

MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS (ME)

Scottish Factsheet



SCOTLAND

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) is a devastating neuro-immune disease that causes dysfunction of the neurological, immune, endocrine and energy metabolism systems.

DID YOU KNOW



According to current estimates, over 21,000 people in Scotland have ME.



75 percent of patients are women.



There is no single test that can diagnose ME, no cure for ME and no universally effective treatment.



At least 25 percent of ME patients are home or bed-bound.



People with ME have lower quality of life measurements than any other disease tested.



There are no ME specialist hospital consultants in Scotland and only one specialist nurse (in Fife).



ME is the main cause of long term sickness absence from school in Scotland.



The economic cost of ME to the UK economy is estimated at £3.3 billion per year.

AND YET

- + Research into ME represents less than 1% of all active grants given by UK mainstream funding agencies (Source: UK CFS/ME Research Collaborative).
- + ME is a stated priority for the Medical Research Council, but research activity remains "chronically" low. (Source: ME Research UK).



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