

# Cardiac Autonomic Neuropathy; Importance of Screening in the Asymptomatic and as a Tool to Identify Misdiagnosed Diabetic Neuropathy: Review

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Cardiac Autonomic Neuropathy (CAN) is a complication of diabetes that is often overlooked and an independent risk factor for morbidity and mortality in both type 1 and 2 diabetes. The presence of a significant subclinical phase, which can be diagnosed with simple screening tests, allows the clinician to take early measures to prevent progression. Furthermore, the length dependant nature of diabetic neuropathy produces a characteristic pattern in the presentation of CAN, which can be utilized to exclude a misdiagnosed diabetic neuropathy. The main objective of this review is to highlight the importance of adopting screening tests for CAN into clinical practice and utilizing them to increase the accuracy of diagnosis of diabetic neuropathy.

**Keywords:** Diabetes, Diabetic neuropathy, Diabetic autonomic neuropathy, Cardiovascular autonomic neuropathy