MGNet is a member of the Rare Disease Clinical Research Network Consortium supported by U54 NS115054

MGNet Newsletter

Consortium Updates

Latest News

NEW MGNet Requests for Applications

Apply Now

The MGNet Scholar Program is a 2 years in duration and selected scholars will receive up to $75,000 per year to support preparation for an independent career dedicated to rare disease research.

Apply to Scholar Program

Apply to Pilot Program

The MGNet Pilot Grant Program will provide up to two grants of $75,000 to support clinical research dedicated to myasthenia gravis.

**Both Applications are due October 1, 2022.

NEW MGNet Pilot Program Awardee

We would like to extend our appreciation to all who applied

and want to recognize Raffaele Iorio, MD, PhD for being the 2022 MGNet Pilot Grant Awardee!

Raffaele Iorio, MD, PhD is a Neurologist with expertise in myasthenia gravis and neuroimmunology. He is currently Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and staff neurologist at the Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli in Rome, Italy .

He is group leader of the Autoimmune Neurology Laboratory. His research focuses on the single-cell deep phenotyping of autoreactive B cells in myasthenia gravis patients' peripheral blood.Dr. Iorio's project hopes to identify a B-cell signature and/or B-cell associated transcripts able to predict treatment response in MG patients.

NEW **MGNet Proposes Revised Outcome Measures**

MGNet views standardization of myasthenia gravis (MG) outcome measures as a critical need for clinical trials. To address this issue, MGNet hosted an outcome measure symposium in 2020 and a working group charged with refining specific MG outcome measures to improve the clarity of instructions and scoring and reduce outcome measure variability. Six outcome measures were included in this effort. Following this, MGNet sought public commentary of revised measures between May 9th, 2022 and Jun 24, 2022. We would like to thank all who have participated for your input on this important effort to improve clinical trial conduct in MG. Next steps include finalization, development of training materials, certifications. Read more

RECAP **MGNet Annual Meeting at MGFA, May 10-12, 2022**

During the MGFA International Meeting, the NIH-supported Rare Disease Clinical Research Network dedicated to myasthenia gravis (MGNet), hosted successful lunch meetings on Tuesday May 10th, and Wednesday May 11th.The meeting led by Drs. Gary Cutter, PhD and Michael Benatar, MD included clinicians, researchers, research coordinators to discuss two critical and overlapping components of investigation, clinical trials and biomarkers. Attendees engaged in active discussions surrounding the roles of biomarkers in the context of therapy development for MG, the most pressing therapeutic needs in MG, challenges and limitations in MG clinical trials, as well as ways to overcome these challenges and more.

Publications

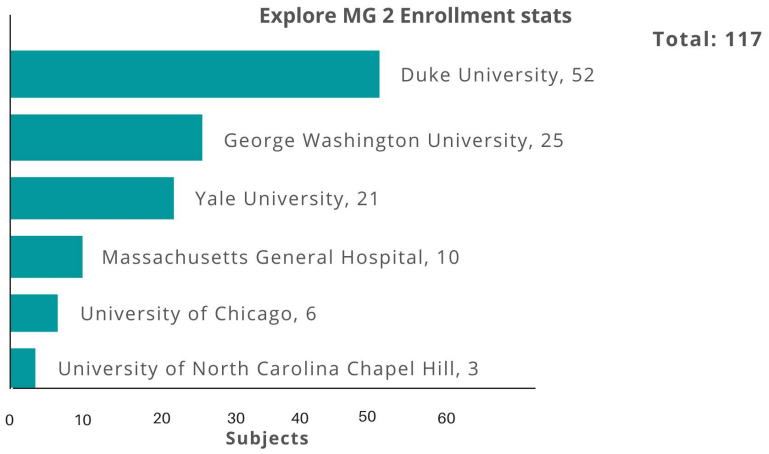
NEW **Novel pathophysiological insights in autoimmune myasthenia gravis**

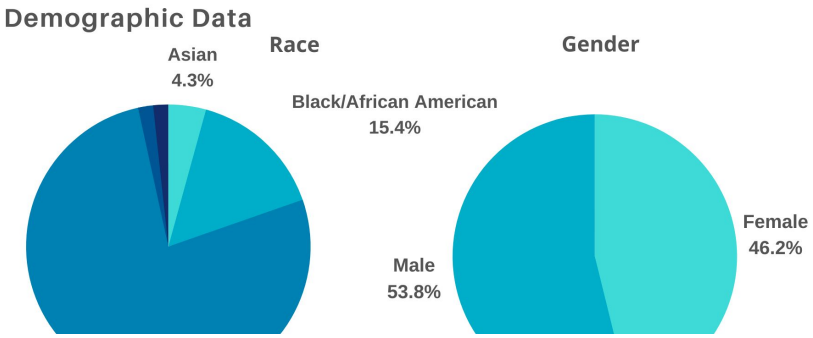
MGNet investigators present new insights into development of MG with respective to distinct MG disease subtypes and highlight the importance of understanding these autoantibody functionalities In. In addition, MG patients have benefited from various treatment options and these therapies have uncovered significant clinical differences between MG disease subtypes. Thus, they conclude future studies of immunological differences are key to developing effective, individualized therapies. Read more.

