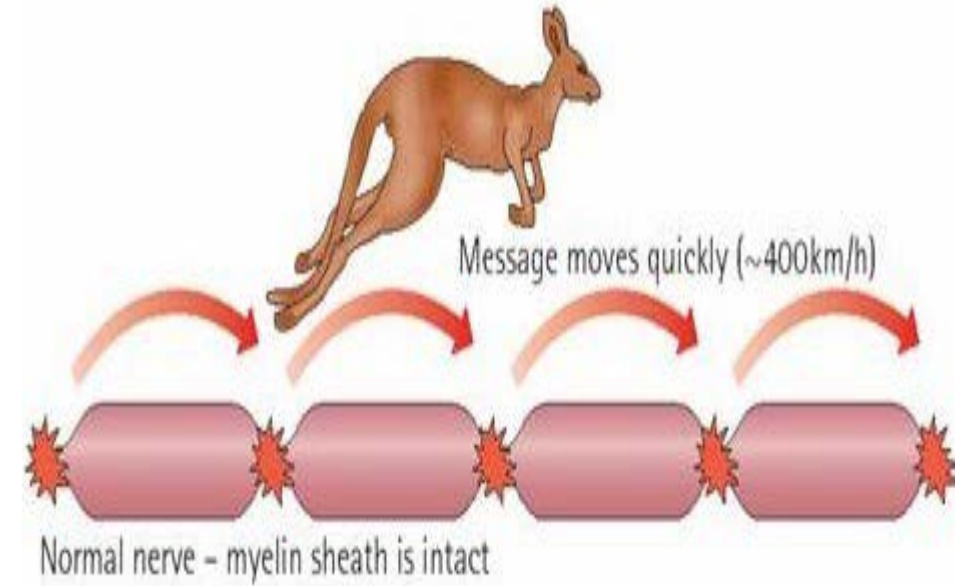
Immune system mistakenly attacks part of its PNS—the network of nerves located outside of the brain and spinal cord.

# **WHAT CAUSES GBS**

# HEALTHY NERVES

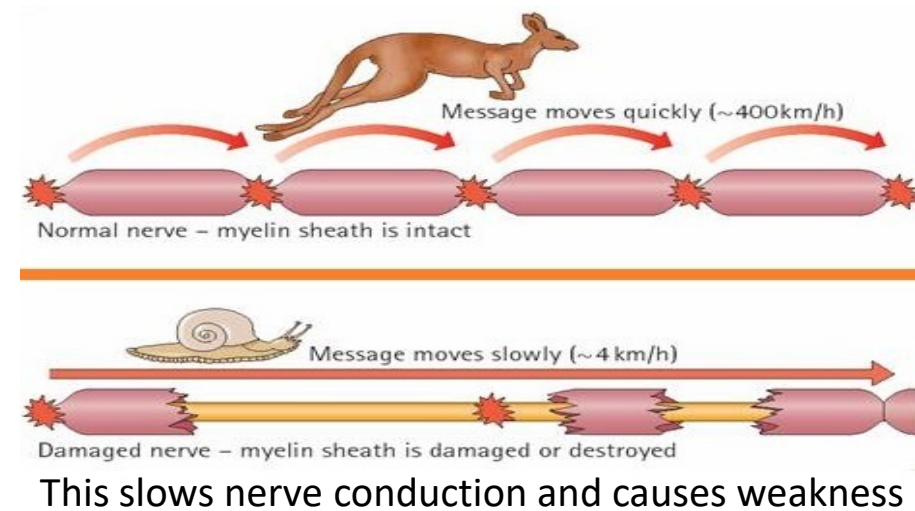
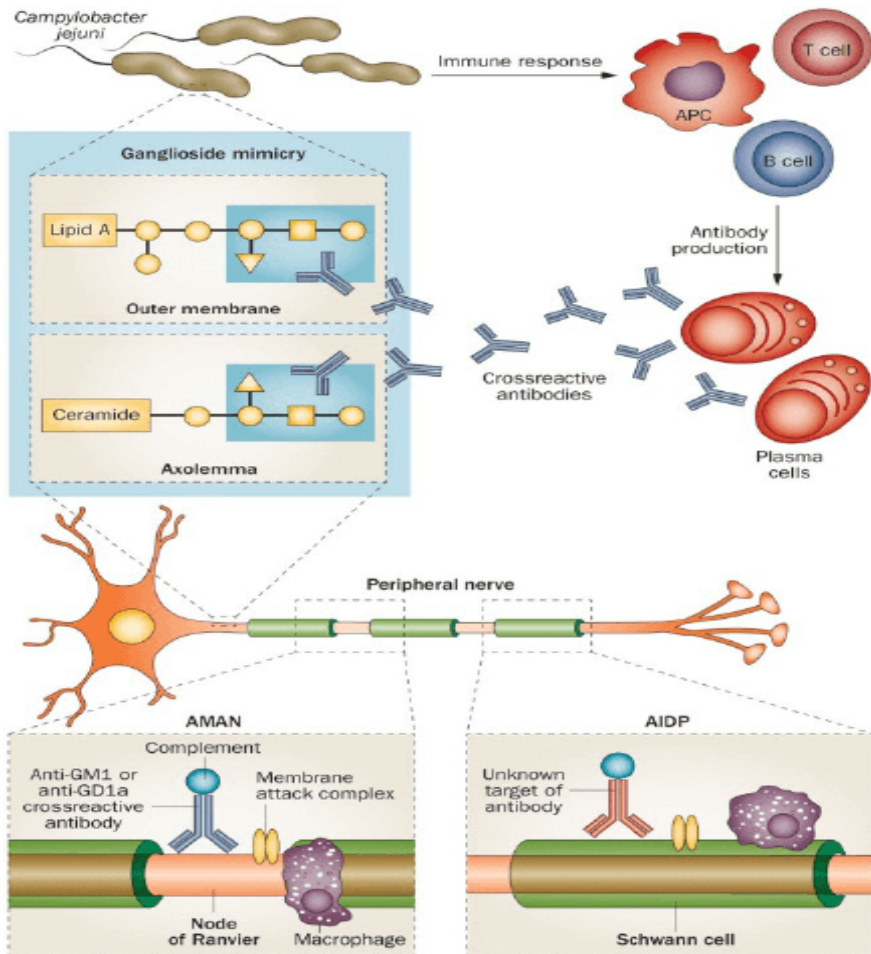


