

About MS

- **Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system**

– the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves. It interferes with the brain's signals to the rest of the body.



- MS is unpredictable and **symptoms vary** across different people. The most common MS symptoms include fatigue, problems with balance, weakness, sensory changes such as tingling and numbness, vision problems, bladder and bowel problems, and cognitive and mood changes.



- MS is thought to be caused by a combination of genetic, environmental, and lifestyle risk factors.

Did you know?

- Every two hours, a Canadian is diagnosed with MS.



- In Canada, about **60%** of people diagnosed with MS are between the ages of **20 and 49**.



- Anyone can be diagnosed with MS, but women are up to **3 times more likely** to be diagnosed than men.

- MS is not contagious or infectious.

- The cost of MS in Canada is more than 3.4 billion dollars per year.



Early and Accurate Diagnosis



- Time matters. Early detection and intervention are key to improving overall health outcomes in people living with MS.



- **Between 2-5%** of people with MS experience their first symptoms in childhood or adolescence.

- Globally the most common barrier to getting an early diagnosis is a lack of awareness of MS symptoms among the public and healthcare professionals.

Learn more
about MS and ways
to get involved.



MS Canada