



**DR. CHANDRIL CHUGH** AMERICAN BOARD CERTIFIED NEUROLOGIST



Welcome to this simple book on tremors or as everyone likes to say ...shaky hands. There have been times in my life where I have spent hours with my patients answering questions about tremors, why and how they happen and a whole lot of other queries, however invariably I find them getting entangled and confused in the entire web of information that is available online. Most of them end up confused frustrated and scared. There is no lack of information on the web, but it's scattered, disorganized, and worst of all false and misleading. When it comes to medicine everyone is a doctor on the web.

One fateful day one of my patients, let's call her Sally, landed up in the hospital because of severe bouts of vomiting and dehydration. She was diagnosed with liver damage due to a supplement she was trying to get rid of her tremors. Fortunately, she recovered but her tremors worsened. The liver plays an important role in controlling tremors you see. While talking to her in the clinic on a follow-up she asked me with tear-filled eyes... Why did this happen? I Just like her, all of us are prone to false and misleading medical information. This book although inspired by Sally, is my effort to provide verified medical information in simple language to patients so they can understand, manage, and deal with tremors. This book is not a medical book, rather, it touches upon important questions people ask about tremors and shaky hands. I have tried to keep it simple, easy, and as nonmedical as possible. Do not think of this book as a replacement for your neurologist's opinion rather use this as a guide and discuss different approaches mentioned here with your doctors.

I hope, this book is useful to you. Happy reading!

Dr. Chandril Chugh



## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Dr. Chandril Chugh is an American board-certified neurologist with additional certification in neurocritical care, interventional neurology, and neurosonology.

He has been in practice for over 15 years and has a rich experience treating patients in the USA and India. He has seen and treated more than 3000 tremor patients and has used this personal experience to create this book.

He is also a well-known social entrepreneur who works in the villages of rural India to provide care to patients who are poor and cannot afford to go to big cities. His organization, Dr.Good Deed runs healthcare clinics in Bihar in India. He has been actively running health awareness channels on social media under the same name.

www.drchandrilchugh.com



## FAQS

01

#### What are tremors?

Tremors are involuntary, rhythmic muscle movements that cause shaking in one or more parts of the body. They can occur in the hands, arms, head, legs, or voice.

#### What causes tremors?

Tremors can be caused by various factors including neurological disorders like Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, and essential tremor, as well as certain medications, caffeine, stress, and anxiety. 02

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## Are tremors always a sign of a serious disease?

Not always. Tremors can be harmless, such as those caused by caffeine or stress. However, persistent or severe tremors should be evaluated by a doctor to rule out any underlying conditions.

#### Can stress or anxiety cause tremors?

Yes, stress and anxiety can trigger or worsen tremors. Managing stress through relaxation techniques, exercise, and other methods can help reduce tremors. 04

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#### What is essential tremor?

Essential tremor is a common neurological disorder that causes shaking, usually in the hands and arms. It often runs in families and can worsen with age.

#### How are tremors diagnosed?

A doctor will review your medical history, conduct a physical examination, and may order tests such as blood tests, imaging studies, or a neurological exam to determine the cause of the tremors.

#### Can medications cause tremors?

Yes, certain medications can cause tremors as a side effect. Common culprits include some antidepressants, antipsychotics, asthma medications, and stimulants.

#### How are tremors treated?

Treatment depends on the cause. Options include medications, lifestyle changes, physical therapy, and sometimes surgery. Managing underlying conditions, like anxiety or thyroid issues, can also help reduce tremors. 08

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#### Can diet affect tremors?

Yes, consuming too much caffeine or sugar can cause or worsen tremors. Ensuring a balanced diet with adequate vitamins and minerals, especially magnesium and vitamin B12, can help.

## Are there any lifestyle changes that can help manage tremors?

Yes, reducing caffeine and sugar intake, managing stress, getting regular exercise, and ensuring good sleep can help manage tremors. Avoiding alcohol and smoking is also beneficial.

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## Can physical therapy help with tremors?

Yes, physical therapy can help improve muscle control and coordination, which can reduce the impact of tremors on daily activities.

When should I see a doctor about my

#### is there a cure for tramors?

While there is no ours for some types of tramon, such as assertful tramor and Parkinson's disease, transtments and lifestyle changes can help manage and reduce symptoms.

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#### Can children have tremors?

