Arachnoiditis

Arachnoiditis describes a pain disorder caused by the inflammation of the arachnoid, one of the membranes that surround and protect the nerves of the spinal cord. The arachnoid can become inflamed because of an irritation from chemicals, infection from bacteria or viruses, as the result of direct injury to the spine, chronic compression of spinal nerves, or complications from spinal surgery or other invasive spinal procedures. Inflammation can sometimes lead to the formation of scar tissue and adhesions, which cause the spinal nerves to “stick” together. If arachnoiditis begins to interfere with the function of one or more of these nerves, it can cause a number of symptoms, including numbness, tingling, and a characteristic stinging and burning pain in the lower back or legs. Some people with arachnoiditis will have debilitating muscle cramps, twitches, or spasms. It may also affect bladder, bowel, and sexual function. In severe cases, arachnoiditis may cause paralysis of the lower limbs.

Source: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

**National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)**
https://www.ninds.nih.gov/Disorders/All-Disorders/Arachnoiditis-Information-Page
PO Box 5801
Bethesda, MD 20824
Phone: 301-496-5751
Toll-free: 800-352-9424
NINDS provides information about Arachnoiditis: symptoms, causes, diagnoses, prognosis, treatments, links to studies, and research literature.

**National Institute of Heath, Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center**
https://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/diseases/5839/arachnoiditis
https://www.rarediseases.info.nih.gov
PO Box 8126
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8126
Phone: 301-496-5751
Toll-free: 888-205-2311
Provides links to the databases: NLM Gateway, PubMed, OMIM, and ClinicalTrials.gov for more info on arachnoiditis.
National Organization of Rare Diseases (NORD): Arachnoid Cysts
https://rarediseases.org/rare-diseases/arachnoid-cysts/

Arachnoiditis Society for Awareness and Prevention (ASAP) Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/ArachnoiditisSocietyForAwarenessAndPrevention
Email: dawnzilla78@gmail.com

Spine Universe: Arachnoiditis
www.spineuniverse.com/conditions/spinal-disorders/arachnoiditis

WebMD: Pain Management—Arachnoiditis
http://www.webmd.com/pain-management/guide/pain-management-arachnoiditis#1
Discusses symptoms, causes and treatments.

Arachnoiditis.co.uk: The Arachnoiditis Syndrome by Dr. Sarah Smith

Blogger on Arachnoiditis
http://arachnoiditisywv.blogspot.com

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This publication is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $8,700,000 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.