

# Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

The patient must meet at least one of the following criteria 1 or 2

**1. Severely impaired breathing capacity with all of the following findings:**

- Dyspnea at rest
- Vital capacity less than 30%
- The requirement of supplemental oxygen at rest
- The patient declines artificial ventilation

OR

**2. Rapid disease progression as evidenced by all of the following in the preceding twelve (12) months.**

- Progression from independent ambulation to wheelchair or bed-bound status
- Progression from normal to barely intelligible or unintelligible speech
- Progression from normal to pureed diet
- Progression from independence in most or all Activities of Daily Living (ADL) to needing major assistance by caretaker in all ADL

AND

**a. Severe nutritional impairment demonstrated by all of the following in the preceding twelve (12) months:**

- Oral intake of nutrients and fluids insufficient to sustain life
- Continuing weight loss
- Dehydration or hypovolemia
- Absence of artificial feeding

OR

**b. Life-threatening complications demonstrated by one or more of the following in the preceding twelve (12) months:**

- Recurrent aspiration pneumonia (with or without tube feedings)
- Upper urinary tract infections (e.g., Pyelonephritis)
- Sepsis
- Recurrent fever after antibiotic therapy
- Stage 3 or 4 decubitus ulcer(s)