Yan, children con have tremore. They may be due to genetic conditions, enciety, or other medical

- issues. It's important to have a shild evaluated by
- a ductor if they exhibit tremory.

## 15

#### Are tremore hereditary?

Some transies, like essential transies, can run in families. If you have a family history of transies, you may be more likely to develop them.

#### Can tremora affect my ability to work?

Depending on the secently and the type of work you do, tramovs can attract your ability to perform certain tasks. It's important to discuss your condition with your employer and explore possible accommodations.

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#### Can dehydration cause tremors?

Yee, dehydrotion con affect maccle function and lead to tramore, It's importpot to stay well-hydroted by diroking planty of water throughout the day.

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#### Do tremors get worse with age?

Some transon, like essential transor, conworsen with zga. Others, related to underlying conditions or medications, may change over time depending on treatment and management.

#### Is it safe to drive with tremora?

21

If trainers are mild and do not affect your ability to control the vehicle, you may be able to drive achely. However, severe trainers can impair driving. Consult with your doctor for personalized advice.

#### Can alcohol help reduce tremors?

While alcohol can temporarily reduce essential tramor in some people, it is not a recommended treatment due to potential for dependence and other health risks.

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Yas, in severe coses, surgical upliant like deep brain

Con anxiety medications tremora?

Yes, medications used to treat anosty, such as beta-blockers and bencodisceptnes, can help reduce tremors related to anosty. Always consult a doctor before starting any medication.

#### Are there any alternative therapies for tremors?

Some people find relief from tramors through offernative therogoes like ocupurcture, biofeedback, and herbol supplements. Rowever, the effectiveness of these traptments can vary, and it's important to consult with a healthcore provider.



#### Can sleep affect tremors?

Yan, lock of sleep can worsen tramors, Ensuring you get enough restful sleep can help manuge tramors,

#### Can emotional stress trigger tremors?

Yao, amotional stress con autoarbots tramore, Stress monogement techniques such as meditotion, breathing exercises, and therapy can help.

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contains a possition against gravity, au

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#### What is an intention tremor?

An intention transor scours during voluntary movement towards a target, such as touching your nose. It is often associated with cerebellar disorders.

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#### Are there any specific diets that help with tremors?

While there is no specific diet for tramons, a balanced diet rich is situations and minerals can support overall neurological health. Reducing califeirse and suppr intoke can also help. Can hormone imbalances cause tremors?

Yan, hormona infostorican, such an those sean in hyperthyroidism, can couse transors. Addressing the underlying hormonal issue can help reduce transors.

Are there any support groups for people with tramors?

Yan, there are support groups and organizations that provide resources and support for people with transpra, such as the interruptional Essential transpr Foundation (IETF).

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Yas, physical traums, especially head injuries, can

Now can I explain my tre athers?

Be honest and straightfurward. Explain that transors are involuntary movements that you cannot control and that they can be coused by various medical conditions or medications.

#### Can children outgrow tremors?

Some children may outgrow certain types of tremore, especially if they are related to developmental stopes or temporary canditions. However, persolatent tremore should be evaluated by a healthcore provider.



## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

#### **Common Medicines That Cause Tremors**

#### 1. Antidepressants

**Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs):** Medications like fluoxetine, sertraline, and paroxetine are commonly prescribed to treat depression and anxiety. These drugs can sometimes cause tremors as a side effect.

**Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCAs):** Older antidepressants such as amitriptyline and nortriptyline can also lead to tremors.

#### 2.Antipsychotic Medications

**Typical Antipsychotics:** Drugs like haloperidol and chlorpromazine are used to treat schizophrenia and other severe mental health disorders. They can cause tremors and other movement disorders.

**Atypical Antipsychotics:** Newer antipsychotics such as risperidone and olanzapine can also result in tremors, although the risk is generally lower compared to typical antipsychotics.

#### 3.Mood Stabilizers

**Lithium:** This is commonly used to treat bipolar disorder. While effective, it can cause tremors, especially at higher doses.

Asthma Medications

**Beta-2 Agonists:** Inhalers like albuterol and salmeterol are used to treat asthma and other breathing disorders. They can sometimes lead to tremors, particularly if used in high doses.

