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NEWSLETTER

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, previously known as RSD, comes in two forms, type I and type II. Type I has no clear reason for onset and can appear following a minor injury. Type II happens after an injury to a nerve.

Recommended testing to diagnose CRPS includes MRI or EMG to assess for nerve damage, although these modalities serve to mostly rule out other causes of conditions mimicking CRPS.

Patients with CRPS need to be treated promptly to mitigate further worsening of symptoms. Common treatments include medication, steroids, physical therapy, and in some cases, spinal cord stimulation or sympathetic nerve blocks.

Symptoms are variable but the most common ones include burning pain, temperature and color change to the affected limb, and swelling and/or stiffness.

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome is seeing an increase in diagnosis in the claims space partially due to the potential for large payouts. CRPS is a debilitating and extremely painful condition that can be difficult to properly diagnose. Treatment should be from a specialist, usually a neurologist or pain specialist, for optimum patient care.

Would you attend a CEU on CRPS? Do you have another topic to recommend? [Take our survey!](#)

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