

Dear CMSC committee members,

I am an MD/MPH graduate and currently I am working as a Clinical Research Professional at UC Waddell Center for Multiple Sclerosis, University of Cincinnati. I am working under supervision of Dr. Aram Zabeti.

My interest in neuroimmunology goes back to nine years ago when I started my physiopathology courses. I dealt with many young patients who suffered from MS during medical school and post doctoral fellowship in Sina MS Research Center, Tehran University of Medical Sciences in Iran. Some patients used a walker or a wheelchair due to severe disability and were struggling with memory and concentration problems. Soon I realized that MS is a big puzzle demanding careful logic to address a world of uncertain challenges in the service of helping others.

I worked on several research projects about MS and NMOSD during my medical school and after graduation. I published several papers and our team built a national database for pregnant patients with MS and NMOSD in Iran. In 2017, I was awarded a Du Pre grant from MSIF and I had the chance to work closely with best researchers in the field of MS in Mayo Clinic.

I am planning to pursue a career in neurology and specifically neuroimmunology. It offers the gift of life-long learning and an opportunity to pursue research to further the field and enhance clinical practice. I am specifically passionate to understand the pathophysiology of demyelinating disease and finding treatment approaches to improve cognitive problems of these patients.

I believe attending 2020 CMCS annual meeting would be a great opportunity for someone like me who plans to devote her scientific life to MS research. This meeting would help me expand my knowledge about demyelinating disease and latest new findings and also, connect me with other researchers in the field.

For additional information on my experience, please see my google scholar (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=eaUfTScAAAAJ&hl=en>) and Linkedin page (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ameneh-zare-shahabadi-84664538/>).

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Ameneh Zare-Shahabadi