#### 4.Anti-Seizure Medications

**Valproic Acid :** Used to treat epilepsy and bipolar disorder, this medication can cause tremors as a side effect.

**Lamotrigine:** Another anti-seizure drug that can sometimes cause tremors. Immunosuppressants

**Cyclosporine:** Used to prevent organ transplant rejection, this drug can cause tremors as a side effect.





## Medications which cause tremor:

**CERTAIN ANTIHYPERTENSIVES** 

amlodipine and aliskiren,

#### **CERTAIN ANTIBIOTICS**

THMA MEDICINES

glycopeptides (vancomycin), aminoglycosides (gentamicin), cephalosporins (cefuroxime), fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin), macrolides (erythromycin), carbapenems (imipenem), penicillins, folate synthesis inhibitors (trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole), and tetracyclines (doxycycline). Antidepressants such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), like fluoxetine (Prozac) and citalopram (Celexa), and serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), like venlafaxine (Effexor)

#### TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS.

#### **First-generation antipsychotics**

haloperidol, perphenazine, loxapine, **and** perphenazine.

Drugs for vomiting: metoclopramide and prochlorperazine

Mood stabilizers lithium carbonate

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ANTS-BEIZURE MEDICINES valproid acid [Depakate] and sodium valproate (Depakere)

ANTIVIRALS viderations and accellance Addenall and Ritalin, used to user Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), can cause tremory.





#### Toxins which can cause tremors.

#### 1. Heavy Metals

Lead: Found in old paints, batteries, and some plumbing materials. Exposure can cause neurological problems, including tremors.

Mercury: Present in certain fish, dental fillings, and industrial emissions. Mercury poisoning can lead to tremors.

Arsenic: Found in contaminated water, certain pesticides, and industrial processes. Arsenic exposure can result in tremors.

#### 2. Organic Solvanta

#### 5. Recreational Drugs

Methamphetamine: Abuse of this stimulant can lead to severe neurological symptoms, including tremors.

Cocaine: Can cause tremors and other neurological problems, especially with chronic use.

#### 6. Alcohol

Chronic Alcohol Abuse: Long-term excessive consumption of alcohol can damage the nervous system and lead to tremors, often seen as "alcoholic tremors" or

lychlarinated Biphanyla (PCBa): Used in alactrical angipment and other industrial

leafters. Espeace can lead to various

7. Environmental Taxing

Folgena: Used in patient thiosnam, adhesives, and some industrial processes. Chronic apprours can land to sauralispical symptoms. including transm. same: Found in industrial solvents,

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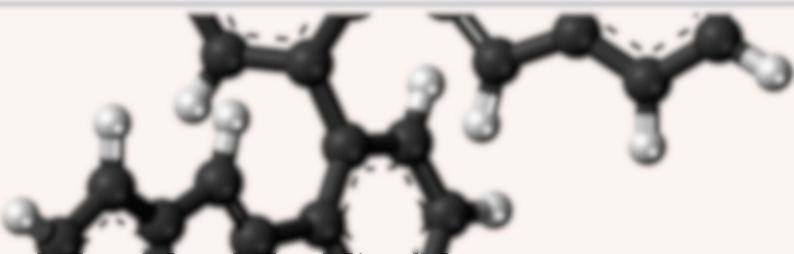
Industrial Chamicals

Carbon Blauffide: Used in the monofactors of rubbar and other chemicals. Exposure can couse treations and other neurological issues. Manganagat Used is sheaf production and walding. High levels of appreciae can lead to neurological symptoms, including tramors,

8. Fand Contas

8. Biological Test

minuted Vegetable Oil (RVO): Used in some soft droks and sports droks, EVO can accumulate in the body and cause transars. Conteminated Fish: Foh conteminated with manuary or other having metals can land to sauralogical symptoms, including framous



## Common dietary foods which cause tremors.

#### 1. Caffeine

- **Coffee:** High caffeine intake can stimulate the nervous system and lead to tremors, especially if consumed in large quantities.
- **Tea:** Both black and green tea contain caffeine, which can cause tremors if consumed in excess.
- Enargy Briteks: These baceroges offs contain high levels of coffsine and other stimulants that can lead to tramors.
- Buft Brieks: Some sodies contains collisions, which can contribute to transors if consumed in large procurts.

• **Aspartame:** An artificial sweetener found in many diet sodas and sugarfree products, aspartame can cause tremors in some people.

