



ATU Local 113
MS Charity Golf Tournament

MS Fundraising: Then & Now — Your Impact in Action

Fundraising for MS has never just been about dollars raised — it's about hope, progress, and real change for people affected by multiple sclerosis. And thanks to your commitment, the future of MS looks very different than it did just a generation ago.

Then, treatment options were limited, and MS often meant facing a future of increasing disability with few answers. **Now**, thanks to over **\$224 million invested in more than 400 research initiatives**, we have multiple treatment options that reduce symptoms, slow progression, and improve quality of life. Early diagnosis and intervention are helping people manage their MS sooner and more effectively, and advances in brain health research are changing the way we care for people with MS.

Your fundraising also supports vital programs like the **MS Knowledge Network**, **Peer Support**, and **We Talk MS** — lifelines for thousands of Canadians navigating life with MS.

Because of your support, we're not just imagining a world free of MS — we're actively building it.

Thank you for making this progress possible.



mscanada.ca

MS Canada

Then and Now; the Numbers (using a 30-year timeframe)

Then (circa 1993)	Now (2025)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1993, the first-ever disease-modifying therapy (DMT) for relapsing–remitting MS—interferon beta-1b (Betaseron) — was approved in the U.S. Prior to that, there were no approved DMTs at all — only symptomatic treatments like steroids to ease flare-ups. So, roughly zero DMTs were available before 1993, and in 1993 only one approved agent existed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Today, there are more than 20 approved DMTs available worldwide, including injectable, oral, and infusion-based therapies. These include first-generation injectables like Avonex, Rebif, Betaseron, Copaxone (each ~30% relapse reduction), and later high-efficacy oral and infusion therapies such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tecfidera, Fingolimod, Ozanimod, Dimethyl fumarate (~50% relapse reduction) High-efficacy agents: Ocrelizumab, Ofatumumab, Cladribine, Alemtuzumab (~70% relapse reduction) Notably, MS treatments now include options for both relapsing–remitting MS (RRMS) and progressive forms—for example, Ocrelizumab was the first FDA-approved therapy for primary-progressive MS in 2017. B-cell therapies introduced since 2017 have transformed treatment responses, with up to 90% reductions in new brain lesions and relapse rates.

Testimonials

“Now, I’m really optimistic. I sometimes feel a little bit like an imposter, since I’m doing so well with my MS. But obviously that’s because I’m reaping the benefits of tons of research and tons of fundraising and everything that’s gone into this.” - Mel, lives with MS

“I have so little control because of my disease. One of the few things that I can control is the way that I can fundraise, I can educate, and I can contribute. I just want to do as much as I can in the ways that I can for as long as I can.” - Karen, lives with MS

“Very thankful for this group. Ability to meet, socialize and speak with others going through MS has been a god-send in dealing with my mental state.” - Peer to peer participant

“You have truly made a difference in my life, and I am extremely grateful. It is a huge source of comfort knowing that MS Canada is working hard on behalf of people affected by MS.” - Equipment recipient