You can advocate for protections for patients from unfair step therapy procedures.

**WOW: MY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Examples: "Step therapy protocols require patients like me to fail at least one other treatment before receiving our doctor’s recommended treatment. This means I have to delay the treatment my doctor wants me to take. It is unfair that my MS has to progress before insurance will cover medicine my doctor wanted me to have in the first place."

“When my husband changed jobs, so did our insurance. The new insurance wanted me to change medications and fail on the new one before I could return to the medication that I’m stable on. It just doesn’t make sense.”

**HOW: IMPACT ON THE MS COMMUNITY AND POLICY MAKERS’ ROLE IN THE SOLUTION**

*You do not have to use all of the points below, pick 2-3 that best support your impact statement.*

- For those with diseases such as MS, prolonging ineffective treatment (and delaying access to the right treatment) may result in increased disease activity, loss of function and possible irreversible progression of disability.
- Insurers’ exceptions procedures are not consistent, may involve significant paperwork and result in lengthy delays before a patient is able to receive the treatment prescribed by their healthcare provider.
- Step therapy protocols vary in terms of their requirements: how many “steps” a patient must cycle through, how long the process takes and appeal criteria.

**NOW: THE ASK FOR POLICY MAKERS**

Pass legislation (A4815/S3051) to ensure that treatment decisions by health plans are based on high-quality research and medical expertise and establish a reasonable framework for when it is medically appropriate to exempt patients from the step therapy process.