

In A Nutshell January 2018



The Year 2017 in Review

Goal: People have effective treatment choices and solutions to the challenges of living with MS

The Society invested \$40 million for new and ongoing research and initiatives around the world, with 360 active projects

- The International Progressive MS Alliance launched three Collaborative Network Awards, with co-funding and leadership from the Society
- Society funding of early B cell research led to the first therapy for primary progressive MS
- The International MS Genetics Consortium published results identifying 200 genetic variations that influence the risk of developing MS
- Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute committed \$38 million for studies comparing the benefits and risks of MS therapies and rehabilitation, including two studies focused on fatigue — four of the lead researchers funded are alumni of Society fellowship programs
- Research papers from Society-led initiatives focusing on wellness research, patient cohorts/registries, and clinical measures for tracking MS progression and benefits of therapies provide insight into the current landscape and guide funders and MS researchers on the best ways to speed answers.

FEDERAL PROGRESS

21st Century Cures Act was passed, authorizing a data collection system to track incidence and prevalence of neurological conditions

- MS activists protected access to affordable, quality health coverage through robust engagement in the health reform debate — including 14,927 emails to Congress, 115 sign-on letters and ads and 444 Capitol Hill meetings
- Achieved a \$2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health and \$6 million total for the MS Research Program through the Department of Defense
- The FAIR Drug Pricing Act was reintroduced in Congress with a new provision added by the Society to better encapsulate MS disease-modifying therapies
- Ocrevus entered the market at approximately 20% less than the average price of the MS disease modifying therapies — Genentech cited the Society's access to medications work in announcing the price
- Sanofi Genzyme released pricing principles which align with the Society's access to medications recommendations

Just For Fun

I suggest you go to this website for interesting statistics of achievement in 2017.
Lots of colorful graphs and pictures.

https://www.nationalmssociety.org/NationalMSSociety/media/MSNationalFiles/Documents/Strategy/FY17_Goal_Progress_Report.pdf