Nodes of Ranvier



Nerves are like household wires

# WHAT CAUSES GBS- “MOLECULAR MIMICRY/INNOCENT BYSTANDER” THEORY

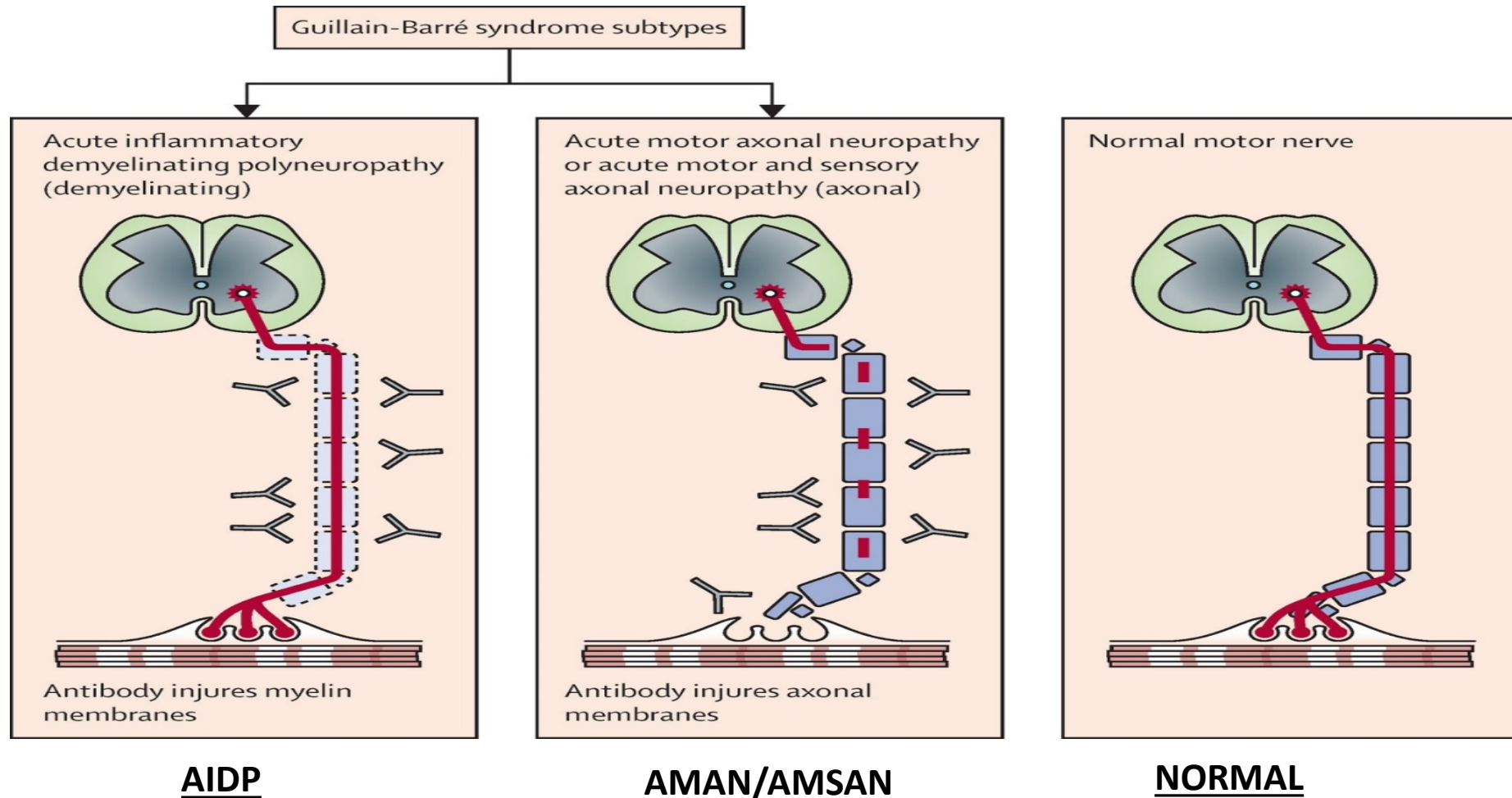


**Molecules on some nerves are very similar to or mimic molecules on some microorganisms**

“connection problem”; machine (the muscle) is working but the power source (the nerve) is not working properly.



