

MILLIONS MISSING CANADA

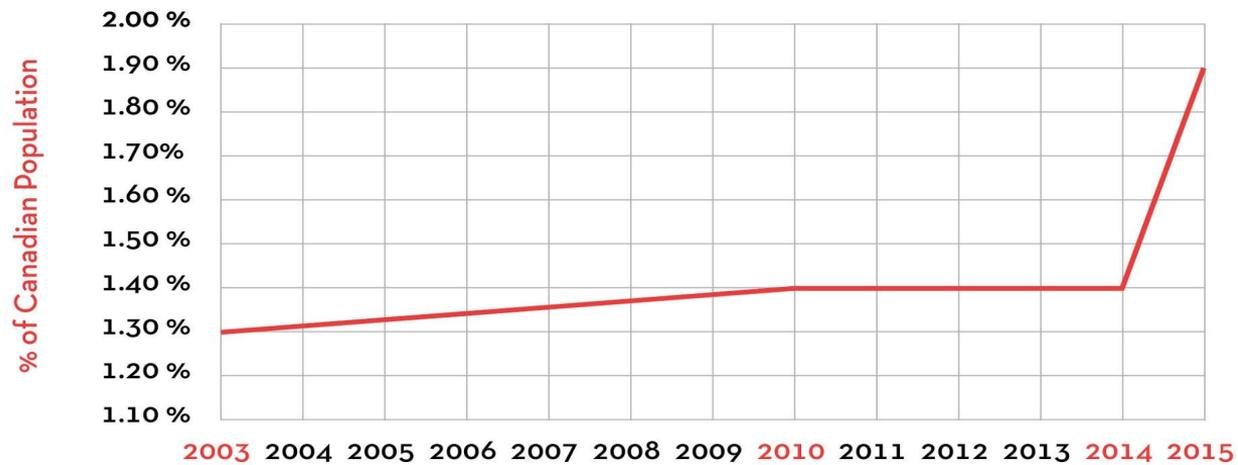
Myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) epidemic?

The medication Ampligen needs to be fast tracked

OPEN LETTER TO HEALTH MINISTER

GINETTE PETITPAS TAYLOR

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis rates in Canada



Data from Canadian Community Health Surveys 2003, 2010, 2014, 2015

Another myalgic encephalomyelitis epidemic?

Blood borne? Researchers find “*something being released in the serum*”

Dr Byron Hyde: “*analog to poliomyelitis*”

37.6% increase in diagnosis - over 560,000 Canadians ill

25% housebound or bedridden

Canada has the highest myalgic encephalomyelitis rates in the world at 1.9%

- More than 560,000 Canadians living with ME in 2015
- A 37.6% increase over the previous year
- The previous (recorded) Canadian ME epidemic was in 1984
- Ampligen is the only medication approved for ME in other countries

Myalgic encephalomyelitis is:

- A serious complex multi-system neuroimmune disease
- Occurs in sporadic and epidemic forms
- Believed to be caused, like poliomyelitis, by enteroviruses
- First identified in 1934 - initially called '*atypical polio*'

ME disables and kills:

- About 25% so ill they are housebound or bedridden
- Severely ill cannot stand or sit up or speak
- Require a dark room, no sound, no visitors, and a feeding tube
- Average age of death is 56 years old

Recent ME research:

- People with ME are in a “*hypometabolic*” state
- Has found “*something being released in the serum*” of people with ME
- Biomarkers identified: “*Remarkably, 17 cytokines were associated with severity*”

(Mis)Treatment of ME patients:

- Harmed by contraindicated treatment
- Lowest quality of life
- Highest poverty - often denied disability benefits
- Highest food insecurity - too ill to shop or prepare food
- Lowest research funding - by far - due to systemic bias

Ampligen is medication for ME:

- Only one medication, Ampligen, approved for ME in other jurisdictions
- Millions Missing Canada is collaborating to bring Ampligen to Canada - we are working with:
 - Canadian physician, Dr Ian Hyams in B.C.
 - Hemispherx Biopharma, the makers of Ampligen

Quote from Canadian who received Ampligen in another country:

*“I was completely bed bound and requiring 24 hour nursing
before my treatment with Ampligen.”*

On Ampligen, I was back to full time study and also able to exercise.”

- Jeremy C.

Ampligen

- Ampligen used by more than 1,200 people in 93,000 doses
- Most effective within the first eight years of illness
- Every year that goes by shuts door to hope for thousands of ME patients

3 Actions for Health Minister Petitpas Taylor:

- Initiate an **emergency response** as was done with H1N1, SARS, and Zika, to protect and treat Canadians
- **Invest in ME research**, at least \$88 million is missing each year
- **Fast-track access to Ampligen medication**

Please **take action** by supporting the more than
560,000 Canadians living with ME by signing our

[Open Letter to Health Minister Petitpas Taylor](#)

STOP the Harm

FUND the Research

START the Treatment

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