

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN MS CENTER

— *the answers begin here* —

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Rocky Mountain MS Center's Medical Director, Dr. Tim Vollmer, Selected as Principal Investigator for NeuroNEXT Clinical Site**

Westminster, CO----The goal of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke's (NINDS) newly created Network for Excellence in Neuroscience Clinical Trials – or NeuroNEXT – is to conduct exploratory (Phase II) studies of treatments for neurological diseases through partnerships with academia, private foundations, and industry. The network is designed to test the most promising new therapies, increase the efficiency of clinical trials before embarking on larger studies, and respond quickly as new opportunities arise to test promising treatments for people with neurological disorders.

This month, the NINDS made awards to 25 U.S. clinical sites and announced the program in a series of meetings with academic researchers, industry representatives, and patient groups. Rocky Mountain MS Center's Medical Director, Dr. Tim Vollmer will serve as the principal investigator for NeuroNext at the University of Colorado. The University of Colorado School of Medicine will receive \$1.7M over the next seven years to serve as one of NeuroNEXT's clinical sites.

NeuroNEXT will provide a robust, standardized, and accessible infrastructure to facilitate rapid development and implementation of protocols in neurological disorders affecting adult and/or pediatric populations

“NeuroNEXT will expand the capacity to test the most promising new therapies for a wide range of neurological disorders affecting children and adults,” said Elizabeth McNeil, M.D., the NIH/NINDS director who will oversee the program. “Through 25 clinical sites across the U.S., as well as a clinical and a data coordinating center, the NIH will provide the expertise and infrastructure needed to rapidly assess treatments options as they become available from both academic and industry investigators.”

**The Rocky Mountain MS Center** is a patient-centered non-profit organization dedicated to changing the way we think about and treat multiple sclerosis. The MS Center offers a comprehensive care approach to treatment, and strives to empower patients, families and healthcare providers.

In 2008, the MS Center joined with the University of Colorado and the University of Colorado Hospital to create the **Rocky Mountain MS Center at Anschutz Medical Campus**.

[www.mscenter.org](http://www.mscenter.org).