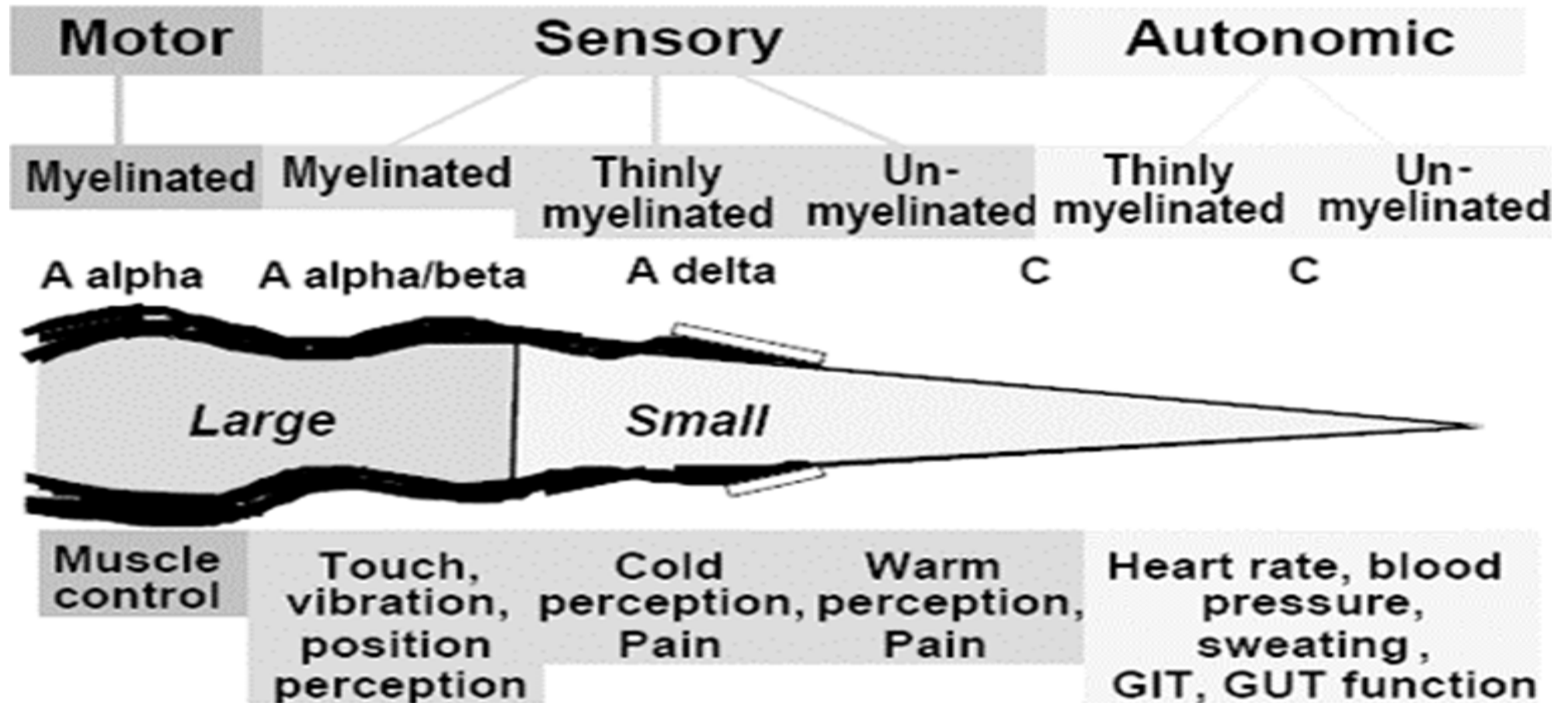
# WHAT CAUSES GBS SYNDROME?



The immune response can be directed towards the myelin or the axon of peripheral nerve, resulting in demyelinating and axonal forms of GBS

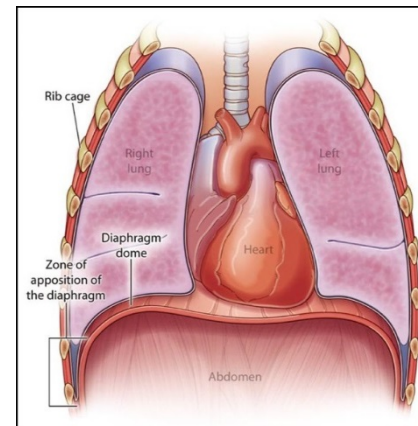
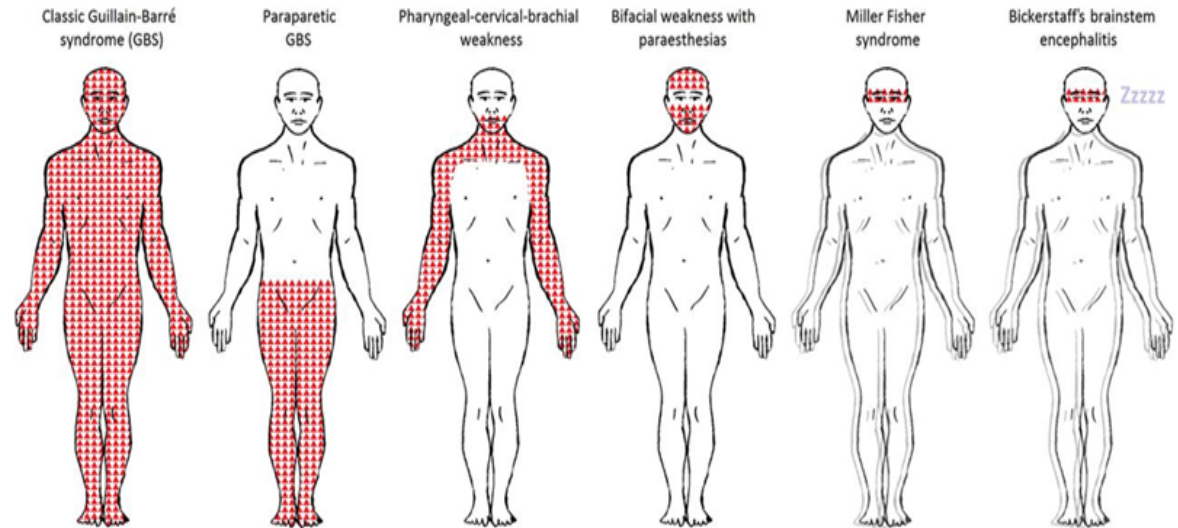


# WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF GBS



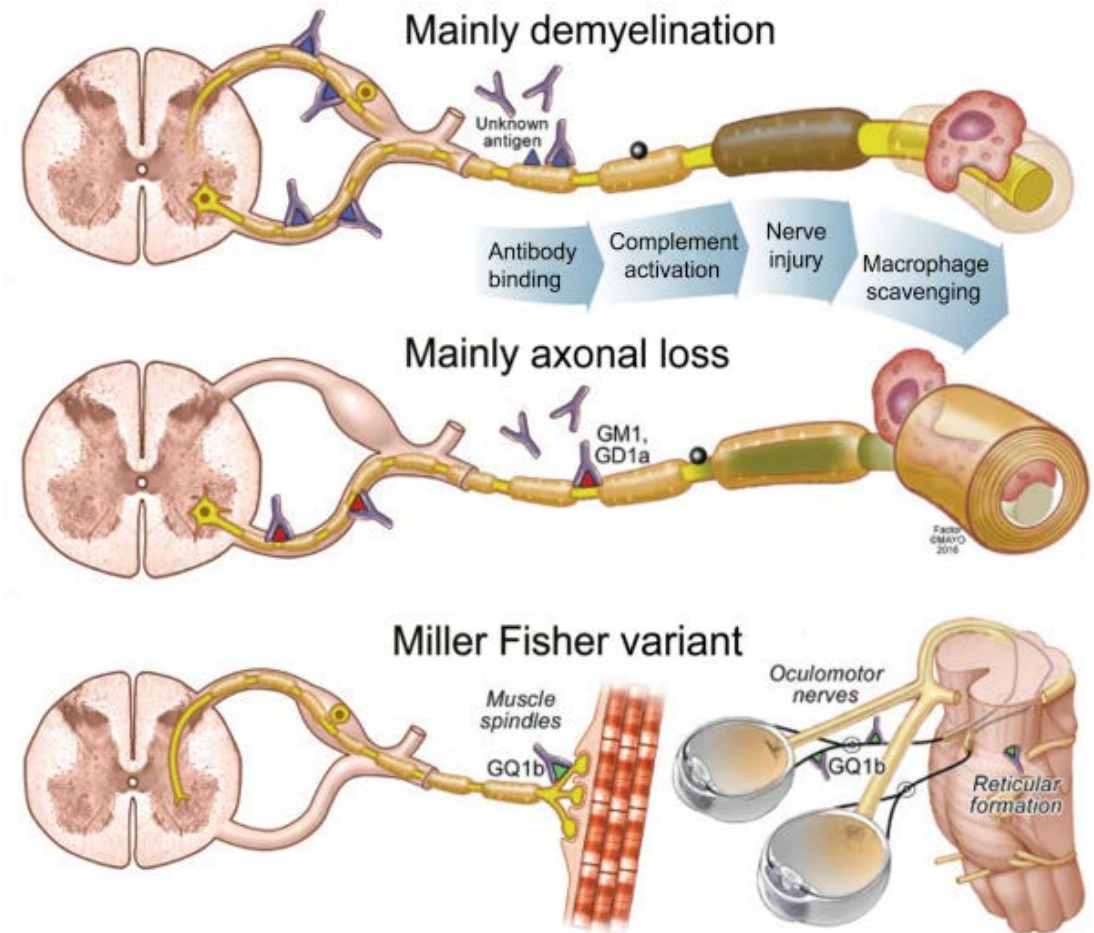
# WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF GBS

- **Weakness**
  - Ascending
  - Extent :Mild weakness --.Paralysis
  - Breathing muscles ,diaphragm (10-30%)
  - Limited forms : legs, arms, or face.
- **Tingling or numbness**
  - hands or feet
- **Autonomic Nerves :( 70 %)**
  - Abnormal heart beat/rate or blood pressure
  - Problems with digestion and/or bladder control.
- **Pain**
  - Especially in the back, legs, or arms ( due to nerve root inflammation)
  - Can be a presenting feature and is reported during the acute phase by 2/3 of patients with all forms of GBS
- **Less common symptoms of GBS :**
  - Problems with eye movement
  - Loss of coordination in the arms and legs



