

# MULTIPLE SYSTEM ATROPHY COALITION RESEARCH PROGRAM

## MSA Coalition Research Program

### Our Research Strategy

- Funding patient-centric collaborative research aimed at alleviating symptoms, slowing disease progression and discovering a cure."
- Informed by the "Global MSA Research Roadmap" Walsh, Ryan R et al Neurology vol. 90,2 (2018): 74-82.)
- All research proposals are rigorously reviewed by independent peer-reviewers

### Research Steering Council

**Gregor K. Wenning**  
Chair, MD, PhD, MSC  
Institution Division of Neurobiology  
Medical, University Innsbruck  
Austria

**Wassilios Meissner**  
Vice Chair, MD, PhD, FEAN  
Department of Neurology for  
Neurodegenerative Diseases, University  
Hospital Bordeaux  
France

**Pierre-Olivier Fernagut, PhD**  
Laboratory of Experimental and Clinical  
Neurosciences, University of Poitiers  
France

**Vikram Khurana, MD, PhD**  
The Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.  
USA

**Kelvin Luk, PhD, MTR**  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory  
Medicine, University of Pennsylvania  
USA

**Iva Stankovic, MD, PhD**  
Neurology Clinic, Clinical Center of Serbia  
Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade  
Serbia

**Sonja Scholz, MD, PhD**  
National Institute of Neurological  
Disorders and Stroke  
USA

**Nadia Stefanova, MD, PhD**  
Research Department of Neurology  
Medical, University of Innsbruck  
Austria

**Phillip Low, MD**  
Mayo Clinic  
USA

**Daniel Claassen, MD, MS**  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
USA

## MSA Coalition Seed Grant RFP

**SUMMARY:** The Multiple System Atrophy Coalition requests pre-proposal grant applications for research relevant to the improved treatment of Multiple System Atrophy. Applications are accepted from anywhere in the world. Maximum seed grant amount up to \$50,000 for a one year term with option to renew upon satisfactory review and submission of a year 2 research plan.

**CALL TOPIC:** The Multiple System Atrophy Coalition seeks novel ideas to help answer the question: **"How do we treat Multiple System Atrophy?"**

### 1. Can we develop better symptomatic therapies to improve the quality of life of MSA patients?

There is an unmet need to explore therapies that may improve the quality of daily life of MSA patients. Therefore, The MSA Coalition seeks pre-proposal grant applications for research aimed at identifying and testing potential therapies with the goal of relieving symptoms and improving quality of life for MSA patients.

Or

### 2. Can we help advance potential MSA disease-modifying therapies more rapidly through the drug development process?

There is an urgent need to develop disease-modifying therapies to slow, stop or reverse the progression of MSA. Novel undeveloped therapies as well as existing interventions approved or in progress for other diseases may be effective against multiple system atrophy. All potential therapies must first be identified and tested in appropriate preclinical models of MSA before advancing to patient trials. Therefore, The MSA Coalition seeks pre-proposal grant applications for research aimed at screening and developing potential therapies with the goal of reaching Phase 2 and Phase 3 MSA patient trials more rapidly.

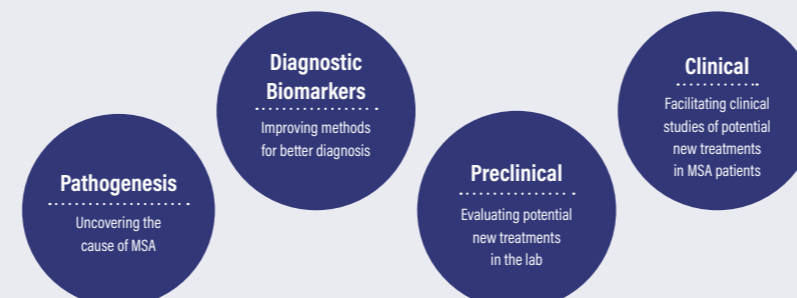
**How to Apply for the  
MSA Coalition Seed Grants**



## The Multiple System Atrophy Coalition

The Leading Nonprofit-Funder of Global MSA Research

The MSA Coalition has now funded over **\$3.5 million** in research grants



## Recent MSA Coalition Funded Publications

All of the below articles have recognized the support of the MSA Coalition.

