



Understanding Neurological Disorders: A Comprehensive Overview

Lan Xiong*

Department of Psychiatry, University of Montreal, Canada

Introduction

Neurological disorders affect millions of people worldwide, posing significant challenges to their quality of life and overall well-being.

These disorders can be diverse in nature, affecting different regions of the nervous system and manifesting in various symptoms. This article aims to provide a comprehensive overview of neurological disorders, their causes, symptoms, and potential treatments, shedding light on the complexities surrounding these conditions [1].

What are Neurological Disorders?

Neurological disorders refer to a broad range of conditions that impact the Central Nervous System (CNS), including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves. These disorders can arise from a multitude of factors, such as genetic mutations, infections, trauma, autoimmune responses, or the degenerative process of aging [2] (Table 1).

Common Neurological Disorders

Alzheimer's Disease: This progressive neurodegenerative disorder is characterized by memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioural changes. It is the most common form of dementia, affecting primarily older adults.

Parkinson's Disease: Parkinson's is a chronic and progressive disorder that affects movement. It is characterized by tremors, muscle stiffness, impaired balance, and bradykinesia (slowness of movement).

Multiple Sclerosis (MS): MS is an autoimmune disorder where the immune system mistakenly attacks the protective covering of nerve

epilepsy and depression.

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS): TMS uses magnetic fields to stimulate specific regions of the brain. It is used as a non-invasive treatment for depression and has shown promise in other conditions such as migraines and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS): tDCS delivers low-intensity electrical currents to the brain, modulating neural activity. It is being explored as a potential treatment for various neurological and psychiatric conditions, including stroke rehabilitation, chronic pain, and depression [7].

Neuroprosthetics: Neuroprosthetics involve the use of implanted devices to restore or enhance neurological function. Examples include:

Cochlear Implants: Cochlear implants are electronic devices that help individuals with severe hearing loss or deafness by bypassing damaged parts of the inner ear and directly stimulating the auditory nerve.

Retinal Implants: Retinal implants aim to restore vision in individuals with certain types of blindness. These devices convert visual information into electrical signals that stimulate the remaining functional cells of the retina.

Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCI): BCIs establish a direct communication pathway between the brain and an external device, enabling individuals with motor disabilities to control prosthetic limbs or computers using their thoughts.