

# Skeehchooash

Pequot for Grasses, Herbs, Medicines

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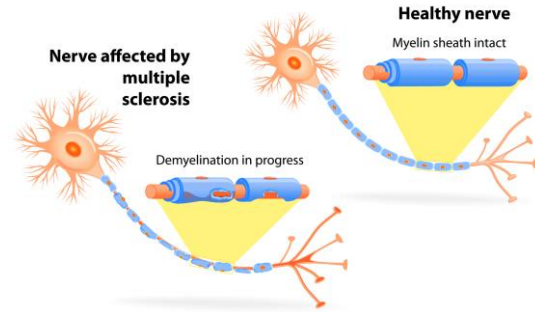
March 2022

## Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Awareness Month

### MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

### What is Multiple Sclerosis?

- An autoimmune disease of the brain and spinal cord
- When your body's immune system attacks the protective covering of your nerves and inhibits communication between your brain and the rest of your body



### Symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis:

- Signs and symptoms vary widely depending on which nerves are damaged and the extent of the damage.
- Numbness or weakness in one or more limbs (typically on one side of the body)
- Electric-shock sensations that occur with certain neck movements, especially bending the neck forward
- Tremor, lack of coordination, unsteady gait, or dizziness
- Vision problems including: partial or complete loss of vision, prolonged double vision, and blurry vision
- Tingling or pain in parts of your body
- Problems with sexual, bowel, and bladder function
- Slurred speech
- Unexplained fatigue

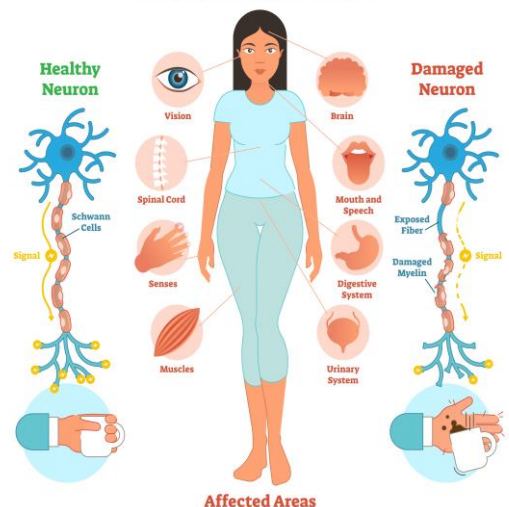
### Diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis:

- There are currently no blood tests to diagnose MS
- Diagnosis typically starts by ruling out other diseases with similar symptoms
- A spinal tap may be used to detect abnormalities in antibodies associated with MS
- An MRI may be ordered to look for MS lesions

### Treatment of Multiple Sclerosis:

- There currently is no cure for MS
- Early treatment is key: while there is no cure, there are many treatments that can slow the progression of MS

### MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS



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Pequot Health Care  
1 Annie George Drive  
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