

The Dove Clinic for Integrated Medicine

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS – AN OVERVIEW

An estimated 2.5 million worldwide have Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and there are about 85,000 cases in the UK. It is the most common potentially disabling disease of the central nervous system affecting young adults in the Western world. Its causes are unknown and to date there has been no proven cure for MS with either conventional or complementary medicine approaches.

Every week around 50 people in the UK are diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Diagnosis is usually between the ages of 20 and 40, rarely under 12 or over 55. Three women have MS for every two men.

The outlook is uncertain, ranging from benign; disease progression on a relapsing/remitting basis, i.e. sometimes getting worse, sometimes improving, to progressive disabling paralysis with some sufferers having to use wheelchairs.

Common symptoms include pain, deadening fatigue, problems with sight, mobility and co-ordination. Multiple Sclerosis is not hereditary but there is a slightly higher chance of getting it if a relative has MS.

Our approach at the Dove Clinic centres on reducing antibody levels to myelin, the nerve sheath which is damaged in MS. This is achieved by modulating immune function using natural medications. We also try to reduce the patient's reactions to foods. We use nutritional approaches which include specific fatty acids and there are studies showing that this can be helpful in Multiple Sclerosis.

Patients should contact The Dove Clinic for more information about our treatment approaches.