

June is Myasthenia Gravis (MG) Awareness Month, and I have MG!

My First Name is Gerald and I began my journey with Myasthenia Gravis (MG) in February 2013. The diagnosis was received in March 2013. I am a: Myasthenic / Caregiver (select one)

The MG symptoms that I/we have learned to live with include: (select all that apply)

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaky or Double Vision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weakness in my Shoulders and Arms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty Chewing | <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty Breathing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Difficulty Swallowing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generally, I'm tired! |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My Voice can sound nasally | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other(s): sudden bouts of coughing |

Treatments I/we have tried: (select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thymectomy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immunosuppressant drugs (Brand or generic) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plasmapheresis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cholinesterase inhibitor (Mestinon or Pyridostigmine) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IVIG | <input type="checkbox"/> Other(s): _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steroids | |

My MG story:

The following is what I sent to my boss and coworkers on Monday, February 26th, 2013

Hi all,

I will not be into work on Monday and currently am uncertain when I will be in. Friday at work around 2 pm I mentioned to Bill that I had earlier had a headache and had taken Motrin IB and it seemed to be affecting my vision. Later prior to leaving for the day I attempted to video tape the presentation in OCSB I noticed that things seemed a little out of focus. Actually what I was seeing was a double image of things - not side by side but rather one above and slightly to the left of the other image - thought it might be my glasses so took them off and still had the same vision only blurrier. Discovered that if I closed my left eye (right eye I can't close and keep closed with holding it closed) that I only had to deal with one image - however depth perception was off. Drove home with one eye closed on 45 sticking to right hand lane and speed limit as well. When I got home mentioned the situation to the wife and she called doctor then St. John's emergency room. Based on vision problem and reference to head ache initial thought by emergency room was that I might have had a stroke - so off to CAT scan - it was inconclusive - evaluation by doctor did not show any weakness on either side of body - only real symptom was the horizontal double vision - which would vanish with having either eye closed. Dr. at St. John's called both specialist at both St. Luke and Memorial Herman to discuss case and based on their consultation I was transported to Memorial Herman via ambulance and admitted to the stroke ward. Saturday was spent being poked and drained of blood and evaluated by all types of specialist and therapists - conclusion - Good news I had not had a stroke - Bad news I had not had a stroke - reason for double vision still being diagnosed. Blood was drawn to have some special test performed as a special lab (not further identified) and decision by primary, Dr. George Lopez, (honest) to have a special test which is only administered on Thursday's at his clinic performed. Pending these follow-ups I was discharged with limitations that include no driving - and kind of confliction regarding returning to work. My plan is stay home on Monday and talked to both hospital and my primary doctor to find out if I am permitted to return to work or not - also give me a chance to see if vision will completely stabilize - currently with medical guidance I am wearing an eye patch to see only a single image and alternating between the two eyes. Will keep you posted.

