

Table 1**Differential diagnosis of motor neurone disease**

Features	Condition
Muscle wasting and weakness/ lower motor neurone features	● Neuropathies – carpal tunnel syndrome, ulnar neuropathy, common peroneal neuropathy, diabetic amyotrophy, diabetic polyneuropathy ● Radiculopathies – cervical and/or lumbosacral spondylosis ● Multifocal motor neuropathy ● Guillain Barré syndrome ● Postpolio syndrome ● Benign fasciculation ● Thyrotoxicosis ● Inclusion body myositis ● Polymyositis ● Muscular dystrophy ● Myasthenia gravis
Spasticity/upper motor neurone features	● Cervical myelopathy ● Subacute combined degeneration of the cord (vitamin B₁₂ deficiency) ● Cerebrovascular disease and stroke ● Tumours of brain and spinal cord ● Multiple sclerosis
Other motor neurone diseases	● Spinobulbar muscular atrophy (Kennedy's disease) ● Spinal muscular atrophy (hereditary)
Cognitive features	● Frontotemporal dementia ● Alzheimer's disease ● Cerebrovascular disease