

Statement from ECTRIMS on the COVID-19 impact

Dear colleagues

The global spread of COVID-19 has had a deep impact on our daily tasks and we are currently experiencing a challenging time in terms of the treatment of our patients with MS as well as other autoimmune diseases.

The current circumstances are very concerning and also unclear for MS patients in the context of COVID-19 infections. In such a situation, it is important to receive up-to-date information on the newest developments. Many National MS Societies have published statements for patients with MS as well as for neurologists. We recommend to consult recommendations and guidelines issued by your national and local health authorities.

ECTRIMS would like to make everybody aware of the <u>statement published</u> <u>by MSIF</u>. The latest version was updated on 13 January and also includes information on the topic of vaccination. This patient oriented statement can be a helpful source of information for patients living with MS.

Furthermore, ECTRIMS strongly encourages you to document all patients with COVID-19 infections in one of the available registries. The more patient data is documented in the registries, the more information we can gain from them.

We would like to inform that ECTRIMS is leading a European Consensus on Vaccination in patients with MS. Its aim is to provide guidance and best care recommendations on this topic - with a special focus on SARS-CoV-2 vaccines. The forthcoming digital ECTRIMS focused workshop "Risk of Infections in MS DMT's" will also provide an expert forum to inform the consensus. Please have a look at the <u>preliminary programme</u>.

We wish you all the best for this challenging time and hope that you will stay healthy.

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Best regards,

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