

SPEAKER: The neuropathy associated with Fabry disease can have onset in childhood, but it can persist throughout the lifespan. Patients might present initially with pain in their arms and feet that are triggered by heat, or fever, or exercise. This pain can be chronic and daily, or could be episodic. The pain can persist throughout adolescence and into adulthood.

In certain patients without treatment, the pain does subside over time, but this is not heralding a reversal of the neuropathy or an improvement of the neuropathy. In fact, it might be due to the progression or worsening of the neuropathy to the point of the actual death of neurons. Because peripheral neuropathy is an early sign of Fabry disease, it is an opportunity to institute treatment before the other aspects of Fabry disease take hold.