What is ALS?
ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, is a neurodegenerative disease in which a person’s brain loses connection with the muscles, slowly taking away their ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe.

There is still no cure for ALS or treatment that halts progression. New treatments are helping to slow and ease symptoms.

- Every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from it
- Average life expectancy is just 2-5 years
- Veterans are more likely to get ALS
- ALS can affect anyone, anywhere, at any time.

90% of cases have no known family history or genetic cause. 10% of cases are genetic, also known as familial ALS.

About the ALS Association
The ALS Association is the largest ALS organization in the world. We fund global research collaborations, assist people with ALS and their families through our nationwide network of care and certified clinical care centers, and advocate for better public policies for people with ALS. We’re working to make ALS a livable disease while urgently searching for new treatments and a cure. Since the Ice Bucket Challenge in 2014, we have committed over $137 million to support more than 500 projects in the U.S. and 13 other countries, with the goal of making ALS a livable disease for everyone, everywhere until we can cure it. For more information about the ALS Association, visit our website at ALS.org.
**Government Funding for ALS Research**

**Department of Defense (DOD)**
ALS is a service-connected disease, regardless of era of service. Veterans are more likely to develop ALS than civilians. The DOD ALS Research Program (ALSRP) supports pre-clinical and clinical research. Current funding - $40 million in FY23.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH)**
- **Research** at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) investigate the fundamental understanding of ALS. Current funding - $131 million in FY23.
- **Expanded Access Programs** through the ACT for ALS provide people living with ALS access to experimental therapies. Current funding - $75 million in FY23.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**
Through the ACT for ALS, the FDA supports new interventions to speed the process of ALS drug approval. Current funding - $5 million in FY23.

**Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**
Single largest ALS prevention research program and registry and biorepository vital to the therapeutic development pipeline. Current funding - $10 million in FY23.