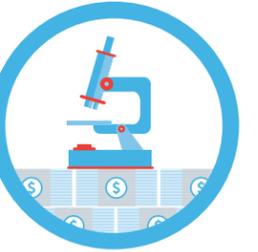
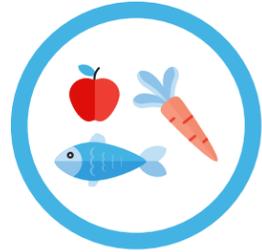


Research Milestones in Multiple Sclerosis

MS Society of Canada and MS Scientific Research Foundation



1949-1989

1949: MS Society of Canada (MSSC) awards first grant to Dr. Roy Swank for diet research.

1981: First magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) pictures of an MS-affected brain revolutionize diagnosis.

1990-1999

1993: MS Scientific Research Foundation (MSSRF*) funds its first research grant for \$2.2M for the Canadian Collaborative Project on Genetic Susceptibility to MS (CCPGSMS). Funding provided for additional project phases over the next two decades.

1995: First disease-modifying therapy (DMT) for relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS) approved in Canada (Betaseron).

1996: First evidence published that exercise improves quality of life with MS.

2000-2004

2000: MSSRF funds \$4M Canadian Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) trial—aims to determine whether wiping the immune system and transplanting bone marrow stem cells can treat MS and provide clues into its cause.

2001: McDonald Criteria for diagnosing MS established—first diagnostic criteria to incorporate both clinical and imaging measures.

2003: As part of the CCPGSMS supported by the MSSRF, the largest population-based MS DNA bank, including information on people living with MS and their biological relatives, is established.

2004: Link between higher vitamin D intake and reduced MS risk identified.

MSSC and MSSRF fund \$4.3M multi-centre study of children who have had an initial demyelinating attack. The Canadian Pediatric Demyelinating Disease Network (CPDDN) is one of the largest and most comprehensive pediatric MS cohorts in the world.

2005-2009

2008: Dr. Paolo Zamboni identifies a possible association between chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI) and MS.

MSSC and MSSRF launch \$20M endMS Research and Training Network, a comprehensive multi-platform initiative designed to attract, train, and retain the next generation of MS researchers.

MSSC hosts first endMS Conference—largest conference in Canada aimed at fostering knowledge exchange on MS-related research, networking, and collaboration.

2010-2011

2010: \$2.4M joint funding from MSSC and National MS Society to fund seven critical studies into the connection between CCSVI and MS.

2011: MSSRF funds \$3.8M multi-center study focused on progressive forms of MS.

CPDDN identifies key MRI patterns in children with MS. The discovery that pediatric MS affects memory and learning allows for more timely access to treatment and care.

2012-2014

2012: Launch of International Progressive MS Alliance, a group of organizations committed to accelerating the development of treatments and resources for progressive MS. MSSC is a founding member.

2014: MSSC and MSSRF fund \$3.6M to understand the role of the B cell in the development and progression of MS.

2015

CPDDN receives \$3.2M from the MSSRF to continue to lead pediatric MS research efforts focusing on quality of life, health care service utilization, brain development, cognitive performance, and the immune system.

MSSRF funds \$4.2M MEsenchymal Stem cell therapy for CANadian MS patients (MESCAMS) clinical trial. MESCAMS is part of an international mesenchymal stem cell research effort encompassing nine countries. Unlike previous stem cell studies, chemotherapy is not required here.

2016

Launch of the Hermès Canada | MS Society Wellness Research Innovation Grant, funding aimed at translating research findings into innovative wellness solutions to improve health and quality of life for people affected by MS.

Canadian BMT Trial results published—shows no new disease activity following treatment in patients with aggressive, highly-inflammatory RRMS.

2017

Updated McDonald Criteria for diagnosis of MS. The revisions lessen the risk of misdiagnosis, and allow for earlier diagnosis of MS.

\$7+ million call for proposals announced by MSSC, Biogen Canada, and Brain Canada inviting researchers to establish the first Canadian cohort of people living with MS to study disease progression.

Minocycline clinical trial demonstrates delay in MS onset in people with early signs of the disease who received this safe and inexpensive acne treatment. An example of bench to bedside research, this \$4M trial funded by the MSSRF built on previous work, supported by MSSC.

Preliminary analyses of Pan-Canadian Interventional Clinical Trial for CCSVI in MS (funded by the MSSC, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba, and Quebec), show no statistical difference in outcomes between those who received the procedure and those who received a sham procedure (placebo).

2018

Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) conditionally approved by Health Canada as the first disease-modifying therapy available for early primary progressive MS.

\$175M

Overall investment from MS Society of Canada and MS Scientific Research Foundation to research

Thanks to You

Many of these advances would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors.

1996-2017: 13 additional DMTs approved by Health Canada for RRMS.

*The MSSRF is an affiliate of the MS Society that was established to support innovative MS research that extends beyond the scope of the MS Society's regular granting program.