



Upcoming Support Group Dates - 2016

Chicago - Central
 First Thurs. of the month
 Call 312-942-8175 to register

Chicago - North Suburban
 Large group:
 Saturday, September 17

Breakfast chats/Atrium Cafe:
 Tuesday, May 17
 Saturday, July 16
 Tuesday, August 16
 Saturday, November 12
 Tuesday, December 13

Chicago - South Suburban
 Sunday, May 15
 Other Dates TBD

Chicago - West Suburban
Sundays
 May 15
 August 21
 November 20

Rockford
Saturdays
 April 9
 July 9
 October 8

Springfield, IL
Sundays
 May 15
 July 17
 August 21
 September 18
 October 16
 November 20

NW Indiana - Schererville
Saturdays
 NEW DATE & PLACE - one time only Saturday, May 21 @ St. John Public Library

Greetings!

As spring sweeps in, we at the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois are very excited to introduce you to our new name and logo. Starting in June 2016, this organization will be known as Conquer Myasthenia Gravis (or Conquer MG for short.)

This update reflects our active, forward-thinking, patient-centered focus. Even the new graphic reflects our desire to wipe out this rare autoimmune disease. The tagline reinforces the fact that we serve MG patients beyond Illinois borders.



Please be assured that only our name is changing. Since our establishment in 1972, we have been committed to:

- Offering top-notch MG resources, including our spring patient seminar
- Raising MG awareness with your help. Join us for the 4th Annual Strides Against MG Walk!
- Funding research, with the 2016-17 award recipient to be announced in May

Hoping *your* myasthenia gravis will be conquered,

MGF of Illinois Executive Director



Spring Patient Seminar

Guest Speaker
 Julie Rowin, MD, ABIHM

Functional Medicine Approach to MG:

July 30
October 1

St. Louis Area, Missouri
Glendale
Saturday, April 16
Summer date TBD
Sunday, October 9

[Click here](#) for time, address and parking details.

Donate

[Click Here](#) to to donate to MGF of Illinois.

[Click Here](#)

to donate on behalf of a Strides Against MG Team.

Meet Our Supporters



Find us on Facebook!



Connect with MGF of Illinois on Facebook to receive the latest updates, share stories and network.

Forward to a Friend

[Share this information with a friend!](#)

Via our partner page with Apex Management

Understanding the root cause of disease

More and more, words like "inflammation," "leaky gut," and "environmental toxins" are being linked to autoimmune diseases like myasthenia gravis. Join us at the MGF of Illinois Spring Patient Meeting on Sunday, May 1, 2016, at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital to hear Dr. Julie Rowin discuss a new approach to treating MG.

Dr. Rowin has been a researcher, associate professor, and clinician at Rush University Medical Center and at U of I Chicago. Her focus now is on integrative and functional medicine relating to neurological and autoimmune disorders.

Event is free and includes lunch; donations appreciated. Please register by April 26. Click for [details and registration](#).



Family Fun * Music * Raffle Prizes

Get ready for a family-friendly celebration with bubbles and hula hoops as we walk to support those affected by myasthenia gravis. Costumes and signs welcome!

- Sunday, June 5, 2016, 8am registration & 8:30 start
- Berens Park, Elmhurst, IL
- \$30 per walker, \$35 on walk day
- \$10 per child under age 12

Use our secure registration site BY TUESDAY, MAY 12, to ensure you get a t-shirt in the right size.

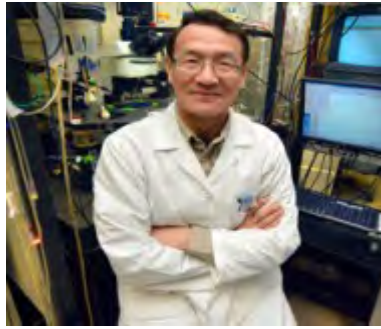


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Sero-negative MG Research



An April 5, 2016, press release from the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University reports that a national study is "helping to determine the incidence of two new antibodies" in MG patients. The study reports that "nearly 900 of the 4,500 patients with myasthenia gravis being followed...are double-negative" [meaning they don't test positive for the more common AChR or MuSK antibodies that indicate a diagnosis of myasthenia gravis]. The study is documenting the incidence of LRP4 and agrin antibodies in this group.

Click to read the [full press release](#) .

May: A Month to Meet in Person!



Want to talk to someone who understands the ups and downs of myasthenia gravis? MGF of Illinois sponsors or co-sponsors eight local support groups, and six of them meet in May! Dates are listed on the left; click for [details and directions](#).

Take note that the **Northwest Indiana group** has a new date and location for May (the July meeting will be back at the Schererville Public Library):

Saturday, May 21, 2016, 10am to noon
St. John Branch of Lake County Public Library
9450 Wicker Ave.
St. John, IN 46373

Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois, 275 N. York St., Suite 401, Elmhurst, IL 60126

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