

April 2021 Newsletter



April 2021 Research Spotlight

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES



Calling all caregivers!

MS caregivers play an integral role in the health and wellbeing of their loved ones. They can also be instrumental in contributing their insights and experiences to MS research, including the development of new treatments, through a process called patient-focused drug development (PFDD). Our first survey for MS caregivers is now available! If you are a care partner to someone with MS, please share your thoughts about the caregiver role in PFDD through this [10-minute survey](#). Thank you! Not already a member? Please consider [joining](#) the iConquerMS community with your loved one today!

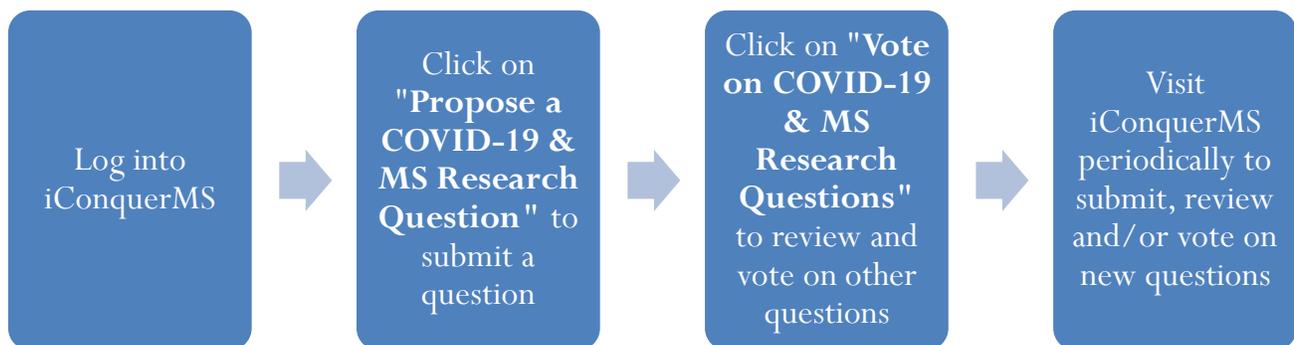


Announcing a New Program for iConquerMS Members!

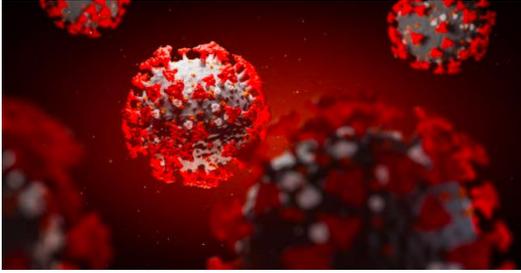
iConquerMS is leading the movement to include the patient perspective in every step of MS research. Now, network members can play a larger role than ever before in initiating and collaborating with researchers on studies that will expand knowledge in areas that matter most to people affected by MS.

iConquerMS members have always been able to submit research questions to the initiative. It's now possible to comment and vote on questions submitted by the community through the newly launched [Our Questions Have Power](#) program. Questions that are high priority for the iConquerMS community will be shared with researchers, who will work in collaboration with the iConquerMS community to develop them into research studies.

Participation is easy!



If you are not already a member, please consider [joining](#) iConquerMS, the only people-powered research network for MS. Add your voice to those working together to improve MS care and bring us closer to a cure!



Update your experience with COVID-19

As a supporter of Accelerated Cure Project, you know one way to deal with the uncertainty of MS is to **act** – to be proactively involved in research and to contribute your insights, expertise, and information so that key questions about MS may be answered.

The COVID-19 crisis has added an additional level of complexity and urgency for those affected by MS.

We have launched a follow-up survey on iConquerMS to update how people affected by MS are dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and what their personal experience has been with COVID-19 over the past 12 months.

We are interested in responses from all – those with and without MS, whether or not you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 – and hope the information gathered through this survey will help people affected by MS and their doctors during the current pandemic and in the case of future viral outbreaks.

Participating in the COVID-19 in MS study is easy. If you are not already a member, please consider [joining iConquerMS](#). Your voice matters! Already a member? Please [login](#) to your account and complete your COVID-19 survey. Thank you for your participation!

NEW RESEARCH RESULTS



The FDA recently approved ponesimod (Ponvory), an oral treatment that inhibits [S1P activity](#) and reduces circulating lymphocytes, for the treatment of adults with clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS), and active secondary progressive MS. The approval is partly based on a Phase III clinical trial in which Ponvory significantly lowered annual relapses by 30.5% compared to teriflunomide (Aubagio) in patients with RRMS. Ponvory was also shown to be effective at delaying disability progression. It has a proven safety profile and is generally well-tolerated.