



Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Fact Sheet

Major Public Health Concern

- At least 45 million people in the US report sensitivity to various chemicals.¹
- About 3 million Americans are diagnosed with MCS.¹
- MCS affects people of all ages, economic status, race, and both genders.¹
- Chemicals that people with MCS react to are toxic and affect everyone to some extent.

Medical Findings

- Brain scans show reduced blood flow to the brain when people with MCS are under chemical exposure.²⁻⁷
- Physical variances identified in MCS include brain inflammation, oxidative stress, excitotoxicity, cardiac and airway disease, and auto-immune disorders.⁸⁻¹⁴
- Mast cell activation and disorders of porphyrin metabolism have been linked to MCS.¹⁵
- Genetic variations relating to detoxification processes have been linked to MCS.¹⁶

The Cost of Environmental Illnesses

- Annual expenditures for healthcare and lost productivity due to MCS are estimated at \$71.8 billion dollars per year.¹⁸

Environmental Factors

- Indoor and outdoor environmental exposures can trigger reactions: perfumes and fragrances, cleaning solutions, scented laundry products, pesticides, herbicides, paint and building materials, gasoline and petroleum based products, artificial flavors, colors, and preservatives.¹²

MCS Can be Controlled

- With a plan that includes avoidance and control of environmental triggers, many people with MCS can lead normal, healthy, and active lives.¹⁸

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