

Symptoms →

Muscle weakness first affecting proximal then distal muscles

Lower muscles tend to be affected before higher muscles

Enlargement of calves, a waddling gait, lumbar lordosis

Scoliosis can impair pulmonary function, leading to acute respiratory failure

Later on, heart and respiratory muscles are affected as well

Causes →

1986 – researchers identified a particular gene on the X chromosome that, when mutated, leads to DMD

1987 – gene was identified and named dystrophin (lack of this protein in muscle cells causes them to be fragile and easily damaged)

Prognosis →

Until recently, life expectancies past teen years were unlikely. Now, survival into one's 30's is becoming more common

*6 PER
100,000*

*AGE 2-3
ONSET*

INTERVENTIONS & TREATMENTS

PT, OT, braces, assistive ventilation, corrective orthopedic surgery

Medication – ACE inhibitors, beta blockers, exon skipping drugs, corticosteroids

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Provide resources to teachers, parents and administrators

Focus on SLD interventions keeping orthopedic difficulties in mind

RESOURCES

MDA website
TTAC

LONG TERM DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOMES

Most likely to be diagnosed with an SLD

DSM & IDEA

IDEA – orthopedic, OHI, SLD, multiple disabilities

DSM – not reflective

ASSESSMENT APPROACHES

Assistive Technology (TTAC)

Review of educational and medical records, interview, observations, assessment (not standardized – allow verbal answers)

*PRIMARILY
BOYS,
RARE
CASES OF
GIRLS*

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy



Affects: shoulder, hip, thigh and upper arm muscles

A genetic disorder characterized by progressive muscle degeneration and weakness due to the alterations of a protein (dystrophin) that helps keep muscle cells intact.

Resource Links:

<https://ttaconline.org/>

https://www.mda.org/sites/default/files/2020/10/MDA_DMD_Fact_Sheet_Oct_2020.pdf

[https://www.mda.org/disease/duchenne-muscular-dystrophy#:~:text=Duchenne%20muscular%20dystrophy%20\(DMD\)%20is,four%20conditions%20known%20as%20dystrophinopathies](https://www.mda.org/disease/duchenne-muscular-dystrophy#:~:text=Duchenne%20muscular%20dystrophy%20(DMD)%20is,four%20conditions%20known%20as%20dystrophinopathies)

<https://nyulangone.org/conditions/muscular-dystrophy/types>