#### 5. Processed Foods

including toget

- **High Sodium Foods:** Excessive salt intake can affect blood pressure and lead to tremors.
- **Preservatives:** Certain preservatives found in processed foods can contribute to neuroloaical symptoms.
- 4. Artificial Colors and Flavors

7. Foods Containing Tooles

 Artificial Food Coloring: Some people are sensitive to artificial food dyes, which can cause a range of symptoms, including tramars.
Artificial Flavors: Similar to

- 1. Sugar
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 Alsohallis Beveragen: Chronic alcohol consumption can lead to tramore, especially during withdrawal periods.

· Begary Drinks: Seconages high in

#### 4. Food Additions

 Manasadium Olutamata (MBO): Commonly used in processed Foods and Acon cutoria, MSO con sometimes couse neurological symptoms, including transcr, in sensitive individuals.

#### 8. Montina

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 Takassa Pradusta: Nootina in signathes and other takasso products can atimulate the rerisous system and cause tremore, especially in high doses.



## Common diseases that can cause tremors:

#### 1. Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological disorder that affects movement. One of the hallmark symptoms is a resting tremor, which usually begins in one hand but can spread to other parts of the body.

#### 2. Essential Tremor

Essential tremor is a neurological disorder that causes rhythmic shaking. It is one of the most common movement disorders and typically affects the hands, but it can also involve the head, voice, and other body parts.

#### 3. Multiple Sciercels (MS)

Multiple sciences is on subcimmune disease that affects the central nervous system. Tremors can occur is people with MS due to the demyelination of nerve fibers in the brain and apreal card.

#### 4. Strake

A pholes occurs when blood flow to a part of the brain is interrupted, cousing brain cells to die. Depending on the orea of the brain affected, a stroke can result in tremors and other movement disorders.

#### 8. Huntington's Disease

Huntington's disease is a genetic disorder that causes the progressive breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. Tremors and other involuntary movements are common symptoms.

#### 9. Wilson's Disease

Wilson's disease is a rare genetic disorder that causes copper to accumulate in the liver, brain, and other vital organs. Neurological symptoms, including tremors, can occur if the condition is not treated.

#### 10. Dystonia

Dystonia is a movement disorder that causes muscles to contract uncontrollably, leading to repetitive or twisting movements. Tremors can be a symptom of

#### **II. Paripharal Neuropathy**

Partpharol nauropathy involvas domoga to the peripherol nerves, often cousing seediness, numbress, and tramore, it can result from various conditions, including disbates and chronic alsoholtam.

#### 12. Alashal Withdrawal

Chronic alcohol use followed by sudden cessorion can lead to alcohol withdrawal syndrome, which often includes tremors as one of its symptome.

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and type of transis depr and estent of the injury

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Specifica Instantia

#### 7. Caraballar Blassdara

The careballum is the part of the brook that coordinates movement. Disorders effecting the careballum, such as careballor stokis, can lead to tremory and other movement problems.

#### 15. Drug Withdrawal

Mothabowol from caritain to the barroodfoceaptrees or spicified, con course tramors as the body readjusts to the absence of the substance.



#### Common deficiencies that can lead to tremors:

#### 1. Vitamin B12 Deficiency

Vitamin B12 is essential for maintaining healthy nerve cells and producing DNA. A deficiency in vitamin B12 can lead to neurological symptoms, including tremors, numbness, and tingling in the hands and feet. This deficiency is more common in older adults, vegetarians, and people with certain medical conditions that affect nutrient absorption.

#### 2. Magnesium Deficiency

Magnesium plays a crucial role in muscle and nerve function. A deficiency in magnesium can lead to muscle cramps, spasms, and tremors. People with gastrointestinal diseases, diabetes, or chronic alcoholism are at higher risk for magnesium deficiency.

#### 3. Calcium Belisiancy

Calicium is vital for proper muscle function, and a deficiency can lead to muscle aposity and transmis. Hyposcalicemia, or low colicium levels in the blood, can couse these symptoms and is often seen in people with vitamic 0 deficiency, kidney disease, or parathyroid gland disorders.

#### 4. Vitumin 9 Buficiency

Virtumin D harips negatistia calicium lavails in the boody. A deficiency in ottamon D can lavaid to hyposcalicamits, which in turn can couse tramore, this deficiency is common in paciple with limited sun augusture, cartain phrants dimenses, or three who do not compute anough uttamin D-rick feods.

