

DEFINITION

1. **Vestibular neuronitis** is a clinical condition produced by vestibular dysfunction with the characteristic symptom of vertigo, without tinnitus or deafness.

CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS

2. The syndrome produces a vestibular symptom - i.e. vertigo - which is usually sudden in onset but with no accompanying cochlear or neurological deficits. Some authorities feel that the term vestibular neuronitis should be confined to those cases in which there has been a single self limiting episode while others would also accept a second type involving multiple attacks.

AETIOLOGY

3. The precise nature of this condition is the subject of considerable debate.
4. The condition is frequently associated with, and has been thought to arise from, a preceding viral infection of the upper respiratory tract. There are occasional epidemic outbreaks. Some authorities believe it to be due to a single viral mononeuritis while others hold it to be the focal manifestation of a cranial polyneuritis.

CONCLUSION

5. **Vestibular neuronitis** is a clinical condition with characteristic symptoms of vertigo without tinnitus or deafness. Some authorities believe that the condition results from a viral infection.

REFERENCES

Luxon Linda M. Causes of Balance Disorders - Viral infection. In: (Eds) Mackay Ian S, Bull T R. Scott-Brown's Otolaryngology. 5th Ed. 1987. London. Butterworths. p177-178.

Cull R E, Will R G. Diseases of the nervous system - Vestibular Neuronitis. In: (Eds) Edwards Christopher R W and Bouchier Ian A D. Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine. 16th Ed. 1991. Edinburgh. Churchill Livingstone. p843.