



STOP MS IN ITS TRACKS RESTORE WHAT'S BEEN LOST END THE DISEASE FOREVER

Just a few short years ago, there was little belief that nervous system repair was even possible. Through the Society's tireless efforts and multi-million dollar funding, there is not just belief, but a whole new field that has emerged to pursue strategies to repair the nervous system and restore function to people with MS.

Potential cell therapies are now in clinical trials, and creative new rehabilitation strategies and symptom management techniques are being explored to maximize abilities and to treat troubling symptoms.

But more must be done to give back what has been lost.

People with MS want, and deserve, solutions. As part of a unique and comprehensive approach to MS research, the Society is committed to restoring what's been lost. Here's how:

WE MUST BETTER UNDERSTAND HOW NERVES AND MYELIN WORK NORMALLY, AND STIMULATE REPAIR.

- Research aimed at understanding myelin and nerve interactions that support nerve messaging, and what goes wrong as myelin is damaged
- Screening studies to identify signaling molecules active during natural repair processes, which can then be tested for their potential as future therapies

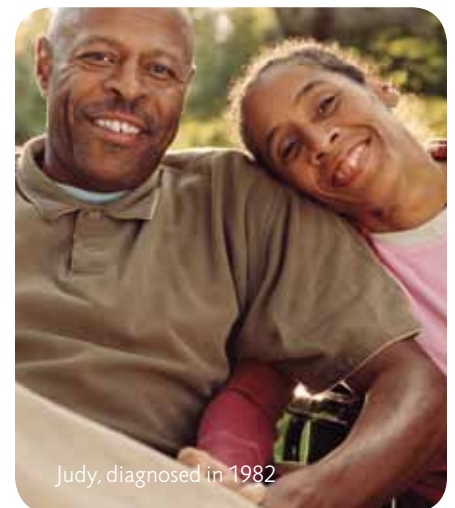
WE MUST AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE CLINICAL TRIALS OF NEW CELL THERAPIES AND OTHER THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES TO REBUILD THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

- Studies exploring the repair potential of different types of stem cells in pre-clinical models of the disease, and ways to enhance the survival of repair cells in the inflamed and scarred nervous system of people with MS
- Efforts focusing on high-tech imaging tools to better measure nerve tissue damage and assess nerve protection and repair without having to wait possibly years to observe a person's disease progression
- Investigations to design new ways of conducting clinical trials and to develop better outcome measures to speed up the testing of promising repair strategies

WE FUNDED THE FIRST STUDY SHOWING THAT NATURAL REPAIR OCCURS IN MS LESIONS, PAVING THE WAY FOR A WHOLE NEW FIELD OF INQUIRY

"I WILL DANCE WITH MY HUSBAND AGAIN."

SOCIETY RESEARCHERS DISCOVERED THAT HUMAN ADULT BRAINS HAVE REPLACEMENT CELLS FOR MYELIN, AND SHOWED THAT TRANSPLANTING THOSE CELLS COULD RESTORE FUNCTION IN MICE



Judy, diagnosed in 1982



WE MUST ENSURE THAT INNOVATIVE REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES ARE DEVELOPED TO MAXIMIZE FUNCTION, AND DEVELOP BETTER WAYS TO REDUCE MS SYMPTOMS.

WE MUST PROVIDE DATA ON OPTIMAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY AND POLICY TO FUEL ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF CARE AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

- Studies investigating complementary and non-traditional therapies to combat specific symptoms
- Tests of innovative rehabilitation techniques to improve walking, strength and balance, and fellowship programs that train new talent in best practices for MS rehabilitation research
- Studies focusing on exercise and other non-pharmaceutical strategies to enhance wellness and combat painful spasticity (extreme muscle tightness) and MS fatigue
- Research on thinking and memory problems, and the best therapies and coping strategies to address them

Significant progress has been made, but more must be done, NOW.

TO HELP **RESTORE** WHAT'S BEEN LOST, PLEASE CONSIDER A GENEROUS GIFT.

Your support will revolutionize care and treatment options, bringing real solutions to everyone living with MS.

nationalMSsociety.org

ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF OUR CURRENT RESEARCH FUNDING FOCUSES ON RESTORING FUNCTION



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SOCIETY GRANTEES PIONEERED RESEARCH ON COGNITION PROBLEMS IN MS AS WELL AS REHABILITATION STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THEM



SOCIETY GRANTEES WERE FIRST TO SHOW THAT AEROBIC EXERCISE COULD FIGHT MS FATIGUE, CHANGING DOCTORS' AGE-OLD ADVICE TO "TAKE IT EASY"

"I WILL RETURN TO MY JOB AND THE WORK I LOVE."

WE FUNDED EARLY TRIALS ON A THERAPEUTIC APPROACH THAT LED TO THE FIRST APPROVED MEDICINE TO IMPROVE WALKING IN MS