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## DPN Treatment Options

### New Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy Treatments

*By AtNewsWise.com*

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has published new findings on using some recommended antidepressants, anti seizure drugs and other medications to treat diabetic peripheral

July 2017

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Thank you to all who joined us in Los Angeles on June 23 at the Intercontinental Hotel for our 11th Annual "Neuropathy Action Awareness Day." A very special thank you to our sponsors and exhibitors who made this event possible. This year over 1,500 patients, caregivers and others attended the event in person or virtually using the latest live streaming technology. A few highlights include:



neuropathy. The findings, led by researchers at Johns Hopkins Hospital, come from a review of 106 studies conducted since the 2011 guidelines on treating diabetic neuropathy were released.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says more than 9 percent of the US population has diabetes, and an estimated 50 percent of those have some form of diabetic peripheral neuropathy, nerve damage caused by high levels of blood sugar, although not all have symptoms. Symptoms, including nerve pain, numbness and tingling in the legs and feet, may lead to consideration of amputation. Researchers found moderate evidence that the antidepressants duloxetine and venlafaxine, which act as serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors, were effective in reducing neuropathy-related pain.

They also found weak evidence that botulinum toxin, the antiseizure drugs pregabalin and oxcarbazepine, and drugs classified as tricyclic antidepressants and atypical opioids were probably effective in reducing pain. Researchers noted that while pregabalin works in the same way as gabapentin- both are often used interchangeably in clinical care- this review found gabapentin was not more effective than placebo. This is contrary to the 2011 AAN guideline finding gabapentin to be probably effective.

The seizure drug valproate and capsaicin cream, which were considered probably effective in the 2011 AAN guideline, were ineffective in this meta-analysis. "Providing pain relief for neuropathy is crucial to managing this complicated disease," said Julie Waldfoegel, PharmD, and author of the systematic review. "Unfortunately, more research is still needed, as the current treatments have substantial risk of side effects, and few studies have been done on the long-term effects of these drugs."

Special thanks to **Dominick Spatafora** (L) and **Carolyn Johnson** (R) for their inspiring and motivational words!

Fitness Expert **Jessie Pavelka** talked about how exercise and nutrition helps prevent disease.



**Miss Century City 2017- Arianna Lemus** (L) presented as honorary ambassador for the Neuropathy Action Foundation.

**11th Annual Neuropathy Action Awareness Day** a huge success!

If you missed the event or would like to watch it again please [CLICK HERE](#). The entire day was recorded so you can watch online at your leisure.

## Clinical Trials for New Treatment Options

### Looking For New Treatment Options? Consider A Clinical Trial.

*By Lindsey Wahlstrom-Edwards*

Clinical trials are an important step in developing new treatments for all health conditions, including neuropathy.

Unfortunately, 80% of clinical trials are delayed or canceled because not enough people participate. These delays negatively impact people who are waiting for new treatment options. You can help solve this problem by volunteering for a trial.

Antidote is a digital health company on a mission to accelerate the breakthroughs of potentially life-saving treatments. We do this by making it easy for people to connect with medical research through a user-friendly clinical trials search tool.

Clinical trial participants not only can receive access to free, world-class medical care, but also play an important role in advancing medical research that benefits all patients.

To find clinical research near you, simply visit [antidote.me](http://antidote.me) and enter a condition in the search bar. The tool will ask you a few easy-to-follow questions to match you to trials that you can review with your care provider.

You can help shape medical history. Visit [antidote.me](http://antidote.me) today to get started.

## Participants Wanted for New Study!

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Octapharma is conducting a prospective, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled phase III study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Octagam 10% in patients with dermatomyositis.

For eligibility criteria and study site information, patients 18 years of age or older can contact Cheryl Bell at [267-649-7363](tel:267-649-7363) or [Cheryl.bell@octapharma.com](mailto:Cheryl.bell@octapharma.com).

Additional information can also be found at:

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02728752?term=Dermatomyositis&rank=15>

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