# WHAT KIND OF GBS DO I HAVE

- Acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (AIDP)
- Acute motor axonal neuropathy (AMAN)
- Acute motor sensory axonal neuropathy (AMSAN)
- Miller Fisher Syndrome (MFS)
- Other localized forms reported





# HOW IS GBS DIAGNOSED?

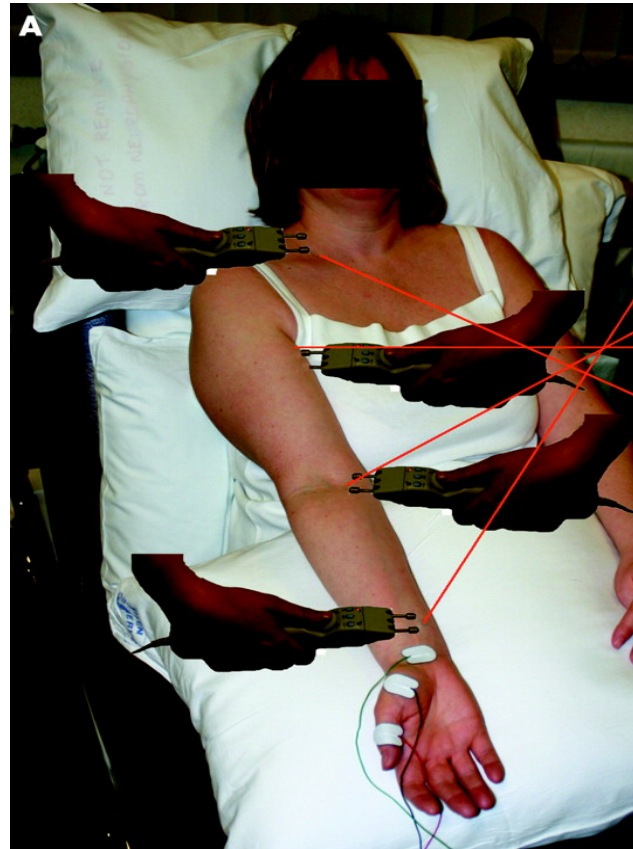


Areflexia

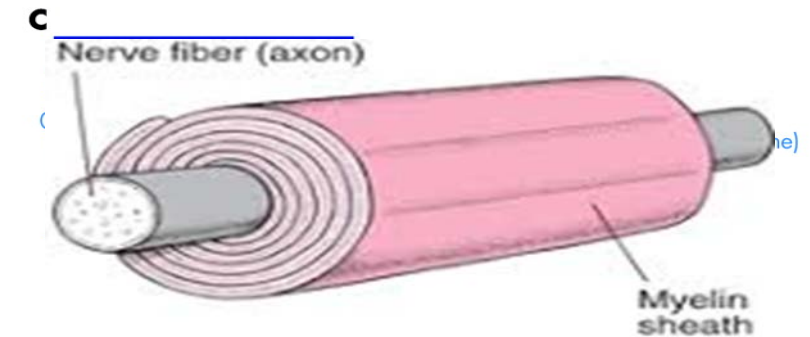
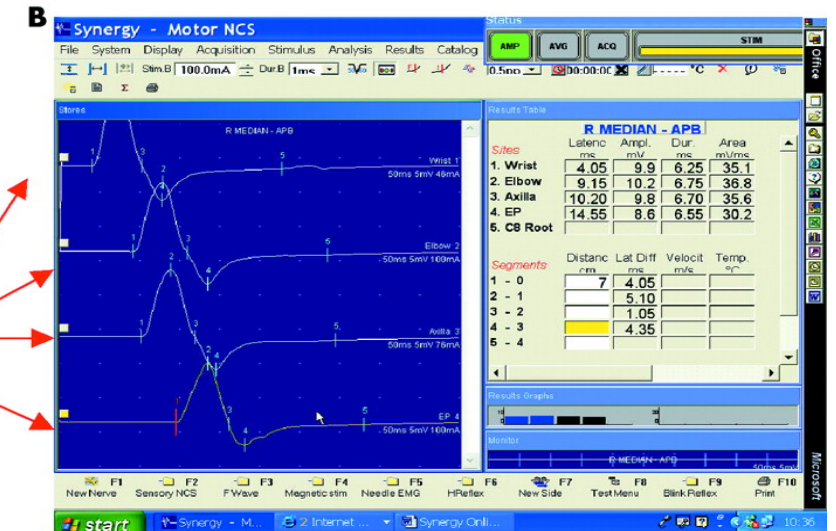


