



**FOUNDATION**  
of the Consortium of  
Multiple Sclerosis Centers

**The Foundation of Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (FCMSC)  
Receives \$100,000 Gift for the June Halper MS Nursing Scholarship Fund**

***EMD Serono Honors Pioneer in MS Comprehensive Care***

(Hackensack, NJ, September 2024) The Foundation of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (FCMSC) recently received a generous donation of \$100,000 from EMD Serono Inc., in honor of June Halper, MSN, APN-C, FAAN, MSCN. Ms. Halper a longtime pioneer in the comprehensive care movement for multiple sclerosis (MS), and leading nurse practitioner and MS advocate, passed away on July 24, 2024, at the age of 86, working until her final days as CEO of the CMSC, FCMSC and IOMSN (International Organization of MS Nurses).



**June Halper**  
1938-2024

Since 1978, Ms. Halper has specialized in MS and was the founder of the MS Center in Teaneck and served as its Executive Director, until co-founding CMSC. She served as CMSC's President from 1995 to 1997 and as its Executive Director/CEO from 1992 until her death. Ms. Halper was passionate about multiple sclerosis (MS) nursing care, providing lifelong service to the field. Through her leadership, she transformed the landscape of treatment and support for people with MS.

EMD Serono's gift to the June Halper MS Nursing Scholarship Fund will allow the FCMSC to provide high quality, patient-centered training programs to encourage and prepare more nurses-in-training for the rigorous practice of MS care. This generous donation will also play a key role in the continued success of the FCMSC *Workforce of the Future* programs, which are designed to encourage neurologists, researchers, nursing professionals, mental health professionals, and rehabilitation professionals to focus their careers on the delivery of MS care, thus growing the workforce needed to care for this patient population. To date, hundreds of healthcare professionals have directly benefited from FCMSC training and mentorship programs.

EMD Serono, the healthcare business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany in the U.S., works to transform lives by developing and delivering meaningful therapies, and working to truly understand and respond to the therapeutic and support needs of individual patients.

“We are indebted to the dedication and legacy of work that June Halper provided to the MS community and the nursing profession,” said Jeffrey Wilken, PhD, President of CMSC. “Together with her team’s hard work to make the lives of people living with MS better, this generous donation from EMD Serono will help transform MS care for patients and their families across the globe for years to come.”

Ms. Halper earned her MSN in Nursing from Seton Hall University. In addition to her advocacy and leadership work, she served as an Editor or Co-editor for numerous publications including *Multiple Sclerosis: A Self-Care Guide to Wellness* and *Nursing Practices in Multiple Sclerosis: A Core Curriculum*.

For more information on CMSC, IOMSN and FCMSC and the educational programs and support offered to healthcare professionals, visit: [www.mscares.org](http://www.mscares.org).

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### **About FCMSC**

The Foundation of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (FCMSC) was founded in 1999 with the mission to stimulate the growth, development and provision of patient care services, education and research in the field of MS and to enhance the quality of life of those affected by MS through supporting the activities of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC). It is currently estimated that nearly 1 million Americans and over 2.8 million people worldwide are living with MS. In order for MS patients to continue receiving the best care for generations to come, it is imperative that the workforce of MS healthcare professionals be large enough to meet the growing demands. The FCMSC has focused on aggressively recruiting and training the community of dedicated specialists in the field. The goal is to encourage medical students and other healthcare professionals to choose MS as an initial focus of study or to pursue more advanced and specialized training as part of their studies. By increasing the number of well-trained healthcare professionals in MS, and ensuring that they are well-trained and well-prepared, the medical community can continue to deliver the finest care, improve the quality of life for patients and families living with MS, and ultimately find a cure. For more information visit: <https://cmscfoundation.org/>