Join us in raising awareness, revisiting the virtual conference and exploring resources for the MSA community.

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Defeat MSA Alliance (USA)
& MSA United Research Consortium

Defeat MSA Alliance & MSA United are U.S. based organizations geared toward global impact - and the only major MSA charities entirely operated by volunteers.



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World MSA Day is October 3. It brings the international community together to increase awareness of Multiple System Atrophy and the recognition of all those impacted by this rare neurodegenerative disease.

For individuals and families living with MSA, awareness can help people find reliable information, connect with a supportive network and increase public focus on MSA as an urgent unmet need.

This World MSA Day, you can help by sharing educational information, telling your personal story or inviting others to learn about MSA. You can also add an MSA awareness frame to your social media profile photo and share it with your community. Every shared post, and every person who adopts the MSA social media profile frame helps more people understand the need for action.

Create an Awareness Photo

Connect with the MSA Community



Free Continuing Medical Education Course (CME):

"**Taking It Step by Step: Recognizing MSA Early and Advancing Care with Confidence.**"

Because MSA is rare and its symptoms can overlap with other neurological conditions, patients may face a long and complicated path to an accurate diagnosis. Greater awareness among healthcare professionals can support earlier recognition and more informed care. In order to maintain one's license, professionals must take continuing medical education and training.

To help increase education about MSA among general neurologists and other health care providers about MSA, **Defeat MSA Alliance has partnered with Decera Clinical Education** to bring healthcare professionals a free online course, **"Taking It Step by Step: Recognizing MSA Early and Advancing Care with Confidence."**

Featuring five experienced MSA clinicians (recruited upon the recommendation of Defeat MSA), the course helps healthcare professionals recognize MSA earlier, distinguish it from other neurological conditions and better understand the needs of patients and caregivers.

The course offers **1.0 CME credit**, is available at no cost and remains eligible for credit through **December 31, 2027**.

The program was developed with grant support from Lundbeck.

Learn more and register for the free CME Course

Healthcare professionals can also explore **Defeat MSA's educational resources**, including downloadable educational materials, specifically designed to help distinguish MSA from Parkinson's disease and other similar diseases.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Seventh Annual Defeat MSA Virtual Conference, **"Hope for MSA: New Directions in Research and Advancing Care,"** held September 19 and 20.

Patients, caregivers, families, researchers, physicians and advocates came together for conversations about MSA research, clinical care and the challenges facing those affected by the disease in 2026. During the conference period, the MSA Hub recorded **2,118 sessions across 45 countries**. Conference-related member posts received **1,717 unique views**. These figures capture the Hub activity during the conference window.

We are grateful to every speaker, moderator, volunteer, sponsor and participant who helped make the conference possible. **Conference recordings are now available via MSA Hub.**





The Garden of Blessing International Movement Disorders Memorial continues to grow as a place of remembrance, reflection

and hope. Inspired by the Book of Proverbs sentiment **"May their memory be a blessing,"** the garden will offer families and community members, a meaningful place to gather, to honor and to learn more about MSA and other movement disorders. There will be both onsite and online corresponding features to the garden.



We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Marlene Zanotti** and her son, **Phil Zanotti**, for donating the garden shed that will become the **Gardener's Cottage**, in honor of Marlene's husband, **Rick Zanotti**. It will support the garden's continued care and development and represents the many hands and hearts bringing this vision to life.

Defeat MSA Alliance hopes to hold a dedication and opening event in Michigan, this spring. More details will be shared when confirmed.

REPRESENTING THE MSA COMMUNITY AT PARKINSON'S GRAND CHALLENGES

Defeat MSA Alliance representatives Philip Fortier and Rodney Rastall attended **Parkinson's Grand Challenges at the Van Andel Institute** in Grand



Rapids, Michigan,
September 22–24.

Through Defeat MSA's exhibit and conversations with researchers, pharmaceutical industry representatives and advocacy groups, the team helped ensure that MSA was represented in broader discussions about Parkinson's disease and other neurodegenerative diseases.

These meetings offer opportunities to share build relationships that could support future research, education and collaboration.

HONORING DR. GLENDA HALLIDAY





Defeat MSA Alliance congratulates Advisory Board member Professor Dr. Glenda Halliday on receiving the **2026 Jay Van Andel Award for Outstanding Achievement in Parkinson's Disease Research** from the Van Andel Institute.

Professor Halliday is an internationally recognized researcher whose work has advanced understanding of MSA, Parkinson's disease and other diseases. We thank her for a lifelong contribution to MSA related research and service to the MSA community.

SUPPORT, RESOURCES & COMMUNITY



Beyond research, we remain committed to practical support for individuals and families navigating MSA.

Available resources include:

- Defeat MSA Loaner Closet
- Support Groups
- MSA Hub Community

Join MSA Hub 2.0

UPCOMING EVENTS

Looking Ahead:

Defeat MSA Alliance and **MSA United Research Consortium** will be advocating on behalf of MSA patients and caregivers at these conferences for the rest of the year, including:

- **Society of Neuroscience (SfN) (Nov 14-18, Washington D.C.)**
- **International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders (Oct 4-8, Seoul, Korea)**

We'll be sharing additional information on these and other events soon.



Questions often arise between appointments and throughout one's MSA journey. The Defeat MSA and MSA United Patient Support line helps patients, caregivers and families find information and connect with much needed resources.

Call **855-542-5672 (855-KICK-MSA)** for help finding vital resources, community support, information about research trials and brain donation.

The support line is not a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis or emergency care. For medical concerns, contact your healthcare provider. In an emergency, call 911 or your local emergency number.



Support the mission in a way that works best for you.

You can make an impact through GoFundMe, Pledge campaigns, Facebook birthday fundraisers, Legacy funds, planned giving, stock or vehicle donations, memorial gifts, personal fundraising, or by volunteering your time.

Every contribution helps move research forward and supports families affected by Multiple System Atrophy.

Visit Homepage > Ways to Give

GIVE HELP, GIVE HOPE

Defeat MSA (USA), together with its affiliates in **MSA United**, stands apart as the world's only major MSA charity network operated entirely by volunteers—people personally impacted by MSA. We pay no management salaries to individuals unconnected to MSA, helping ensure that all donor dollars directly advance our mission of research, education, support and advocacy.

DONATE NOW

Many Hearts, One Hope

Defeat MSA Alliance (USA)

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