

Women in Movement Disorders Special Interest Group

The main objectives of Women in Movement Disorders Special Interest Group (SIG) are:

1. To create a network of women interested in movement disorders (neurologists, scientists and other health care professionals) at different professional level
2. To establish a link between women leaders in the MDS and women who are at the start or in the middle of their clinical and academic career: to further sustain and guide women through their career pathways (including how to apply for grants, form collaborations, making career decisions, etc) and develop leadership skills
3. To support women in movement disorders with regard to social issues and management in the clinical and academic field, such as parenting and balancing private with work life
4. To raise awareness of processes in the infrastructure of MDS and how to achieve leadership positions within the MDS and other societies
5. To advance to the top levels of leadership in the field of Movement Disorders and how to advance to a leadership position within the hospital, university or institute
6. To collaborate with the LEAP program to support its goals.

To better achieve these objectives, the groups has been structured in three Subgroups:

1. Outreach subgroup
2. Education Subgroup
3. Networking subgroup.

Timeline Key:

(S) – Completed by the 2022 International Congress in Madrid

(M) – Completed by the 2023 International Congress

(L) – Completed by the 2024 International Congress

Strategic Plan

1. To create a network of women in MDS (neurologists, scientists and other health care professionals) at different professional level to promote research collaborations and academic exchange			
<i>Goal: To create a network of MDS women</i>			
Goals	Timeline	Activities to achieve goals	2021-2023 Subcommittee Volunteers
To provide a platform for women in movement disorders to connect and network with each other	Short Term (Completed and continued)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To establish a webpage for the Women in Movement Disorders SIG To establish a social media platform (Facebook) 	Leila Ali Deepa Dash Yih-Ru Wu
To inspire women in movement disorders to pursue leadership, maintain work-life balance and excel in the field of movement disorders by learning from examples	Short Term (Completed and continued)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Set up the "Woman of the month" series: A women leader in the movement disorders field with contribution to MDS and having leadership experience will be interviewed by a young woman volunteer 	Young woman volunteers.
To facilitate networking in collaboration with woman researchers around the world	Medium Term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the feasibility of setting up a databank of women researchers in MDS society To collaborate with education committee and other SIGs 	Leila Ali Deepa Dash Yih-Ru Wu
To disseminate the accomplished work in	Short /medium/long Term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To publish in a MDS newsletter illustrating work done by this SIG (twice a year?) 	Leila Ali Deepa Dash Yih-Ru Wu

Timeline Key:

(S) – Completed by the 2022 International Congress in Madrid

(M) – Completed by the 2023 International Congress

(L) – Completed by the 2024 International Congress

this SIG and to enhance the awareness			
---------------------------------------	--	--	--

2. To increase the awareness about the MDS Women in Movement Disorders Group inside and outside the MDS			
<i>Goal: To disseminate the awareness about the Women in Movement Disorders SIG</i>			
Goals	Timeline	Activities to achieve goals	2021-2023 subcommittee Volunteers
Inside the MDS To connect with the Bylaws committee in order to propose a clear statement about gender and diversity to be included in the official MDS Bylaws	Short Term	1. To organize a call with the Bylaws committee and prepare the amendment to be voted	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox
To promote between the MDS members the benefits to belong to this Group (support, mentoring, dual language material translation)	Short Term	1. To ensure and promote the Group in the website 2. To contact Bettina Balint to have an article on Moving Along 3. To ensure a Group meeting time during the annual MDS congress and advertise it	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox
To connect with the other MDS committees and sections to	Medium Term	1. To take a leadership role by involving available volunteers in various projects throughout the year	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox

Timeline Key:

(S) – Completed by the 2022 International Congress in Madrid

(M) – Completed by the 2023 International Congress

(L) – Completed by the 2024 International Congress

promote inclusion of women			
To have an established audience in the MDS and at International level. To Provide “crisis communication” counseling when and if needs arise.	Long term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as movement disorders specialists and leaders 2. To expand the image of the women /high educated professionals as a positive force in our society and demonstrate the value of diversity 	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox
Outside the MDS To connect with the AAN Women in Neurology Group and possibly share activities (offer suggestions for deepening the impact of these efforts)	Short/ medium Term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To contact the leaders of the AAN, EAN and other International Societies to share initiatives (FENS, ESO, etc.) with the support of the MDS Officers. 2. To suggest for no cost, low cost or grant-supported activities that focus attention and resources on a diverse audience 	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox
To share opportunities to look for research grants, an internship, or a full-time position (especially in poor areas/ countries).	Long term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To contact the leaders of the AAN, EAN and other International Societies to share these opportunities (FENS, ESO, etc.) with the support of the MDS Officers. 	Elena Moro Tamine Capato Susan Fox

Timeline Key:

(S) – Completed by the 2022 International Congress in Madrid

(M) – Completed by the 2023 International Congress

(L) – Completed by the 2024 International Congress

3. To support and guide women in movement disorders through their career pathways (including how to apply for grants, form collaborations, making career decisions, etc) and develop leadership skills for women in early and mid-career.			
<i>Goal: To support women in movement disorders with regard to social issues and management in the clinical and academic field</i>			
Goals	Timeline	Activities to achieve goals	2021-2023 Committee Volunteer
To develop webinar programming relating to career development (Twice per year?)	Short term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To submit the webinar proposal: titled “Gender in the Workplace: Challenges, Solutions, and Aspirations”. (Under revision) 2. To brainstorming additional webinar topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panel webinar about different approaches to work-life balance with women from different continents, different backgrounds (single, in a relationship, with kids, etc.) - Conversation between three “generations” of mentor/mentees, e.g. Lang, Armstrong, and one of Armstrong mentees? - Talk on how to be a good mentee, and getting what you need? (could also cover topics more broadly, like mentorship vs sponsorship) - Webinar on applying for grants? 	Francesca Morgante Melissa Armstrong
To develop, disseminate, and analyze survey regarding work environment, career opportunities, and work-life balance of membership	Short term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To draft and revise survey [done] 2. To obtain leadership approval [under revised] 3. To obtain IRB approval after MDS leadership approval 4. To disseminate via MDS 5. To analyze results & share with steering committee 6. To draft & submit manuscript 	Francesca Morgante Melissa Armstrong
To identify career development opportunities/links for Women in MDS webpage	Medium/long term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To link to education committee Career Development program and link to other SIG 2. 	Francesca Morgante Melissa Armstrong

Timeline Key:

(S) – Completed by the 2022 International Congress in Madrid

(M) – Completed by the 2023 International Congress

(L) – Completed by the 2024 International Congress