

WHY AM I BEING REFERRED?

COULD THIS BE ALS? A TOOL FOR PATIENTS

REASON FOR YOUR REFERRAL

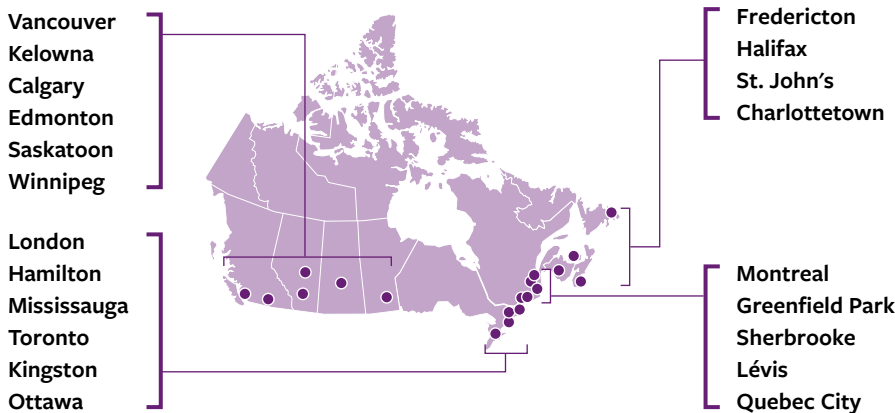


Version 1

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is hard to diagnose because the symptoms can be very similar to other diseases. At a **CALS clinic**, you will be seen by a neurologist or physiatrist (an expert in physical medicine and rehab) who is trained to test for, diagnose, and support people living with ALS.

What is a CALS Clinic?

The Canadian ALS Research Network, or CALS, is a network of 24 centres across Canada that specialise in ALS research and provide the best standard of care in a multidisciplinary (team of healthcare professionals) setting.



Earlier diagnosis is critical

IF you DO have ALS, at a CALS Clinic you'll have more direct access to specialists who can help get you better access to supports, clinical trials that can slow the progression of the disease and improve your quality of life.

IF you DO NOT have ALS, CALS Clinicians may refer you to other specialists or for further tests.

CALS CLINIC

Your appointment location:

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR SYMPTOMS?

If you have concerns about any of these symptoms, please bring them to your CALS Clinic appointment:

- TROUBLE BREATHING
- SPEAKING PROBLEMS
- EXCESS SALIVA
- TROUBLE SWALLOWING
- EXCESSIVE LAUGHING & CRYING
- PAIN
- MUSCLE TWITCHES
- TIGHT LIMBS
- CRAMPS

Your CALS Clinicians may also discuss these symptoms and other topics with you:

- DEPRESSION
- ANXIETY
- INSOMNIA (TROUBLE SLEEPING)
- FATIGUE
- NUTRITION
- EXERCISE
- COGNITION (THINKING) and BEHAVIOUR

Any or all of these tests may be used to help diagnose ALS:

- > Blood and urine studies
- > Breathing tests
- > Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- > Muscle and nerve function tests

ALS Society of Canada has worked closely with the CALS network and funding partners to present this important information to you. For more information visit: als.ca/research/canadian-als-research-network or contact referALS@als.ca.



WHY AM I BEING REFERRED FOR ALS?



This document was created by the ALS Society of Canada and the CALS Network and is supported by our funding partners:



Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Canada



IONIS