Multiple Sclerosis Society of India

Charitable Trust Working for the Welfare of Patients suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

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What Is Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a disease of the central nervous system affecting its functioning unexpectedly and repeatedly, resulting in devastating disabilities in young people in the prime of their lives.
Symptoms of MS

Most Common Early Symptoms Of MS Include:

- Blurred Or Double Vision
- Slurred Speech
- Tingling Sensations
- Unusual Fatigue, Muscle Cramps
- Loss Of Balance & Coordination
- Weakness In One Or More Limbs
- Incontinence

Some People May Feel And Seem Healthy For Many Years After Diagnosis, While Others May Be Severely Debilitated Very Quickly.
MSSI – The Beginning - 1985

- Established: In Mumbai with only 3 MS patients.
- Absence of public awareness.
- Limited knowledge of prevalence of MS in India amongst medical fraternity.
- Difficulty in diagnosing MS.
- Absence of funds.
- Very basic help to MS families.
MSSI – Now – 2011

- 9 Chapters in Major Cities
- Now Estimated Cases: 50000 – 90000
- Registered Cases With MSSI: Around 4000
- MSSI Empowering Patients With Ongoing Welfare Projects.
Problems Faced by MS Patients

- **Fatigue** Mistaken For Laziness, **Loss Of Balance** For Drunkenness, **Unpredictable Nature Of MS** To Unreliability.

- **Due To Mobility Problems & Incontinence** Social Life Minimizes.

- **Misunderstanding And Discrimination.**
  Earlier Invisible Symptoms Misinterpreted By Families, Employers, Colleagues & Public.

- **Patient May Lose Job / Work & May Lose Confidence.**

- **Complete Isolation If Bed-ridden.**

- **Continuous Emotional, Physical & Financial Stress For Caregivers.**
MSSI Empowers MS Patients

• MSSI Councels Patients For Acceptance of MS

• Introduces Various Patient Welfare Projects to improve the quality of their life.

• Continuous Public Awareness Projects.
  ➢ Educates Prospective Employers & General Public about MS & Difficulties faced By Patients.
Various Patient Welfare Projects

- Counseling
- Home Physio Therapy
- Home Visits
- Home Nursing
- Home Help
- Rehab For Home Bound
Free Medical Camps / Seminars
Awareness For General Public & Medical Fraternity On All Fronts

• Talks On Various Platforms: Public Places, Colleges, Offices, Media, Rotary – Lions Clubs Etc.

• Making Public Aware About The Invisible Symptoms Of MS.

• Arranging Talks By Neurologists For Doctors; Especially For GPs & Para Medicos.

MS Patients Need Empathy & understanding From People Around Them.
Awareness At Various Platforms

**On Streets**

**At Railway Stations**

**In Parks**

**At MS Walk**
Appeal to Prospective Employers

To Enable Patients For Better Productivity

• Require Humane Touch Towards MS Patients.
• Change Their Duty From Outdoor Or Strenuous Work To Table Work.
• Allow Them Short Breaks In Between Work To Recover From Fatigue.
• Flexi – Timings.
• Refer Cases – Cawsi, Darshana, Meenakshi & Jigna
Expectations from Clinical Research Institutes

- Provide Complete Information To Patients.
- Complete Transparency On Possible Negative Effects.
- Clarity About Hopes Of Positive Effects Of The Drug.
- Any expenses incurred by patient To be reimbursed.
- Use Of Local Languages When Necessary.
What **MSSI** Needs From Government

- **MS To Be Included In Disability Act.**
  Certificates For Benefits By Govt. Must Be Provided To All MS Patients Without Considering Degree Of Their Disability.

- **Creating Disabled Friendly Environment**
  Vast Improvement Needed In Public Places & For Public Utility Services.

- **New Drugs / Treatments At Affordable Rates.**

- **Need Of The Hour**: Respite Centers
Respite/Rehab Centers

• Admitting Patients Of MS & Allied Neurological Diseases For Limited Duration (1-2 Months)

• To Offer Quality Care And Services.

• To Attain & Maintain Highest Level Of Mental, Physical And Psychological Functions In Dignified & Caring Way.

• To Give Respite To Families.
The Beneficiaries For Daycare

• Patients Who Are Ambulatory, Lonely & Who Need Supervision.

• Mobile Patients Who Would Like To Help Out At The Centre.

• The Neurologically Disabled Patients Who Are Able To Attend Daycare Facility.
TOUCHING LIVES OF PATIENTS
WITH LOVE & CARE

LET US COOPERATE WITH ZEST & VERVE
TOGETHER THE BETTER WE’LL SERVE
SADNESS & SORROW WE CAN FIGHT
IF WITH LOVE WE LIGHT A LIGHT.

THANK YOU