

A recent U.S. public awareness survey found that 7 out of 10 people had never heard of or knew very little about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis - the disease known as ALS.

KEY FACTS:

FACT: THE CAUSE IS MOSTLY AND THERE ARE NO CURES.

In about 90% of cases, the cause of ALS is unknown (sporadic ALS). The remaining 10% are inherited (familial ALS). There is currently no cure & few treatments. I AM ALS works to advocate for more research to fund cures & treatments.

SYMPTOMS:

Symptoms can include muscle weakness or stiffness, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, and the loss of ability to walk, use hands, or breathe independently

MPACT:

ALS affects not just those diagnosed, but their families, caregivers, and communities. The disease imposes significant emotional, physical, and financial burdens.

FACT: ALS IS PROGRESSIVE AND 100% FATAL.

Symptoms worsen over time, typically leading to complete paralysis. Most people with ALS live 2-4 years after diagnosis, although some live longer.

IAM ALS

WHO IS AFFECTED:

ALS can strike anyone, regardless of age, gender, or ethnicity. Approximately 30,000 people are living with ALS in the U.S. at any given time, with about 5,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Most diagnosed are between the ages of 40-70.

According to recent survey data, **PEOPLE LIVING WITH ALS NEED HELP:**

- Access to services that can improve quality of life.
- Help navigating the expenses related to the disease.
- Hope for treatments and cures.
- A strong community and a sense of purpose and meaning.

Learn how I AM ALS helps meet these needs: IAMALS.org