

I have had CFS for 25 years and am now 36 years old. I however accomplished many things in my own tired and brain fogged ways on a part time and low energy basis where I have operated at about 40% of my perceived capacity.

I am an inventor and have patented a bicycel tool but I can't bring it to market because I am too tired. I have many other good ideas, but I can't get out of bed most days or overcome the brainfog to get things done. I have had to now give in to this illness and quit working because I am so sick. But there are many things I can add to the country if I can get a cure.

Please start paying attention to CFS. I have now learned that 18 years ago this guy Reeves who is the head of the CDC debunked a retorvirus theory. I have in essence lost 18 years of potential research because of his ego. DO NO LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN.

Makes things right and properly fund the CFS research.

I urge you to make these 3 recommendations to Secretary Sebelius:

1) No government funding should be made available for research using the Reeves (2005) empirical definition of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. This definition has been shown to include many people who do not have the illness that has traditionally been called Chronic Fatigue Syndrome or Myalgic Encephalomyelitis. Any research done on the larger group defined by the Reeves definition will merely be confusing and will be a waste of taxpayer money.

2) The current leadership at the Centers for Disease Control that is responsible for research into the causes and potential therapies for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome has wasted the limited funds available for CFS in a misguided attempt to redefine it. Meanwhile, there have been no advances made by the CDC in our understanding of the disease Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. The leadership should be replaced.

3) If there is going to be any progress toward a cure for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome more funding is needed. Given the new information about XMRV as a possible causative agent, it is urgent that adequate funds be allocated.

thanks,
Mark Rowell