



# Petition for Research Funding Equality

Myalgic encephalomyelitis (often referred to as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome or ME/CFS) is a severe neurological disease that affects at least 1 million Americans and leaves half of its victims disabled and unable to work. Many patients are considered at a greater functional impairment than those with congestive heart failure, multiple sclerosis, and end-stage renal disease.

The disease's annual impact to the US economy is an estimated \$24 billion in health care costs, lost wages, and lost productivity. However, at present the U.S. government does not have a research plan in place to mitigate this profound cost to society.

Currently, the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds only \$5 million per year for research into this disease.

As the only moral response to more than thirty years of official and medical neglect of this illness, we demand that Congress increase NIH research funding to \$250 million per year, a level proportionate to the disease's severity, prevalence and impact.

We, the undersigned patients, doctors, scientists, parents, children, family, friends, caretakers and #MEAllies, demand full and immediate funding equality for ME.

By joining The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Action Network you acknowledge that you may receive emails from time to time. We will not distribute or otherwise share your information except as required for the delivery of the final petition.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email address</b>	<b>Zip code</b>	<b>Check if an ME patient or family member</b>	<b>Check if interested in volunteer opportunities</b>