#### 5. Polyagium Beliciency

Polossium is assantial for proper muscle and nerve function. A deficiency is poloseium, known as hypologlemia, can couse muscle weathrees, comping, and tremore. This deficiency can occur due to prolonged comiting, disprises, excessive sweating, or the use of divertics.

Thosening is important for name function and anargy matabolism. A deficiency is thornors can lead to berilian, a condition that affacts the

Maccin is important for callular matubolism and narva function. A

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4. Thiuming (Vitamin 80) Buffelancy

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laced to neurological symphone, including training monitoring the nervous system. This deficiency pror distance intake, certain medical conditions, or the medications.

Some Aguroadic preparations contact herbs and minerals that night lead to neurological symptoms.



## Ayurvedic medicines and ingredients that could potentially cause tremors:

#### 1. Bhasma Preparations

Bhasma refers to calcined preparations of metals and minerals used in Ayurvedic treatments. Some bhasmas, like those made from heavy metals, can be toxic if not properly purified and can lead to neurological symptoms, including tremors. Examples include:

- Swarna Bhasma (Gold Ash)
- Rajat Bhasma (Silver Ash)
- Vanga Bhasma (Tin Ash)
- Tamra Bhasma (Copper Ash)

#### 1. Herbel Preparations with Alkalaids

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- Asselfs (Veteenables): Contains toxic alkalaids that can cause severe neurological symptoms.
- Befure (Bhatture): Contains tropone oficialists that can cause tremore, delinium, and other severe side effects if used improperty.

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 Bhillaght: This minaral-rich substance can sometimes lead to everatimulation of the nervous system if taken in large amounts.

#### Supplements that may help with tremors:

#### 1. Magnesium

- Role: Magnesium is essential for muscle and nerve function. A deficiency can cause muscle cramps, spasms, and tremors.
- Sources: Magnesium supplements, green leafy vegetables, nuts, seeds, and whole.

#### 2. Vitamin B12

- Role: Vitamin B12 is crucial for maintaining healthy nerve cells. A deficiency can lead to neurological symptoms, including tremors.
- Sources: Vitamin B12 supplements, animal products like meat, fish, dairy, and fortified cereals.
- 3. Vitumia 3
- Bala: Vitamos D halps regulate colorum levels and supports nerve function. A deficiency can contribute to tremore.
- Sources: Vitemin D supplements, surlight exposure, fatty lish, furtilised dairy products, and egg yolks.
- 4. Vitumis B (Thiami
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- advice to take control of your tremors.





#### 7. Omaga-3 Fatty Acids

- Rula: Omaga-3a hava anti-inflammatury properties and support brain health. They may help reduce transmis in some cases.
- · Sourcas: Fah of supplements, fatty Fah (salman, mackerel), floreseeds, and chro seeds.

#### 8. Coansyma GID (Co-GID)

- Role: Co/O/D is an antioxidant that supports mitochondrial function and may help reduce transm.
- · Sources: CoOII supplements, organ means, fatty fab, and whole proins.

#### F. GABA (Damma-Aminabutyris Asid)

- Role: GABA to a neurotronomitter that helps calm the nervous system. Supplementing with GABA may help reduce anciety-related tremore.
- · Sources: GABA supplements, though GABA is also produced naturally in the brain.

#### 10. L. Theorine

- Role: An amina acid found is green teo, L-theorine promotes relocation and can help reduce stress-related transm.
- · Sources: L-theorine supplements, green test.

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- advice to take control of your tremors.
- Sources: PassionRower supplements, tees, and extracts.



#### **Organizations and Support Groups:**

#### Tremor Action Network (TAN)

Description: TAN is an organization dedicated to raising awareness and providing support for individuals with essential tremors. It offers educational resources, advocacy opportunities, and support groups.

Benefits: Promotes advocacy and provides a sense of community and support.

Exampliant Transact Buggment Group (ETBG) Description: ETSG is an anline support group that connects individuals with essential transacs from pround the world. It offers a platform for sharing experiences, solving questions, and providing support. Benefits: Provides emotional support and practical advice from others who understand the challenges of living with essential transact.

Local Bupport Braupa: Description: Hony comm

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#### Thank You for Downloading!

For a deeper dive into managing tremors, check out our full guide:

Book Title: Shaking Hands: How to Manage Tremors Author: Dr. Chandril Chugh

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We Wish You Well On Your Path To Better Health!!