

MYASTHENIA GRAVIS:

A CANADIAN JOURNEY TO DIAGNOSIS

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT OVER **10,000** CANADIANS ARE AFFECTED BY MYASTHENIA GRAVIS AND THE ROAD TO DIAGNOSIS IS OFTEN FRUSTRATING AND LENGTHY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT, PLEASE VISIT US AT **mgcanada.org**



SYMPTOM ONSET

- Individual first starts to experience symptoms
- Eventually, as the symptoms worsen, the individual is prompted to seek medical care



PRE-DIAGNOSIS

- Individuals may face medical gaslighting from healthcare practitioners
- Individuals will experience frequent referrals to specialists and testing



DIAGNOSIS

- Patients will undergo medical history review, physical examinations, diagnostic testing for specific antibodies, and neurophysiological and imaging studies
- On average, it can take an individual 5 years to receive a correct diagnosis for MG, and they will typically experience multiple misdiagnoses



TREATMENT

- Healthcare professionals specializing in MG will prescribe medications
- There is currently no cure for MG and treatments can be slow to take effect - it may take several months or even years before improvements are seen



POST-DIAGNOSIS

- Muscle weakness can be unstable, fluctuating and unpredictable - emotional and psychological support are important
- Developing coping strategies with family and caregivers for managing fluctuations is key for MG patients' quality of life

ON AVERAGE, PATIENTS WILL VISIT 7 DIFFERENT SPECIALISTS BEFORE RECEIVING A MG DIAGNOSIS

THE SYMPTOMS OF MG CAN VARY WIDELY AMONG INDIVIDUALS AND CAN MIMIC THOSE OF OTHER NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS, AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES, OR EVEN NON-NEUROMUSCULAR CONDITIONS