Credit: Casa nayafana/shutterstock.com

Albumino-cytologic dissociation

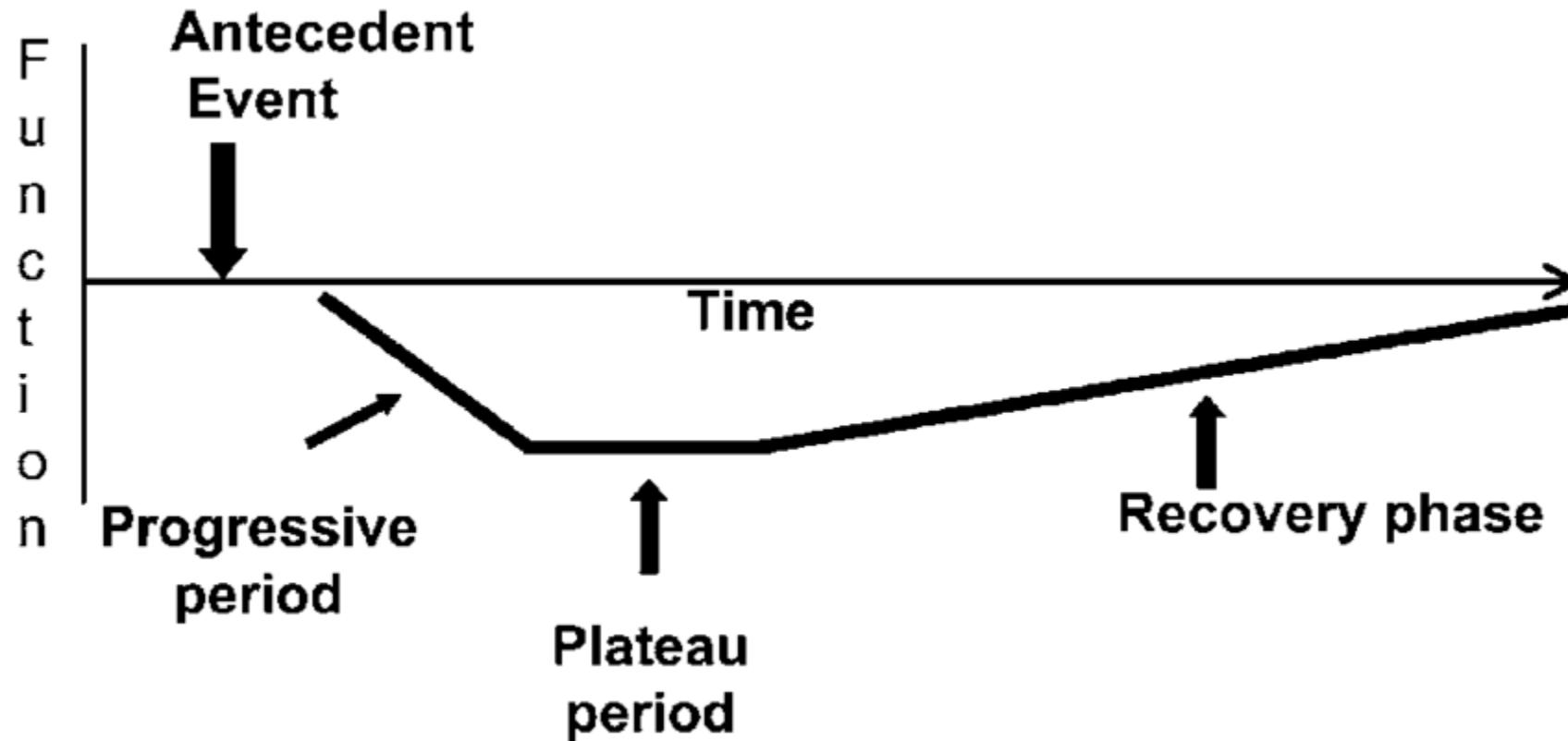


EMG/NCS



Mallik A , and Weir A | J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry  
2005;76:ii23-ii31

# WHAT NOW :CLINICAL COURSE



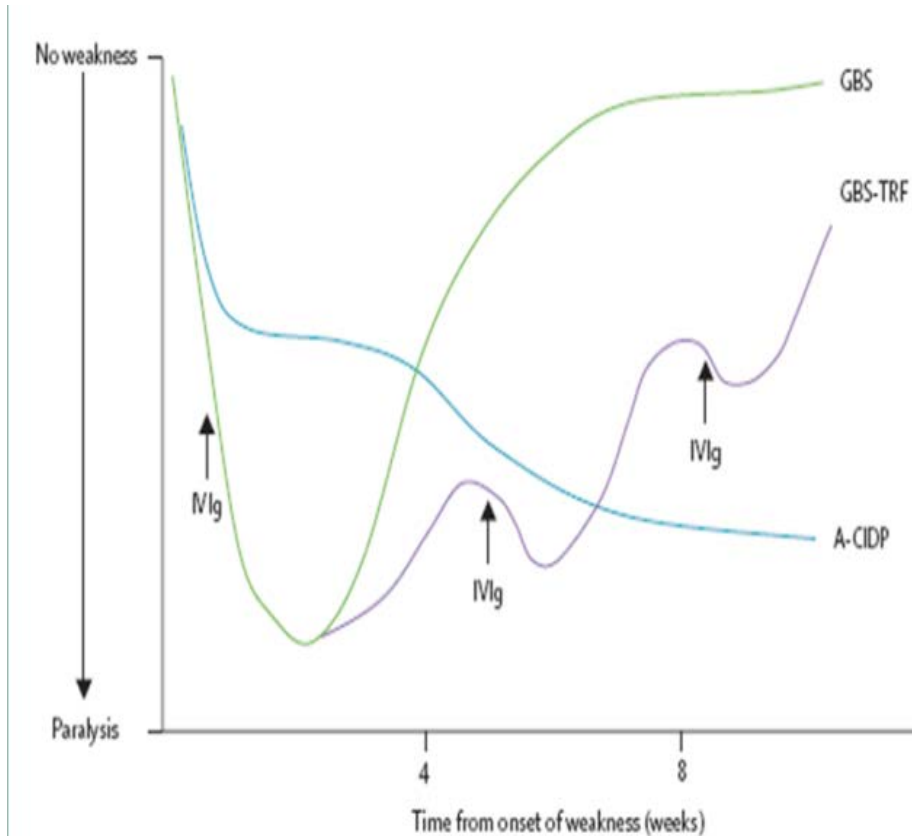
Most people reach the greatest stage of weakness within the first two weeks after symptoms appear; by the third week 90 percent of affected individuals are at their weakest.

