

# Catatonia: information for patients and carers

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What is catatonia?

Catatonia is a serious form of mental illness that affects the way people **behave, move** and **speak**

sometimes be very quick, within an hour, but it can take several days. It is also important to treat any other mental illness or other medical condition. Some people with catatonia need electric therapy to the brain; this is known as electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), which is also sometimes used to treat severe depression. More information on ECT can be found at <https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/mental->