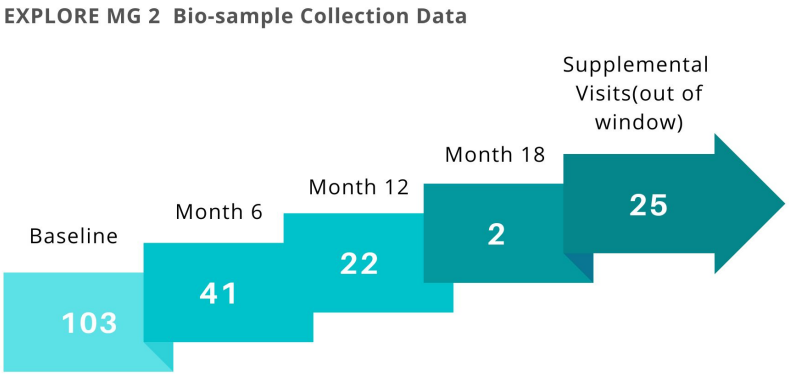
Study Updates

EXPLORE MG 2 is a natural history study designed to better understand disease characteristics and identify treatment predictive and responsive biomarkers. A total of 300-400 participants with confirmed diagnosis of myasthenia gravis are expected to be enrolled in the study.

As of July 2022 a total of **117 subjects** have been enrolled and **193 bio-samples** have been collected across sites. See below for updates.

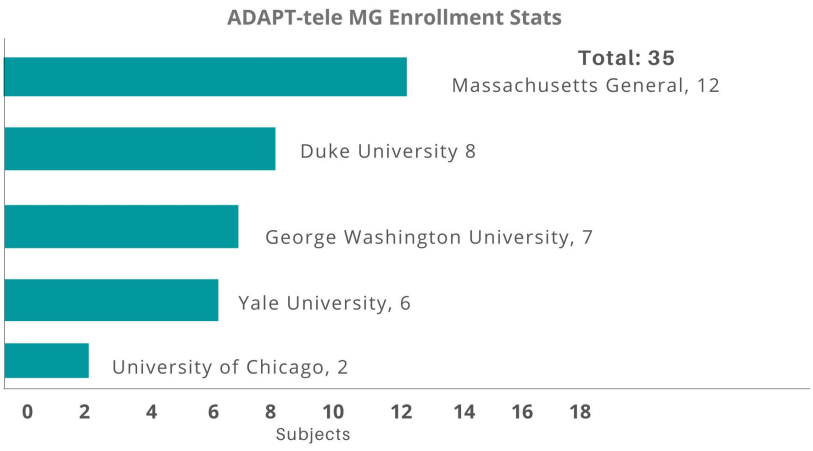


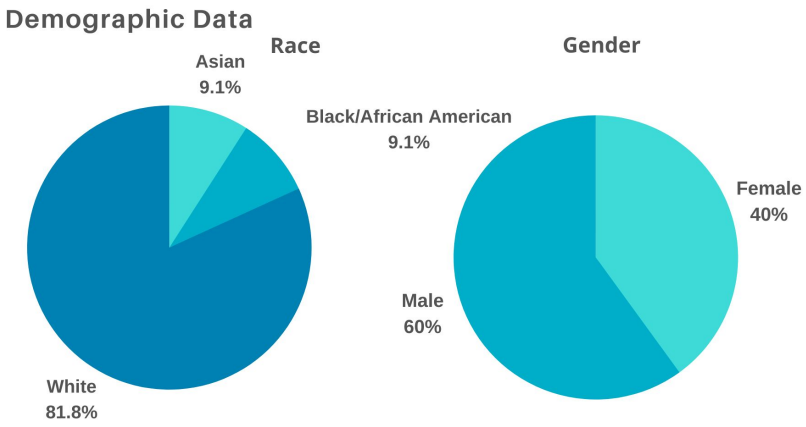




ADAPT Tele-MG

As of July, 2022 a total of **35 subjects** have been enrolled across sites! See below for a detailed update. Two batches of videos have gone through complete independent and adjudicator reviews. We hope to complete enrollment of 50 subjects by the end of the year.





Important Information: New MGNet Sites

Contracts

All sites will be issued a contract to start **June 1, 2022**. Please ensure contracts are executed in a timely fashion to not delay project initiation.

IRB submissions

Duke University is serving as our central IRB and below is the current update per site.

UC-Irvine –sIRB material completed. Ready to submit
MUSC – sIRB materials pending
Cedar Sinai- sIRB materials pending
Wake Forest - sIRB material completed. Ready to submit

Database access and training

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center serves as our data management and coordinating center. All sites should have access to the RDCRN portal to access all MGNet databases. Please use your institutional credentials to log in. We encourage you to browse through study and EDC recorded training prior to the Investigator meeting.

Investigator meeting

MGNet will hold an Investigator meeting contingent on contract execution. Please ensure contracts are executed to coordinate this meeting.

Complion - eReg binder

MGNet uses Complion an electronic regulatory binder and all CRCs or regulatory personnel will

need to complete training to gain access to site binder. Click here

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