

Preface

In 2011, the World Health Organization reported that 346 million people worldwide had diabetes [1]. With international rates of diabetes rising (worldwide prevalence of diabetes is estimated to nearly double from 2000 to 4.4 % in 2030), complications including PDN are becoming increasingly prevalent [2]. It is estimated that over 16 % of diabetic patients [3] and approximately 50 % with diabetic neuropathy [4] suffer from painful diabetic neuropathy. Sadly, 40 % of these patients are untreated [3]. Improved appreciation of the scope of the problem based on epidemiology, improved understanding of underlying mechanisms, increased scope of knowledge in diagnosis, and a number of new treatment options should be the basis for improved care for this patient population. The goal of this text is to share with widest readership advances regarding painful diabetic neuropathy from pathogenesis to various therapies with emphasis on the multidisciplinary approach to treatment. It is the intent of this text to also shed the light on and raise the level of appreciation to the ways community is affected by diabetic painful polyneuropathy from patients to healthcare providers and family members.

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