## Demyelinating Polyneuropathy

AIDP < 4 W

CIDP > 8 W

SIDP 4-8 W



10 % of GBS patients treated with IVIG show early relapse after initial improvement and may respond to second dose  
Initial improvements with 2 subsequent relapses  
3 or more relapses or progression for 9 weeks

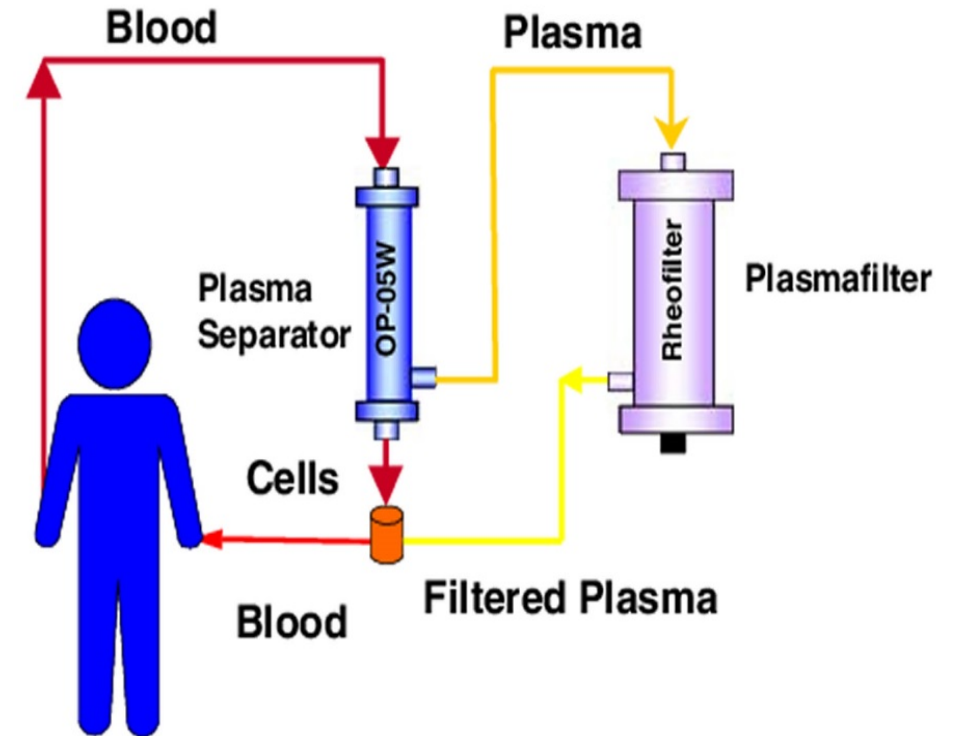
**Rapid clearance of IgG** —benefit from a second dose or second course

### TREATMENT RELATED FLUCTUATIONS



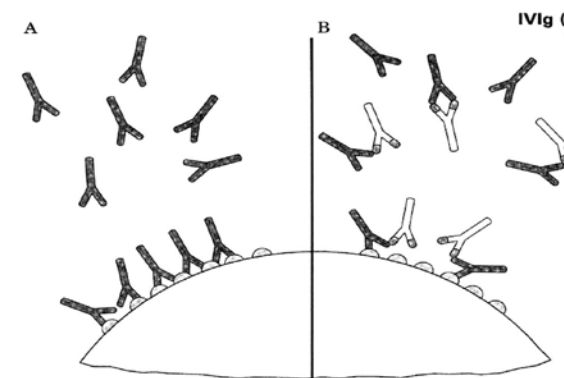
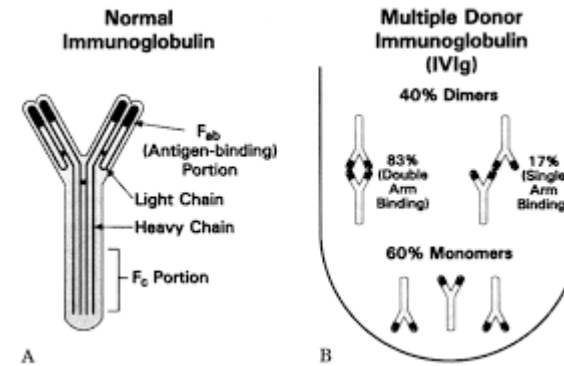
# HOW IS GBS TREATED?

- No known cure for GBS
- Therapies can lessen the severity of the illness and shorten recovery time
- **Plasma exchange.**
  - Plasma contains antibodies and PE removes some plasma
  - PE may work by removing the bad antibodies that have been damaging the nerves.



# Immunoglobulin therapy (IVIg)

- Igs are proteins that the immune system naturally makes to attack infecting organisms.
- IVIg are developed from a pool of thousands of normal donors.
- Lowers the levels or effectiveness of antibodies that attack the nerves by:
  - Diluting them with non-specific antibodies
  - Providing antibodies that bind to the harmful antibodies and take them out of commission.



