



MS in Romania



WHAT IS MS?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a complex neurodegenerative disease affecting approximately 9,000 of the 19.2 million¹ people in Romania.

Each person will experience this unpredictable disease differently, but common symptoms often 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 the person with MS.



PAIN



FATIGUE



REDUCED MOBILITY



COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION

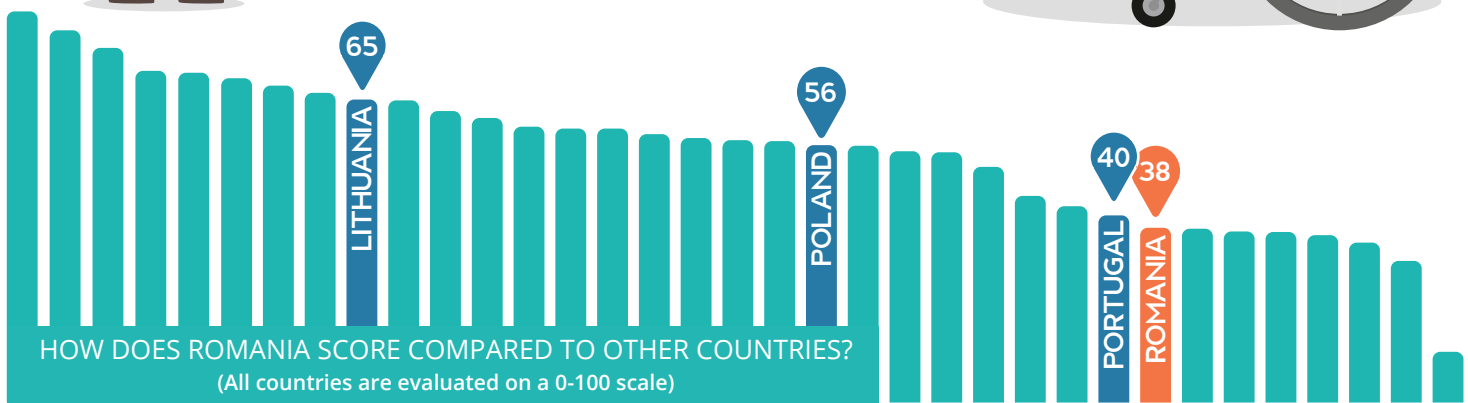
COUNTRY CONTEXT

Romania has a centralised health system, governed by the Ministry of Health and administered and regulated by the national health insurance.²

Romania has the lowest health spending per capita in the European Union, less than half the average, as well as the lowest health spending as a share of GDP. As a result, out-of-pocket payments for health and social care are substantial.



COUNTRY RANKING



HOW DOES ROMANIA SCORE COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

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



WHAT DID THE BAROMETER FIND?

Romania has made some improvements to MS care in recent years, including doubling the number of paediatric patients receiving disease-modifying drugs (DMDs). However, significant gaps persist:



NO
ACCESS TO MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS

There is no access to multidisciplinary teams or dedicated MS centres.

LIMITED
ACCESS TO REHABILITATION

There is limited access to rehabilitation, with **very limited** physiotherapy, **no access** to occupational or cognitive rehabilitation and **no reimbursement** for psychological rehabilitation.

LONG
DELAYS FOR NATIONAL APPROVAL FOR NEW THERAPIES

Delays between European Medicines Agency and national approval for new therapies may be **more than 4 years**.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Establish a national MS registry with mandatory data collection encompassing clinical, occupational and patient-reported data.



Increase the number of dedicated MS centres and create multidisciplinary teams incorporating a neurologist, nurse and rehabilitation specialists.

Increase reimbursement for specialised rehabilitation including physiotherapy, and psychological, cognitive and occupational rehabilitation.



More information can be found at www.emsp.org or contact info@afectiuni-neurodegenerative.ro

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