

Working Out MS

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EUROPEAN
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
PLATFORM



MS Facts

- 700,000 people in Europe have MS
- 70% diagnosed during prime working years
- 9 million people with neuro-degenerative diseases
- € 800 billion = cost of brain conditions in Europe

€ 1,5 million per minute*

are being spent on brain conditions in Europe

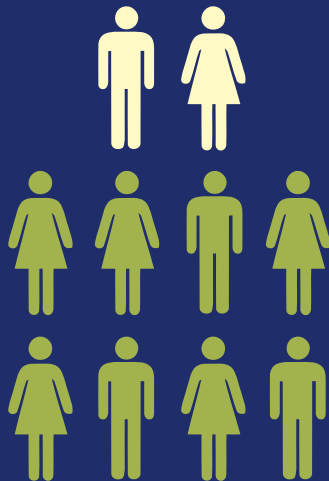


* European Brain Council,
*Cost of Brain Diseases
in Europe, 2010*

65% of the 1300 respondents to our young people with MS survey said they are currently employed or doing voluntary work ...

... but 80% usually stop working within 15 years of the onset of the disease

Activity in the workplace for young people with MS



8 out of 10 stop working*



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* Work Foundation,
Ready to Work?, 2011

Working Out MS

Work shapes

both personal and social life and contributes significantly to the wellbeing of people with multiple sclerosis (MS).

This is why EMSP is determined to open up paths to employment for people with MS and other neurodegenerative conditions.

How?

By running two flagship projects – Paving the Path to Participation (PPP) and Believe & Achieve (B&A) – which build towards:

- **Implementing support plans to help people deal with their condition while at work.**
- **Ensuring reasonable accommodation, flexibility, and support for both the employee and the employer.**
- **Introducing back-to-work schemes to help address the financial insecurity often experienced by people with MS.**

Paving the Path to Participation

This project aims to promote policy change that will support maximum participation of people with MS in the labour market in Europe.

Pact

PPP relies on a multi-stakeholder network in its efforts to promote a **European Employment Pact**. People with MS, employers, health-care providers and policy-makers are all taking part.

Action

- **Implement Pact** in employment policy and best practice.
- **Support businesses** to create solutions for people to stay in or return to work.
- **Persuade policy-makers** and national authorities to adapt policies for flexible working.

Believe & Achieve

This project aims to provide young people with MS with opportunities to work in supportive environments, through partnerships with businesses across Europe.

Action

- Support young people with MS to gain professional experience.
- Promote healthier and more inclusive workplaces.



Employees

- Have their abilities and resilience properly recognised and rewarded.
- Receive support to fulfil their potential while becoming full contributors to society.

Employers

- Become better adapted to the changing needs of the workforce by supporting greater diversity and inclusion.
- Demonstrate good business practice while being able to tap into a new talent pool.

What is MS?

Multiple sclerosis is one of the most common long-term conditions affecting the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) and the main cause of non-traumatic disability in young adults.

MS is a neurodegenerative disease, a group of conditions that includes, amongst others, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and Huntington's disease.

MS is mainly diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 40.



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700,000 PEOPLE

cover Martina Vagini,
young person with
MS from Italy, photo
from EMSP's Under
Pressure project



Believe and Achieve

[www.emsp.org/projects/
believe-and-achieve](http://www.emsp.org/projects/believe-and-achieve)

Paving the Path to Participation (PPP)

[www.emsp.org/projects/
paving-the-path-to-participation](http://www.emsp.org/projects/paving-the-path-to-participation)



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PPP is co-funded by the European Union (DG Justice), under the PROGRESS programme. The views expressed in this email are the sole responsibility of the author and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.