

WHY THE SYMPATHETIC IS OVERACTIVE IN ARACHNOIDITIS:

The central nervous system is damaged in arachnoiditis. It is therefore unsurprising that it may not function normally.

Some possible factors might be:

- Abnormal feedback from damaged nerves
- Thalamic effects: pain, stress
- Limbic system: emotional input?
- Sympathetic chain: ? direct damage
- Spinal cord injury >> autonomic dysfunction
- Cervical pathology >> autonomic dysreflexia
- Thyroid abnormalities
- Effects of medication?
- Disturbance of hypothalamic-pituitary axis (seen in some fibromyalgia patients)

Constant pain is a continual stressor, resulting in adrenal over activity and subsequent exhaustion (sudden onset fatigue may be associated)