National MS Society-Funded Research Projects Focusing on Rehabilitation to Enhance Cognitive Functions For People with MS

Michael Basso, PhD
University of Tulsa
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Award: Pilot Research Grant
Funding: $39,873
Term: 2/1/2012-9/30/2016
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore
“**A manualized cognitive rehabilitation program for Multiple Sclerosis**” Developing a standardized program to improve memory in people with MS.

Charles Bombardier, PhD
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Award: Research Grants
Funding: $1,466,730
Term: 10/1/2013-9/30/2018
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore
“**The effect of aerobic exercise on cognition in multiple sclerosis**” Can aerobic exercise improve cognitive impairment in people with MS?

Nancy Chiaravalloti, PhD
Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: International Progressive MS Alliance
Funding: € 74,976.00
Term: 8/1/2014-7/31/2015
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore
“**Treating new learning and memory deficits in Progressive MS: the modified Story Memory Technique**” The results may have a significant impact on addressing the troubling symptom of cognitive dysfunction and improving quality of life for people with progressive MS.

Nancy Chiaravalloti, PhD
Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Research Grants
Funding: $748,576
Term: 4/1/2014-3/31/2018
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore
“**Speed of Processing Training to Improve Cognition in MS: A Randomized Clinical Trial**” Can a training program to improve the speed of processing information help people with MS?

John DeLuca, PhD
Kessler Foundation Research Center
West Orange, New Jersey
Award: Collaborative Research Center Awards
Funding: $821,585
Term: 4/1/2014-3/31/2019
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore
“**MS Collaborative Network of New Jersey**” What is the connection between cognitive and motor functions in people with MS?
John DeLuca, PhD  
Kessler Foundation Research Center  
West Orange, New Jersey  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship Program  
Funding: $383,965  
Term: 7/1/2012-6/30/2017  
“MS Fellowship in Neuropsychological Rehabilitation” Training postdoctoral fellows for success in careers dedicated to research in cognitive rehabilitation to improve the lives of people with MS.

John DeLuca, PhD  
Kessler Foundation Research Center  
West Orange, New Jersey  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Pilot Research Grant  
Funding: $43,947  
Term: 9/1/2014-8/31/2015  
“Testing the Effects of Methylphenidate on Cognitive Fatigue in MS: a Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Clinical Trial” Testing whether a well-known psychostimulant can treat cognitive fatigue in MS.

Barbara Giesser, MD  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Research Grants  
Funding: $560,819  
Term: 11/1/2009-4/30/2015  
“Exercise as a strategy to treat cognitive dysfunction in persons with MS” Looking at how aerobic exercise may improve mental ability in people with MS.

Lauren Krupp, MD  
State University of New York at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, New York  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Research Grants  
Funding: $628,313  
“Plasticity-based, adaptive, computerized cognitive remediation treatment (PACR) for adults with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)” Evaluating a web-based program to help improve memory and learning in people with MS.

Victoria Leavitt, PhD  
Columbia University (transfer pending)  
New York, New York  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Pilot Research Grant  
Funding: $44,000  
Term: 11/1/2012-12:00:00 AM  
“A Randomized Controlled Trial of Intellectual Enrichment to Build Cognitive Reserve in Multiple Sclerosis” Testing whether intellectually enriching activities delivered via an iPad can improve cognitive function and alter brain activity in people with MS.

Maria Schultheis, PhD  
Drexel University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
Award: Pilot Research Grant  
Funding: $40,154  
Term: 9/1/2014-8/31/2015  
“Sleep and Cognition in Relapse-Remitting MS: Directions for Rehabilitation” Determining the degree to which cognitive function differs between good and poor sleepers in MS.
Lynne Shinto, MPH, Other  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Portland, Oregon  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
“Ahipic Acid and Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Cognitive Impairment in Multiple Sclerosis” A clinical trial testing the benefits of combining lipoic acid and fatty acid for treating cognitive impairment in 53 people with MS.

Janet Shucard, PhD  
The State University of New York at Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
“Does working memory training improve brain function and cognition in MS?” Testing a training program for improving cognitive function in MS.

Jacob Sosnoff, PhD  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Urbana, Illinois  
Topic Area: Rehabilitation/Restore  
“Cognitive-motor interference rehabilitation in persons with multiple sclerosis” Examining whether rehabilitation aimed at performing one or more tasks can enhance functions in people with MS.

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