Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) has led the way for innovations in ALS science and care for over 70 years. We have dedicated hundreds of millions of dollars to ALS research, and care for tens of thousands of people diagnosed with ALS and their families. Our commitment includes support for our network of multidisciplinary MDA Care Centers at top medical institutions nationwide. Our MOVR Data Hub serves as a valuable tool for optimizing health outcomes and accelerating therapy development in ALS. With 2,000+ individuals with ALS participating in MOVR, we are gaining meaningful insights that will lead to advances in care and treatments. MDA was among one of three leading ALS organizations to advocate for the ACT for ALS bill, which was signed into law in 2021.

ALS takes away the freedom to walk, to talk, to eat, to breathe. In ALS, nerve cells called motor neurons inexplicably die, leading to weakness and eventual paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including those used for breathing and swallowing. There is no cure, and life span after diagnosis is typically three to five years, although some people live for decades with the disease. Thanks to your support, we are living in a time of unprecedented progress in neuromuscular research. With your help, MDA can continue to lead the way.

MDA supports and advocates for the entire ALS community across the US

34 active ALS grants in 2021, with a funding commitment of more than $2 million

In the last 5 years, MDA has invested over $16M in ALS research grants

MDA offers free educational seminars for individuals living with ALS and their families and caregivers across the US

150+ Care Centers offering best in-class care at 200+ appointment locations across the United States, with 48 designated MDA/ALS Care Centers

As the #1 voluntary health organization for people living with neuromuscular disease, MDA’s mission is to empower the people we serve to live longer, more independent lives.