



971 C S. Kenmore Drive  
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[www.tristatems.org](http://www.tristatems.org)  
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### **June 2025 Newsletter**

**Offering support, care, and hope...*right here at home!***  
**The mission of the Tri-State Multiple Sclerosis Association is to enhance the quality of life for individuals living with MS & their families in Southern IN, Southern IL & Western KY**

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### **SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS AND CONTACT ONFORMATION**

**Tell City, Indiana** - 1st Monday of the month, 11am at Twilight Towers in Tell City.  
Contact Terri Hasty at 812-686-8183

**Washington, Indiana** - 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am at Cherry Ghost Coffee House in Washington. Contact Fran Neal at 812-259-1565

**Henderson, Kentucky**- Last Monday of each month at different locations.  
Contact Cheryl Walker at 270-823-4752

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### **LUNCH AND LEARN**

**June 19th, Thursday @ 12:00pm at TSMSA Office**

**Topic: New Happenings in MS**

**Susan Reynolds, RN, MS Nurse Specialist**

**Please RSVP by Monday, June 12th at 812-423-5943. (For lunch count)**

***Lunch will be provided***



**Looking for a Father's Day, Birthday or Special Occasion Gift?**  
**Maybe you just like a clean car?**

### **Fundraiser ends June 30th**

Tri-State MS Association is selling a coupon book of  
3 Shine Car Washes (value \$45) from Lucas Oil Car Wash for only \$25.00!

**Now the best part**, Lucas Oil Car Wash is donating  
**\$12.50** back to TSMSA for every coupon book sold!

**It's a Win Win for everyone!**

Call Tri-State MS Association 812-423-5943 to arrange to pick up a book or two!

## **Upcoming Educational Program**

### **June Programs**

#### **TG Therapeutics invites you to join a live educational program**

To register for this event call 1-877-575-8489 and select option 2.

**Attendance is limited to people living with MS and their care partner!** Pre-Registration is required for one guest. All attendees must be 18 years of age, or older. Registration is limited to one program, per person, per calendar year. This is a promotional program and speakers are compensated by TG Therapeutics.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 **TIME:** 6:00 PM CST

**WHERE:** Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano, 6401 E. Lloyd Expy. Evansville, IN 47715

**FEATURED SPEAKER: Roderick Warren, MD**

**Speaker is sponsored by TG Therapeutics**

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#### **MAVENCLAD invites you to join a live educational program**

To register for this event call 1-866-254-5621 or visit [mavencladevents.com](http://mavencladevents.com)

Pre-registration is required for attendees and guest. No walk-ins. All attendees and guests must be at least 18 years of age or older. Attendance is limited to 3 events per person, per topic, in a calendar year to people living with MS and their care partner!

**WHEN:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 **TIME:** 6:00 PM CST

**WHERE:** Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano, 6401 E. Lloyd Expy. Evansville, IN 47715

**FEATURED SPEAKER: Mark Janicki, MD, Witham Health Services**

**Speaker is sponsored by MAVENCLAD**

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### **July Program**

#### **Ocrevus invites you to join a live educational program**

To register for this event call 1-844-OCREVUS or 1-844-627-3887 or [www.ocrevus.com/events](http://www.ocrevus.com/events)

**Attendance is limited to people living with MS and their care partner!**  
Space is limited and advance registration is recommended.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, July 9, 2025 **TIME:** 6:00 PM CST

**WHERE:** Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano, 6401 E. Lloyd Expy. Evansville, IN 47715

**FEATURED SPEAKER: Dr. Christopher M. Wilson, MD** with a guest speaker who is living with RMS and PPMS.

Our May Lunch and Learn was about Aging and MS. There were about 10 people with MS at the meeting and a couple of non MS people. We discussed the highlights of a scientific workshop that was held in Philadelphia last spring. It was sponsored by the International Advisory Committee on clinical Trials, the MS Society and ECTRIMS. The goal was to review what is currently known and to consider next steps for focusing on this topic in research and clinical care.

Do you know that half of all people living with MS today are 55 years of age or older and more people are getting diagnosed with MS at later ages than ever before? There are more people with MS who are 65 and older than there are people with MS who are 45 and younger. Little is known about how aging impacts MS disease activity, or when it is appropriate to stop taking disease modifying therapies. It is also hard to separate changes that can be attributed to MS versus changes that can be associated with aging.

**Issues we discussed at the May Lunch and Learn, a short summary:**

**Everyone is aging – people with MS may be doing it faster.** Studies have shown that MS patients may be biologically 1.4 years older than their actual birth date.

**Aging affects immune activity-** Your immune system weakens as you age. This is known as Immuno-senescence.

**Reproductive Aging Impacts Immune Activity -** You produce fewer sex hormones as you age. This can have negative effect on your MS. .

**Are We Measuring Age or MS?-** Age complicates the evaluation of your EDSS score. White spots on your MRI scan can be from MS and can also be from aging.

**MS and Something Else-** People get additional health problems as they age, such as depression, anxiety, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and lung disease. These are known as co morbidities.

**Few Clinical Trials Include Older Participants-** Treatment decisions are especially difficult for older people living with MS because of the lack of data from clinical trials to understand how any particular therapy works or doesn't work in people who are older or more disabled, or who have co morbidities, or how it may interact with other drugs an individual may be taking.

**When To Stop Treating MS?-** There is a need for continued research to determine optimum ages for stopping, how long a person's MS should be stable before stopping, and what kind of bridge therapies might be used when stopping DMTs like fingolimod and natalizumab which can have significant rebound of disease activity after stopping.

Current research trials for aging and MS are focusing on how aging affects MS progression, identifying age-related changes that can be confused with MS activity, and exploring potential treatments for age-related declines that may exacerbate MS. Some trials are also investigating the role of hormone therapy in protecting the nervous system and promoting repair in older individuals with MS.

Specific areas of research include:

### **Hormone Therapy:**

Age-related decline in sex hormones can negatively impacts MS. Trials are investigating whether hormone therapy can mitigate these effects and protect the nervous system.

### **Biomarkers and Imaging:**

New MRI imaging techniques and machine learning algorithms are being developed to identify subtle MS-related changes and predict treatment response, particularly in older individuals.

### **Stem Cell Therapy:**

Stem cell research holds promise for stopping MS progression and restoring function, with various trials exploring different types of stem cells, according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

### **BTK Inhibitors:**

These medications are being investigated for their ability to reduce MS lesions and slow progression in both relapsing and progressive forms of MS, says Ohio State University.

### **CAR T-cell Therapy:**

Several trials are evaluating the use of CAR T-cell therapy, a promising approach for resetting the immune system and potentially treating MS.

### **Neuroprotective Agents:**

Research is ongoing to develop treatments that protect the nerves from further damage, including the MS-STAT2 trial, according to the MS Society.



**Domino's Pizza on 1300 S Green River Rd  
sponsored our May Lunch and Learn!!!**

**Please stop in and thank these businesses for supporting TSMSA,  
and dine in or take out some of their delicious food!**