## iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

## **Carpal Tunnel Syndrome**

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## What is it

Carpal tunnel syndrome – causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment & pathology What is Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS) is a condition caused by compression of the median nerve as it travels through the carpal tunnel in the wrist. This results in numbness, tingling, and weakness in the hand and arm. What Causes Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? CTS is often caused by repetitive motions of the hand and wrist, especially with prolonged gripping, or by conditions that cause swelling in the wrist, like rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, or thyroid dysfunction. How is Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Diagnosed? Diagnosis is based on symptoms, a physical examination, and tests such as nerve conduction studies. Your doctor may also perform Tinel's sign or Phalen's maneuver tests during the examination. What are the Treatment Options for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? Treatment options include wrist splinting, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), corticosteroid injections, and in severe cases, surgery to relieve pressure on the median nerve. Can Lifestyle Changes Help Manage Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? Yes, lifestyle changes such as taking frequent breaks, maintaining proper posture and wrist position, and doing hand and wrist exercises can help manage CTS symptoms. What are the Risk Factors for Developing Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? Risk factors include repetitive hand motions, wrist anatomy, certain health problems like diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, hormonal changes, and obesity. Women and older individuals are more commonly affected. Can Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Be Prevented? Prevention strategies include reducing repetitive strain on the hands, using ergonomic tools, taking regular breaks, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle to manage risk factors like diabetes and obesity. This compression can lead to symptoms such as pain, tingling, numbness, and weakness in the hand and fingers. These symptoms may gradually worsen over time and can make everyday tasks difficult and uncomfortable. Carpal Tunnel Syndrome can be caused by a combination of factors, including repetitive hand movements, certain underlying health conditions, wrist injuries, or genetic predisposition. It is commonly seen in individuals who perform repetitive actions involving the hands, such as typing, sewing, or playing a musical instrument. Treatment options for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome vary depending on the severity of the symptoms. Mild cases may be managed with lifestyle changes, such as taking regular breaks from repetitive activities and wearing wrist splints. In more severe cases, medications, physical therapy, or even surgery may be recommended. Beneficial Insights These drugs belong to various categories of medications. For example, Zovirax is an antiviral drug used to treat herpes infections, Daklinza is an antiviral medication for Hepatitis C, Addyi is a medication used to treat low sexual desire in women, Xyzal is an antihistamine for allergies, Amoxil is an antibiotic, Propecia is used for hair loss, Clomid is a fertility medication, Priligy is used to treat premature ejaculation, Eriacta is a generic version of Viagra, Synthroid is a thyroid hormone replacement, Cipro is an antibiotic for various bacterial infections, Proscar is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia, Suhagra is a generic version of Viagra, Nolvadex is a medication for breast cancer treatment, Tadacip is used to treat erectile dysfunction, Kamagra is a generic version of Viagra, Nizagara is used to treat erectile dysfunction, Silagra is another generic Viagra, and Caverta is another brand of Viagra. It is important to seek medical attention if you experience persistent symptoms of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, as early treatment can help alleviate discomfort and prevent further nerve damage. Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Numbness, tingling, or burning sensation in the thumb and first three fingers Pain or discomfort in the hand, wrist, and forearm Weakness in the hand, making it difficult to grasp objects or perform fine motor tasks Dull ache or throbbing sensation in the arm and shoulder Decreased grip strength Clumsiness or difficulty

coordinating movements Inability to fully extend or flex the fingers Worsening symptoms at night or upon waking up Swelling and inflammation in the wrist area Diagnosing Carpal Tunnel Syndrome: If you suspect you have Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, it is crucial to consult a healthcare professional for an accurate diagnosis. The diagnosis typically involves the following steps: Physical Examination: The doctor will evaluate your hand, wrist, and arm, checking for signs like swelling, tenderness, muscle weakness, and loss of sensation. Medical History: You will be asked about your medical history, occupation, and any activities that may contribute to your symptoms. Nerve Tests: Nerve conduction studies or electromyography may be conducted to assess the function and health of the median nerve. Imaging: In some cases, imaging tests like X-rays, ultrasound, or MRI might be ordered to rule out other causes of your symptoms or to determine the severity
of the condition. It is important to remember that only a qualified healthcare professional can provide an accurate diagnosis of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Self-diagnosis based on web information is not recommended.