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## MYASTHENIA GRAVIS FACTS

- Is a chronic autoimmune neuromuscular disorder
- Affects people of all ages, genders & ethnicities
- Is more common in women under 40 and men over 60
- Affects 14-20 per 100,000 people
- Causes fluctuating weakness in voluntary muscles
- Affects muscles that control eye movements, eyelids, chewing, swallowing, breathing, coughing and facial expression, as well as the arms and legs

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## ABOUT US

Conquer Myasthenia Gravis

275 N. York St, Suite 201

Elmhurst, IL 60126

[www.myastheniagravis.org](http://www.myastheniagravis.org)

800-888-6208

EIN: 23-7282572

Contact: Joan Wincentsen, Executive Director

[joan@myastheniagravis.org](mailto:joan@myastheniagravis.org)

## Social Media

Facebook: @ConquerMyastheniaGravis

Instagram: @conquermg\_il

Twitter: @ConquerMG

YouTube:

<https://m.youtube.com/c/MyastheniagravisOrgIllinois>

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## CONQUER MYASTHENIG GRAVIS

Conquer MG (formerly known as the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois) has been serving myasthenia gravis patients since 1972. We help MG patients “on the ground” in Illinois, northwest Indiana and southeast Wisconsin. Our online presence has a national – even international – reach.

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## OUR MISSION

To facilitate the timely diagnosis and optimal care of individuals affected by myasthenia gravis and to improve their lives through programs of patient services, public awareness, medical research, professional education, advocacy and patient care.

Our pillars of service:

- Support
- Education
- Awareness
- Research funding

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## SERVING THE MG COMMUNITY SINCE 1972

We're proud of our past - including many years of education programs, research funding since 2010, a local financial support program, and diverse support group connections. We're excited for a future being shaped by new MG treatments in development and virtual access to resources.

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## VIKING CHALLENGE FOR MG

The Challenge began in 2013 as the "Strides Against MG Walk" and has evolved as a successful in-person and virtual event to raise awareness and funds. At the event, we recognize an important supporter of the MG community with the Tracy Shackelford MG Service Award.

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## IN THE NEWS

Conquer MG's Board Chair Bob Rosecrans and Executive Director Joan Wincentsen were quoted in the February 2022 issue of Brain & Life.

New Myasthenia Gravis Drugs Offer More Options to Patients

<https://www.brainandlife.org/articles/new-myasthenia-gravis-drugs-offer-more-options>

How to Pay for Myasthenia Gravis Medication

<https://www.brainandlife.org/articles/how-to-pay-for-myasthenia-gravis-medication#>

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## RECENT CONQUER MG INITIATIVES

- 2022: Conquer MG shows **real life MG** with the video interview series Myasthenia Gravis: Finding Strength One Day at a Time
- 2020: We began to address wellness topics for those with myasthenia: MG and nutrition, exercise, and stress management
- 2019: **Conquer MG joined MGN**et, a consortium of academic institutions, other patient advocacy groups, and biotech/pharma companies, to fund cutting edge MG research.

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## TALK TO KEY TEAM MEMBERS



Executive Director  
Joan Wincentsen –  
Has held this role since  
2013. Joan has first-hand  
knowledge of MG  
symptoms, treatments,  
and (best of all) remission.

“The encouragement I received from others to get back to work and the activities I love was invaluable. I want to offer others the same.”



Board Chair  
Bob Rosecrans -  
Holds a PhD in  
biochemistry and  
served as a lab director  
and educator for  
pathology residents for  
NorthShore University  
HealthSystem's

Department of Pathology. Currently semi-retired, he works as a laboratory consultant in the Department of Pathology at Northwest Community Healthcare. “I believe in the mission of Conquer MG and want to help and support members of our community.”