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Muscular Dystrophy

Muscular Dystrophy is a genetic disorder. The majority of people are diagnosed between the ages of 5 and 24. It is much more commonly found in men than women. People with muscular dystrophy in their family are at a higher risk of getting the disease.

Mayo Clinic defines muscular dystrophy as “…a group of diseases that cause progressive weakness and loss of muscle mass. In muscular dystrophy, abnormal genes (mutations) interfere with the production of proteins needed to form healthy muscle” (Mayoclinic.com). It prevents the muscles from building new healthy tissue. There are six different types of muscular dystrophy with the two most common being Duschenne and Myotonic.

Muscular Dystrophy had been discovered a while ago, but has only recently been more understood. The cause of Muscular Dystrophy was finally identified in the 1980s. It had been discovered and discussed medically in the 1860s by a doctor named Guillaume Benjamin Amand Duchenne, but it was unknown what caused muscular dystrophy. One of the types of muscular dystrophies is now named after him.

http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/muscular-dystrophy/basics/definition/con-20021240