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ABOUT

The EBV-MS research is a joint international research effort aiming to unveil the role of EBV in the onset and progression of the MS disease.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic inflammatory and degenerative disease of the central nervous system, causing debilitating symptoms that impact daily life. MS is the leading cause of neurological problems in young to middle-aged people, posing a major healthcare burden.

Almost all people with MS have been first infected by Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), while only 0,2-0,3 % of those infected with EBV develop MS. Recent research suggests EBV infection might influence MS development. There is currently no available preventive treatment for EBV or MS, highlighting the importance of this research.

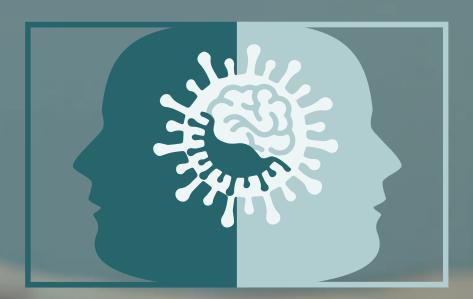
The research project started 1st of December 2023 with a duration of five years.

OBJECTIVES OF EBV-MS RESEARCH: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF EBV IN MS

The researchers, from leading universities and hospitals in Europe and USA, seek to understand "WHY ONLY A FEW EBV INFECTED PEOPLE DEVELOP MS?". Taking advantage of their extensive experience, previous research, health registries and research cohorts, they will conduct clinical trials of antiviral therapies targeting EBV in MS and analyse blood and saliva samples from participants.

We aim to explore the relationship between EBV and MS, by focusing on the following objectives:

- Evaluate if EBV can be a target for treating MS through clinical trials.
- Investigate how EBV genetic variations affect MS risk and progress.
- Determine the timeline from EBV infection to MS onset.
- Identify immune cell patterns in MS patients infected with EBV.
- Develop strategies to detect people at risk for MS before symptoms appear.



IMPACT: MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH EBV-MS RESEARCH

How will the EBV-MS research impact you? The EBV-MS research aims to bring significant benefits for the MS community!

- For people with MS: Identifying high-risk individuals for targeted prevention using potential medications or vaccines.
- For researchers and clinicians: Enhancing the understanding of MS and improving strategies for care and treatment.
- For policymakers: Informing healthcare policies to address MS.
- For society: Mitigating the impact of MS and enhancing public health.
- For industry: Creating opportunities for new and innovative treatments and preventive strategies.

Our findings could lead to better treatments, offer hope for prevention, and reduce the overall burden of MS.