



# MS in Sweden

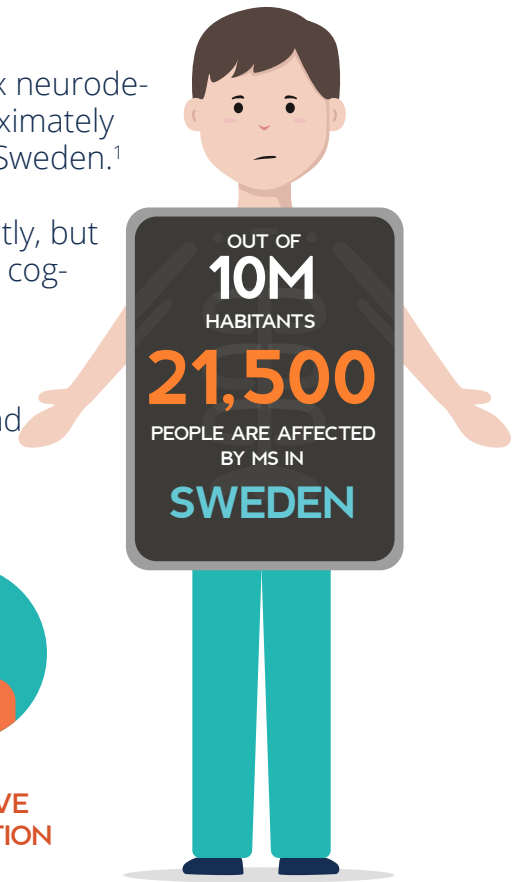


## WHAT IS MS?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a complex neurodegenerative disease affecting approximately 21,500 of the 10 million people in Sweden.<sup>1</sup>

Each person will experience this unpredictable disease differently, but common symptoms include pain, fatigue, reduced mobility and cognitive dysfunction.

There is currently no cure for MS; however, optimal treatment and support have a significant effect on disease progression and quality of life for people with MS.



PAIN



FATIGUE



REDUCED MOBILITY



COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION

## COUNTRY CONTEXT



Sweden has a well-funded healthcare system with universal coverage.<sup>2</sup> However, care is funded, organised and delivered at the county level, leading to regional disparities in funding priorities and services offered across the 21 counties.



COUNTRY RANKING



HOW DOES SWEDEN SCORE COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

(All countries are evaluated on a 0-100 scale)



# WHAT DID THE BAROMETER FIND?

Sweden has good access and high reimbursement for disease-modifying drugs (DMDs) and symptomatic therapies. The research environment in Sweden is strong: the Swedish MS Disease Registry includes 80% of the population and people with MS can access an online portal at any time to submit information. However, deficits persist:




**450**  
NEUROLOGISTS IN SWEDEN



Sweden has 450 neurologists – less than 1 per 22,000 people.

LESS THAN  
**10%**  
OF PEOPLE WITH MS HAVE ACCESS TO PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

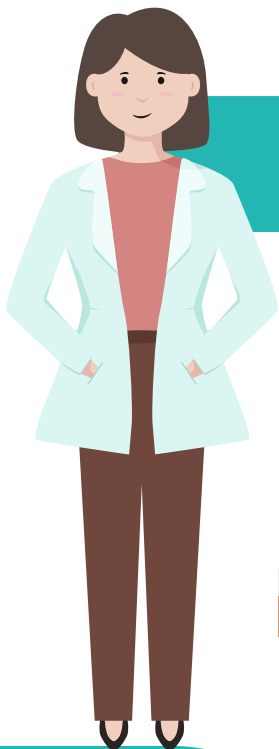


Under 10% of people with MS have access to physical rehabilitation.

**NO**  
CLEAR DATA ON THE LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT



There is no clear data on the levels of employment of people with MS in Sweden.



## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Increase the number of practising neurologists to ensure every person with MS has access to a neurologist at least once a year, as stated in the Swedish guidelines for MS care.



Reduce regional disparities in the provision of therapies and rehabilitation services, ensuring that every person with MS has a personalised rehabilitation plan and access to a multidisciplinary rehabilitation team.

Raise awareness of paediatric MS as a rare disease and increase the number of specialist paediatric neurologists.



More information can be found at [www.emsp.org](http://www.emsp.org) or contact [info@neuro.se](mailto:info@neuro.se)

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