



MS in Switzerland

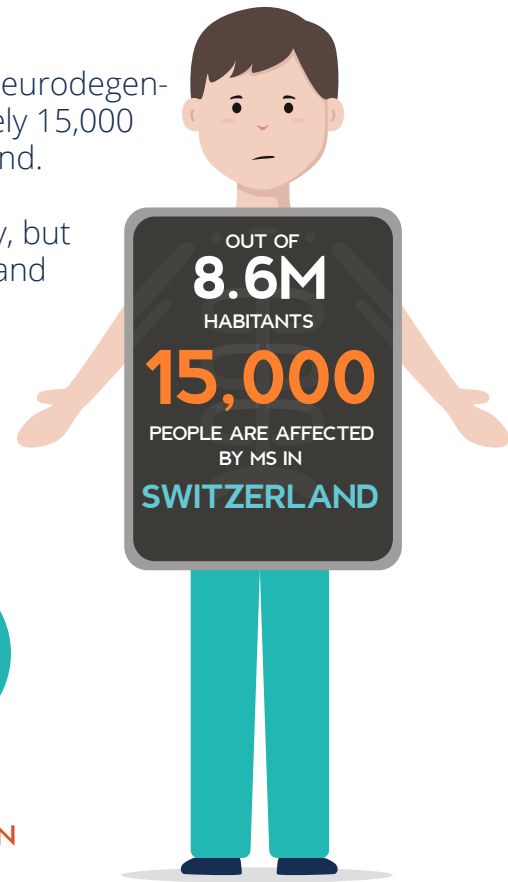


WHAT IS MS?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a complex neurodegenerative disease affecting approximately 15,000 of the 8.6 million¹ people in Switzerland.

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 people with MS.



PAIN



FATIGUE



REDUCED MOBILITY



COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION

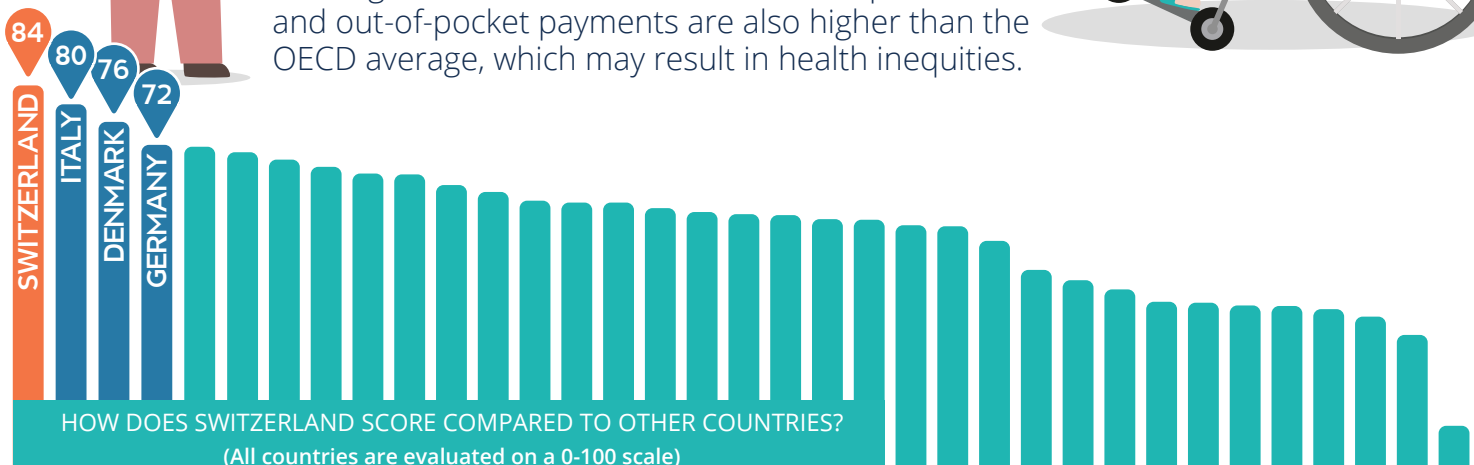
COUNTRY CONTEXT

Healthcare organisation in Switzerland is complex with many actors involved, including regional and municipal decision-makers, national health insurers, healthcare providers and civil society organisations.² Switzerland

has mandatory health insurance, which is subsidised for people with low incomes. This, together with government schemes, constitutes 64% of total health spending, which is nearly twice the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average for per capita health spending.³ While this ensures universal health coverage for all citizens, health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket payments are also higher than the OECD average, which may result in health inequities.



COUNTRY RANKING



HOW DOES SWITZERLAND SCORE COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

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



WHAT DID THE BAROMETER FIND?

The launch of the Swiss MS Registry in 2016 was a significant achievement to improve MS management in Switzerland, and a paediatric MS registry is now being set up. The majority of people with MS (90%) receive disease-modifying drugs (DMDs) and all surveyed symptomatic treatments are available. However, some gaps in care remain:



UNCLEAR

HOW MANY MS SPECIALISTS ARE IN SWITZERLAND



It is not clear how many MS specialists there are in Switzerland.

NOT ALL

PEOPLE WITH MS MAY HAVE ACCESS TO REIMBURSED PSYCHOLOGICAL REHABILITATION



Not all people with MS may have access to reimbursed psychological rehabilitation, though the number of people with MS living with depression is significant.

UNDER

30%

OF PEOPLE WITH MS ARE RECORDED IN THE NATIONAL MS REGISTRY



Under 30% of people with MS are recorded in the national MS registry.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



Develop formal MS specialist certifications in partnership with the national MS society and relevant professional societies in order to identify and formally recognise neurologists and other healthcare professionals with MS expertise.



Change evaluation processes for benefit claims for people with MS to ensure that those with cognitive and invisible impairments can access the support they need.

Strengthen reimbursement protocols to ensure all people with MS have full access to therapies and specialist rehabilitation.



More information can be found at www.emsp.org or contact info@multiplesklerose.ch

EMSP would like to thank the sponsors which have financially supported this project including Ammirall, Biogen, Bristol Myers Squibb, MedDay, Merck, Mylan, Novartis, Roche, and Sanofi Genzyme. EMSP retains editorial control of the Barometer.