1. 2023 Apr: Lopez-Cuina, Miguel et al. "GRK2-Targeted Knockdown as Therapy for Multiple System Atrophy." Movement disorders: official journal of the Movement Disorder Society, 24 Apr. 2023  
MSA Coalition Grant #2016-09-006 (Bezard) PRECLINICAL  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1002/mds.29422>
2. 2023 Apr: Gibbons, Christopher et al. "Cutaneous -Synuclein Signatures in Patients With Multiple System Atrophy and Parkinson Disease." Neurology vol. 100,15 (2023): e1529-e1539.  
MSA Coalition Grant #2013-12-005 (Freeman) BIOMARKER  
<https://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.000000000000206772>
3. 2023 Mar: Taha, Hash Brown et al. "Toward a biomarker panel measured in CNS-originating extracellular vesicles for improved differential diagnosis of Parkinson's disease and multiple system atrophy." Translational neurodegeneration vol. 12,14. 20 Mar. 2023  
MSA Coalition Grant #2017-10-007 (Bitan) BIOMARKER  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40035-023-00346-0>
4. 2023 Feb: Zhang, Shujing et al. "Post-translational modifications of soluble -synuclein regulate the amplification of pathological -synuclein." Nature neuroscience vol. 26,2 (2023): 213-225.  
MSA Coalition Grant #2017-10-003 (Peng) PATHOGENESIS  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41593-022-01239-7>  
Open access: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10103650/>
5. 2022 Dec: Chelban, Viorica et al. "Neurofilament light levels predict clinical progression and death in multiple system atrophy." Brain: a journal of neurology vol. 145,12 (2022): 4398-4408.  
MSA Coalition Grant #2015-04-002 (Houlden) PATHOGENESIS  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1093/brain/awac253>
6. 2022 Dec: Krismer, Florian et al. "The Unified Multiple System Atrophy Rating Scale: Status, Critique, and Recommendations." Movement disorders: official journal of the Movement Disorder Society vol. 37,12 (2022): 2336-2341.  
MSA Coalition Grant #2017-10-001 (Norcliffe-Kaufman) CLINICAL  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1002/mds.29215>
7. 2022 Oct: Ndayisaba, Alain et al. "Clinical Trial-Ready Patient Cohorts for Multiple System Atrophy: Coupling Biospecimen and iPSC Banking to Longitudinal Deep-Phenotyping." Cerebellum (London, England), 1-21. 3 Oct. 2022  
MSA Coalition Grant #2016-09-10 (Khurana) PATHOGENESIS  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12311-022-01471-8>
8. 2022 Aug: Palma, Jose-Alberto et al. "Patient-Reported Symptoms in the Global Multiple System Atrophy Registry." Movement disorders clinical practice vol. 9,7 967-971. 29 Aug. 2022  
MSA Coalition Grant #2017-10-001 (Norcliffe-Kaufman) CLINICAL  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/mdc3.13544>
9. 2022 Jul: Sidoroff, Victoria et al. "Disease-Modifying Therapies for Multiple System Atrophy: Where Are We in 2022?" Journal of Parkinson's disease vol. 12,5 (2022): 1369-1387. (MSA Coalition provided input to this publication)  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.3233/JPD-223183>
10. 2022 Jul: Mavroedi, Panagiota et al. "Exosomes in Alpha-Synucleinopathies: Propagators of Pathology or Potential Candidates for Nanotherapeutics?" Biomolecules vol. 12,7 957. 8 Jul. 2022  
MSA Coalition Grant #2020-05-001 (Xilouri) PATHOGENESIS  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.3390/biom12070957>
11. 2022 Jun: Hallacli, Erinc et al. "The Parkinson's disease protein alpha-synuclein is a modulator of processing bodies and mRNA stability." Cell vol. 185,12 (2022): 2035-2056.e33.  
MSA Coalition Grant #2016-09-10 (Khurana) PATHOGENESIS  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2022.05.008>
12. 2022 Jun: Folke, Jonas et al. "Alpha-Synuclein Autoimmune Decline in Prodromal Multiple System Atrophy and Parkinson's Disease." International journal of molecular sciences vol. 23,12 6554. 12 Jun. 2022  
MSA Coalition 2017-10-008 (Pakkenberg) PATHOGENESIS  
Open access: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms23126554>
13. 2022 Jun: Wenning, Gregor K et al. "The Movement Disorder Society Criteria for the Diagnosis of Multiple System Atrophy." Movement disorders: official journal of the Movement Disorder Society vol. 37,6 (2022): 1131-1148. (MSA Coalition provided financial support to enable free and open access to this publication) Open access: <https://doi.org/10.1002/mds.29005>
14. 2022 Jan: Mavroedi, Panagiota et al. "Autophagy mediates the clearance of oligodendroglial SNCA/alpha-synuclein and TPPP/p25A in multiple system atrophy models." Autophagy, 1-30. 9 Jan. 2022  
MSA Coalition Grant #2020-05-001 (Xilouri) PATHOGENESIS  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15548627.2021.2016256>  
Open access: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9466620/>

## The 4 Collaborative Cores of MSA Coalition Research

### Core B | Biomarkers

Assembling biomarkers from patients to aid in early and specific diagnosis, and to recruit and track outcomes in clinical trials.

### Core G | Genetics

Collecting genetic information from a diverse group of MSA patients to better understand genetic causes of MSA and uncover new therapeutic targets.

### Core E | Environmental

Developing an infrastructure to register environmental exposures in MSA patients to better understand environmental triggers for the disease.

### Core M | Model

Building next-generation models of MSA for drug discovery using cutting-edge human stem-cell technologies

## Contact Information

Nicki Mehall, Research Director, [nicki.mehall@staff.msacoalition.org](mailto:nicki.mehall@staff.msacoalition.org)  
Jessie Iregui, Research and Medical Education Manager, [jessie.iregui@staff.msacoalition.org](mailto:jessie.iregui@staff.msacoalition.org)

The Multiple System Atrophy Coalition,  
1660 International Drive Suite 600 McLean, VA USA 22102

Phone: +1 866-737-4999  
Email: [info@multiplesystematrophy.org](mailto:info@multiplesystematrophy.org)