NEUROLOGY NOW

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YOUR VOICES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Correspondence for publication on this LETTERS page must include name, address, and daytime phone number, and may be edited for purposes of space and clarity. It should be e-mailed to neurologynow@lwwny.com, faxed to 646-674-6500, or mailed to 333 Seventh Ave., 19th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

PERSONAL ESSAYS: The SPEAK UP essay is a forum for people who live with neurological conditions and those who care for them. Submissions should be kept to 600 words and sent to the addresses above.

ASK THE EXPERTS: If you have a question for a doctor to answer in our ASK THE EXPERTS department, send it to the addresses above.



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(RSD). I suddenly had the symptoms of RSD one morning in May 2004. I had no idea what was happening to me, but I experienced all the symptoms described in your article and more. I was mostly bedridden for about 3 months.

Then began a litany of visits to specialists, including neurologists, neurosurgeons, and anesthesiologists, each of whom wanted to help me, but who had minimal (if any) understanding of RSD. It was January 2005 before I was given the diagnosis of RSD, and in 2007 a second doctor confirmed my diagnosis as CRPS, Type I. It was affirming for me to read your accurate and hopeful article. Having this condition has pushed me more to focus on the working parts of my body and my life—I am now always looking for that part of the glass that is half full.

—Graceann T. Mayo Santa Fe, NM

I was disappointed at author Debra Gordon's choice of adjectives in describing a patient's CRPS following hip replacement surgery. The patient was said to have developed CRPS as a result of a "botched" hip replacement.

Sciatic nerve injury is a well-known potential (though rare) complication of that procedure, and orthopedic surgeons carefully review all the potential complications pre-operatively with their patients.

—Frank Quaglieri,M.D. Reno, Nevada

THE EDITOR RESPONDS: Thank you for pointing that out, Dr. Quaglieri. We apologize for what must have come across as flip and uninformed.

Follow the Reader

In your Editor's Message from Mar/Apr 2009 ("Follow the Reader") you asked what stories we like and what we'd like to see more of. From that issue, I especially liked "Speak Up" and the new photo essay, "Pictures of You." The photos are engaging and the interview intimate, drawing the viewers to a personal conclusion of the reality of illness and the human spirit. Here's what I'd like to see: post-stroke noise sensitivity, which I experienced firsthand.

—Cari Biamonte

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