



MdDS Foundation
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Dear Healthcare Professional,

Mal de Débarquement Syndrome (MdDS) is a little-known neurological disorder and is often misdiagnosed.¹ It manifests primarily as a chronic sensation of movement, typically described as feeling “like I’m on a boat.” The primary symptoms of rocking, swaying and/or bobbing are often associated with cognitive impairment, visual motion intolerance, and a sense of unstable ground. Symptom severity varies from mild to disabling.



Some patients may have no known trigger, but onset often includes a history of travel or other passive motion event. What is common among patients is the *persistence* of symptoms, lasting months to years. **Diagnostic criteria established by the Bárány Society will aid you in diagnosing MdDS.**² Scan the QR code to open the *Journal of Vestibular Research* article or visit journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.3233/VES-200714.

Your newly diagnosed patients will find our informative **brochure** and **symptom severity scale** helpful. These are available in bulk by request to brochures@mddsfoundation.org. Another patient resource is our online forum that supports a global community of 8,000+ people with MdDS. www.facebook.com/groups/MdDSfriends

For you and your colleagues, our **MdDS Knowledge Card**, also complimentary by request, contains at-a-glance information about MdDS including treatment options, the **ICD billing code** (R42 in the ICD-10-CM or AB31.4 in the ICD-11-CM), and diagnosis. A key MdDS indicator is that symptoms temporarily remit when the patient is back in motion.

We hope this introduction to Mal de Débarquement Syndrome and the MdDS Foundation has been helpful. Please contact us with any questions by writing to connect@mddsfoundation.org.

Thank you for helping MdDS patients get their lives back,

Marilyn Josselyn, President
MdDS Foundation

Enclosures: brochure, quick-reference knowledge card, symptom severity scale

¹ Browne CJ, Sheeba SR, Astill T, Baily A, Deblieck C, Mucci V, Cavaleri R. [Assessing the synergistic effectiveness of intermittent theta burst stimulation and the vestibular ocular reflex rehabilitation protocol in the treatment of Mal de Debarquement Syndrome: a randomised controlled trial.](#) *J Neurol.* 2024; 271: 2615–2630.

² Cha YH, Baloh RW, Cho C, Magnusson M, Song JJ, Strupp M, Wuyts F, Staab JP. [Mal de Debarquement Syndrome diagnostic criteria: consensus document of the classification committee of the Barany Society.](#) *J Vestib Res* 30:285-293, 2020.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The MdDS Foundation, a 501(c)(3) run entirely by volunteers, supports clinical studies and unites investigators with an interest in studying MdDS. Insights into on-going clinical studies, links to biomedical literature, plus all the information you need to submit a grant application can be found on our website at mddsfoundation.org/professionals/



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