



# TIP SHEET

## GUIDING HCPs ON WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THEIR PATIENTS



Healthcare professionals in the MS space do an incredible job of **partnering with their patients** on their overall care. This partnership can go a long way to **increasing the long-term outcomes for the patient**. There are some easy ways to continue to strengthen these relationships.

- Encourage **patients to participate** in the clinical decisions so that they are more empowered to manage their health
- Outline the **goals** of the appointment
- Discuss the patient's **treatment preferences** for handling decision making and clarify your role in the process
- Work with patients to set **tangible goals**, celebrate the successes and build on them
- **Ensure patients understand** all the information discussed
- Learn how the **specifics of a patient's life** may affect their health and decision making
- **Develop relationships** with community resources and make good referrals
- **Optimize communication** by understanding each patient and their lives
- **Recognize the central role you can play** in helping shape a patient's healthcare

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In partnership, **doctors and patients can engage in open, honest communication to create improved treatment plans**, ideally resulting in happier, better informed patients.

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For resources to address non-compliance challenges and anticipated patient questions at the five-year milestone visit [YouDontKnowJackAboutMS.com](http://YouDontKnowJackAboutMS.com).

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