Your VOICE and Your DATA Have POWER

Join iConquerMS to ensure your voice and data can lead to change!

Our understanding of how MS affects Black/African American people is relatively new and constantly evolving. This means that having trust in yourself and advocating for your diagnosis and care is incredibly important, particularly for members of the Black/African American community.

"This diagnosis is new to you, but you are never alone in this battle!"

Toccara Carter iConquerMS Member Diagnosed in 2008



iConquer MS

COME JOIN OUR NETWORK!

iConquerMS is a research network committed to prioritizing patient voices and needs. It is supported by the Accelerated Cure Project, a patient-founded non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating MS research.

For information on how to join, send us an email or visit us online!

> 1 - 844 - 897 - 1211 info@iConquerMS.org www.iConquerMS.org



"MS will not dim my light!"





ENSURE THAT BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE A VOICE IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS) RESEARCH!

This brochure was developed in collaboration with the MS Research Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (RIDE) Council - Black/African American Sub-Council



"As a person with MS, your thoughts and feelings matter! Advocate for them!"

Dimika Cavalier iConquerMS Member Diagnosed in 2019

Why is representation in research so important?

Did you know that Black/African American people account for approximately 5% of research participants despite being 13% of the United States population?

What is iConquerMS?

iConquerMS brings together people living with MS, their care partners, researchers and others to understand MS and search for solutions. Curious about how we are making an impact? Here are a few examples:

- Conducting research on topics such as vaccine effectiveness, diet and wellness, and improving MS diagnosis.
- Developing new studies based on the priorities of people with MS.
- Sharing information and resources to improve the lives of iConquerMS members.

In MS trials, inclusion of Black people is even lower. A review of recent Phase 3 drug trials found that the median enrollment of Black people in these studies was only 1.9%.

Percentages by reported race: *Black 1.9%* White 93.8% Asian .05% Other 4.25%

Onuorah et al., Neurology® 2022

Without research representation, it is impossible to know how Black and African American people experience their MS and respond to treatment, medication, or lifestyle change.

There are many ways in which you can contribute to research!

Many people assume that drug trials are the only type of MS research, however this isn't true! Here are a few examples of other ways you can participate through iConquerMS:

- Completing online surveys
- Participating in focus groups
- Sharing lived experiences
- Suggesting research topics
- Providing biological samples
- And more!



"MS tried to slow our community down, but being a part of research allows me to fight back for people of color."

Veronica Daniels-Lewis iConquerMS Member Diagnosed in 1996