

## MS Teamworks - Voices from the MS Community

Personal and Candid Stories that Provide Hope and Insight for those Living with MS

(Hackensack, NJ, October 2017)—A new online collection of powerful multiple sclerosis (MS) stories has been launched by the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC) and Catamount Medical Education. <a href="MS Teamworks">MS Teamworks</a> is a portal featuring 20 informal talks in which patients, clinicians, and care partners share their MS stories.

The unique format and innovative content of these talks reflects the public's increasing need for new, more accessible information on a chronic neurological disorder that affects more than 2.3 million people worldwide. More than 200 new cases of MS are diagnosed in the United States each week.

The MS Teamworks talks are free and accessible to the public. Additional videos will be added to the website as they are produced. MS Teamworks includes candid patients accounts from varying genders and demographic perspectives of MS patients including topics such as:

- "The Beginning Of My MS Journey"
- "I Wish My Healthcare Professional Knew"
- "How I Manage My MS"
- "I Wish I Knew"
- "It Takes A Team"

This series of frank patient talks highlight the diagnostic experience, navigation of multiple healthcare providers and insurance companies, the importance of being your own healthcare advocate, living with and managing MS, and the often overlooked impact of MS on the patient's family.

The **MS Teamworks** clinician talks come from some of the top specialists and experts in MS care and include:

- **"What to Expect When You Have MS;"** Dr. Robert Shin, a neurologist specializing in MS, shares how clinicians typically diagnose MS and discusses the importance of early treatment
- "My Role in MS Care;" Lisa Fox, a PA, describes how her role as a primary care physician is important in MS care.
- "Integrative Medicine;" Allen Bowling, MD, PhD, a neurologist, explains the benefits of using integrating conventional and alternative medicine in MS management

- **"MS Beyond the Physical—Effects on Mental Health;"** Fred Foley, PhD, a psychologist specializing in MS, offers insight into the wide-ranging mental health challenges presented by MS.
- "My Role in MS (Rehabilitation);" Patty Bobryk, MHS, PT, MSCS, ATP, a physical therapist, explains the role of each member of the rehabilitation team in the care of a MS patient.
- "Debunking Myths and Misperceptions;" June Halper, MSN, APN-C, MSCN, FAN and David E. Jones, MD, converse about common myths and misperceptions about MS.

Additional clinician talks include: "Yes, you can get MS as a Child," "A Missed Opportunity, Diet and MS," "The Roadmap to Motherhood," "The ABCs of MRIs," "I am Getting Worse, What Does that Mean," and "The MS Team."

"The goal of **MS Teamworks** is to provide messages of hope to all members of the MS community and to illustrate the power of coming together as team to provide a future for those living with MS," said June Halper, CEO, CMSC.

**MS Teamworks** was made possible by a grant from EMD Serono. To access and share the **MS Teamworks** video talks, visit: <a href="www.msteamworks.com">www.msteamworks.com</a>. Follow **MS Teamworks** on Instagram and Twitter: @msteamworks.

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## ABOUT THE CONSORTIUM OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTERS (CMSC)

CMSC, the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers, is the leading educational, training, and networking organization for MS healthcare professionals and researchers. The CMSC mission is to promote high quality MS care through educational programming and accreditation including live and online events, research grants, technical journals and papers, and targeted advocacy efforts. The CMSC member network includes more than 11,000 international healthcare clinicians and scientists committed to MS care as well as more than 60 Veterans Administration MS Programs and 225 MS Centers in the US, Canada, and Europe. The 32<sup>nd</sup> CMSC Annual Meeting, the largest gathering of MS professionals in North America, will take place May 30 – June 2, 2018, in Nashville, TN. For more information visit: <a href="www.mscare.org">www.mscare.org</a>. Follow CMSC on Twitter: @mscare.org and Facebook: CMSCmscare.

## **ABOUT CATAMOUNT MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Catamount Medical Education's mission is to create learning experiences that maximize the impact on patient care. Education is delivered through live programs, including satellite symposia, local and regional meetings, and online events, as well as through self-directed, enduring formats such as podcasts, videos, Webinars, monographs, newsfeeds, and other enduring formats. Catamount seeks to add value to its education and ensuring a direct impact on patient care by incorporating practical tools for the clinician (e.g., exam room posters, pocket cards, patient education materials) into every educational experience. Learn more at <a href="https://www.catmeded.com">www.catmeded.com</a>.

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