

Facts about MS:



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



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

1 in 20



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



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

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



No two cases of multiple sclerosis are identical.

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



Every working day 4 Australians are diagnosed with multiple sclerosis - that's **1,000 people newly diagnosed each year**.

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:



13,000+ Australians...

reach out each year 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.



Over 7,300+ people...

access the **MS Wellbeing** programs and webinars each year, which provide an opportunity to share strategies on managing symptoms, how to access vital services and a chance to connect with the MS Community.



Almost 1,000 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.



600+ healthcare workers...

participate in **MS Education** programs to learn more about the disease, helping them to better assist and understand their MS patients.

MS offers a suite of services and support to help minimise the impact of multiple sclerosis, while the search for a cure continues.

Your support enables people living with multiple sclerosis to do all the everyday things we take for granted and ensure that 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.



1300 733 690



ms.org.au



events@ms.org.au

