

Facts about MS:



Multiple sclerosis is a lifelong disease for which there is **no known cure**.



The average age of diagnosis is between **20 - 40 years of age**, although children as **young as 10** have been diagnosed.



Australians will be **directly impacted** through a diagnosed family member, friend or colleague.



3/4 people living with multiple sclerosis **are women**.



Multiple sclerosis **attacks the central nervous system** (the brain, spinal cord and optic nerves).



No two cases of multiple sclerosis are identical.

The visible and invisible symptoms of multiple sclerosis vary from person to person.



Multiple sclerosis **affects more young people** than any other chronic neurological condition

Some symptoms of multiple sclerosis:

- Extreme fatigue
- Blurred vision
- Loss of balance and muscle coordination
- Slurred speech
- Difficulty with walking
- Balance issues
- Dizziness
- Altered sensation such as tingling, numbness or pins and needles



How your support helps:

Each year:



18,000+ occasions people...

reach out and find a caring voice on the end of the line thanks to the **MS Connect** phone service, who provide support, care and advice when it is needed most.



More than **400** new people...

access a **MS Peer Support** group, providing connection for people living with MS and an important social outlet for what can be an isolating disease.



1,500+ people...

access free, specialised advice and guidance from a health professional through the **MS Advisor** programs, without having to travel or join a long waiting list.



Almost **16,000** people...

participate in **MS Education** programs to help them manage living with MS and the unpredictability of their symptoms.

Your support is making a significant difference in the lives of those living with multiple sclerosis. Thanks to your support we can provide much needed emotional and physical support, advice and vital services to ensure their journey is not undertaken alone.

Scott was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis when he was about to move to the next stage of his film-making career and recalls "it was the fear that was probably driving me to contact MS Connect...

It was nice to speak to someone who knew where I was coming from and I've started feeling less alone, and I think that was very important because in the beginning I felt very alone. Now I feel part of the family".



Your support means no one has to face multiple sclerosis alone.



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