

Accelerated Cure Project for MS

March 2018



Accelerating research towards a cure for multiple sclerosis

First Progressive MS Day Recognized Across the United States

The Accelerated Cure Project is pleased to participate in the first Progressive MS Day, being observed on March 28, 2018. In partnership with the multiple sclerosis (MS) community and a number of state governments across the country, Progressive MS Day shows support, offers education, and calls for more research to advance care and reduce disability for those living with the most debilitating forms of the disease.

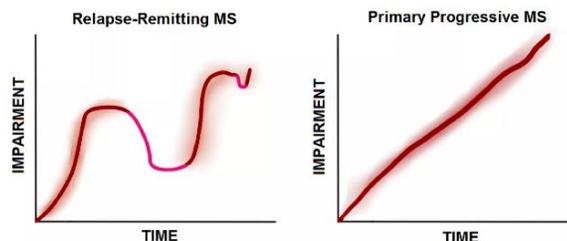


#ProgressiveMSDay



Wondering how you can participate? The MS community is invited to join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn using the official hashtag: #ProgressiveMSDay. All are invited to highlight resources, programs and services for those living with progressive forms of MS, as well as share their stories of perseverance and hope. Visit Gene.com to learn more about featured patients. In addition, show your support with a custom [Facebook profile frame](#) for the day.

Progressive forms of MS are characterized by a sustained build-up of symptoms with an insidious increase in disability.¹ With Primary Progressive MS (PPMS) in particular, disability accumulates twice as fast as in those with Relapsing Remitting MS (RRMS). This means



that people with PPMS experience more problems with walking, more difficulty remaining in the workforce, and require more assistance with everyday activities.² Approximately 400,000 people in the U.S are living with MS.³ Up to 15 percent are diagnosed with PPMS, and the majority of those diagnosed with RRMS will transition to a progressive form later in life.⁴

Progressive forms of MS remain frustratingly difficult to treat, due to a history of unsuccessful clinical trials and limited understanding of why progression occurs. While more than a dozen [medicines for RRMS](#) have been approved since the 1990s, there is one FDA-approved [treatment for PPMS](#). More research and a deeper understanding of the biology driving this condition are needed.

Groups recognizing Progressive MS Day include Genentech, as well as several national MS patient advocacy organizations and MS centers. Governments around the country will also join together to formally proclaim March 28th as Progressive MS Day; these states include California, Georgia, Michigan and Colorado.

¹ Progressive MS. The Condition. International Progressive MS Alliance. <http://www.progressivemsalliance.org/progressive-ms/the-condition/an3>. Accessed February 9, 2018.

¹ Primary Progressive MS (PPMS). National Multiple Sclerosis Society. www.nationalmssociety.org/What-is-MS/Types-of-MS/Primary-progressive-MS. Accessed December 2017.

¹ Who Gets Multiple Sclerosis. Multiple Sclerosis Association of America. <https://mymsaa.org/ms-information/overview/who-gets-ms/>. Accessed February 8, 2018.

¹ Secondary Progressive MS (SPMS). National Multiple Sclerosis Society. <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/What-is-MS/Types-of-MS/Secondary-progressive-MS>. Accessed February 8, 2018.

Show your support for people living with **Progressive MS** by using the official #ProgressiveMSDay Facebook frame.

Make sure to have the frame active on March 28!

HERE'S HOW

- 1 Go to your Facebook profile
- 2 Hover over your Facebook profile image and select **Update Profile Picture**
- 3 Select **Add Frame** and search for "Progressive MS Day"
- 4 Select **Use as Profile Picture**

The infographic features a blue background with a white silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. A yellow ribbon is tied around the neck of the silhouette. Below the silhouette, a blue banner contains the text "#ProgressiveMSDay | March 28th".