# SUPPORTIVE CARE

- **Respiratory failure**

- Close monitoring of a person's breathing should be instituted initially.
- Sometimes a mechanical ventilator (15-30% ) is used to help support or control breathing.



- **Autonomic nervous system**

- Changes in heart rate, blood pressure, toileting, or sweating.

- **Difficulty handling secretions in the mouth and throat**

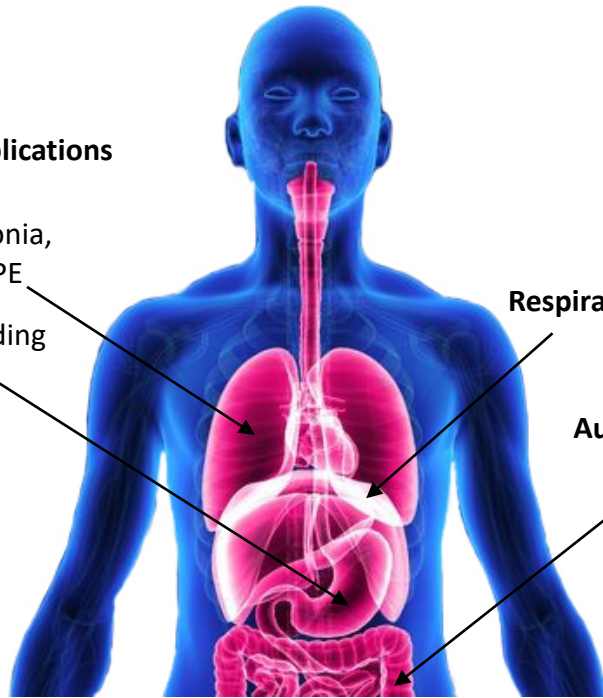
- In addition to the person choking and/or drooling, secretions can fall into the airway and cause pneumonia.



# WILL I GET BETTER? AND WHEN? PROGNOSIS

## Major complications (60-70%)

- Pneumonia, Sepsis, PE
- GI Bleeding



Respiratory Insufficiency- 25%

Autonomic dysfunction- 70%

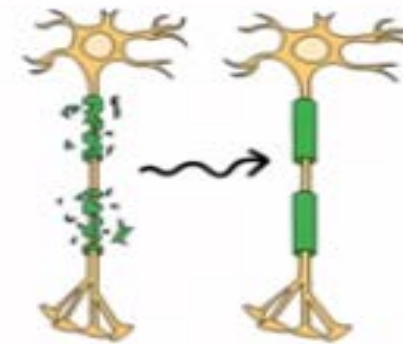
## Outlook:

5% of GBS Patients Die



- Respiratory Paralysis
- Cardiac Arrest

## Most patients have a full recovery



6- 12 months

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				


20% of patients- residual weakness after 3 years


3 % of patients- weakness and tingling after many years

# GBS PROGNOSIS SCALE

GBS Prognosis Tool

**What would you like to predict?**

**Risk of respiratory failure in first week of admission** 

**Risk of being unable to walk 6 months after admission** 

# RISK OF RESPIRATORY FAILURE



## Overview of your choices

Days between onset of weakness and hospital admission?



**4-7 days**

Facial or bulbar weakness at hospital admission?



**Present**

MRC score of muscle groups at hospital admission?



	Right	Left
Shoulder abduction	3	3
Elbow flexion	4	4
Wrist extension	4	4
Hip flexion	2	2
Knee extension	3	3
Ankle dorsiflexion	4	4

## Result

**EGRIS (0-7):**

**4**

**Risk of developing  
respiratory failure in first  
week of admission**

**35%**

(95% CI: 23-50%)

Reference EGRIS:

Walgaard et al., Ann Neurol 2010;67:781-7



# RISK OF BEING UNABLE TO WALK IN 6 MONTHS

**Calculate risk**

**Overview of your choices**

How long has the patient been admitted to the hospital?

**1 week**

**Modified Erasmus GBS Outcome Score (mEGOS)**

Age at onset?

**41-60 years**

Preceding diarrhea in last 4 weeks ?

**Absent**

MRC score of muscle groups at day 7 of hospital admission.

	Right	Left
Shoulder abduction	3	3
Elbow flexion	3	4
Wrist extension	4	4
Hip flexion	2	2
Knee extension	4	4
Ankle dorsiflexion	4	4

**Result**

**mEGOS (0-12):**

**4**

**Risk of being unable to walk 6 months after admission**

**6%**

(95% CI: 3-13%)

Reference mEGOS:  
Walgaard et al., Neurology 2011;76:968-75

# SUMMARY

- GBS is an autoimmune disorder
- Most cases usually start a few days or weeks following a respiratory or gastrointestinal infection
- Molecular mimicry/innocent bystander” theory
- Symptoms : weakness ,abnormal sensation and autonomic dysfunction
- Diagnosis : clinical , spinal tap and EMG/NCS
- Course :greatest weakness within the first 2 -3 weeks.
- Treatment : IVIG, Plasma-exchange and supportive treatment
- Outcome : Prognosis scales
- Complications : Sepsis , GI bleeding, Respiratory failure and cardiac arrhythmias

THANK YOU