

# Cranial neuropathy

Cranial [neuropathy](#) is a condition in which some of the nerves in the cranium, or skull, have become damaged. The nerves control functions such as vision, hearing, facial movement and the actions of some of the organs in the head, chest, and abdomen. It is usually a secondary problem caused by another medical condition. Damage to these nerves can occur from many causes, with a common one being diabetes. In many cases, neuropathy symptoms clear up within a few months.

There are 12 pairs of nerves located in the cranium; cranial neuropathy is when one or more of these pairs becomes injured. Damage to a single nerve is sometimes called cranial mononeuropathy. Damage to these nerves can cause abnormal functioning of one of the many diverse areas that they govern. The cranial nerves control sight, hearing, taste, smell, and facial movement. Some nerves also regulate certain glands, control swallowing, and the automatic functioning of chest and abdominal organs such as the heart and stomach.

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