

MGFA Online Community Code of Conduct

Member Engagement, Community Ground Rules, and Etiquette

Thank you for your interest in joining the MGFA Online Community!

Our mission is to create an open, globally-connected, secure membership experience based on trust and respect for everyone in the MG Community. MGFA believes that the Online Community will be a valuable and trusted resource for anyone who becomes a member.

MGFA has provided a series of chat rooms, bulletin boards, and networking areas in select “buildings” throughout the Online Community so our global members can directly connect and engage with each other. While we encourage a lively exchange of ideas and opinions, we require you to read, digitally accept, and respect the code of conduct below.

Please contact Genna Mvalo at gmvalo@myasthenia.org with questions. Members who violate parts or all of the code of conduct may be subject to temporary or permanent suspension from the Online Community. By joining and using this MGFA Online Community, you agree that you have read and will follow these rules and guidelines.

Community Engagement & Rules

- Treat all users fairly and equally. Stimulate conversation, be respectful of others’ views, and refrain from personal attacks or challenges. The discussions and comments are meant to stimulate conversation, not to create contention.
- Respect legitimate intellectual property rights. Do not plagiarize work and give credit to the originators of ideas and content.
- Do not share posts of other members without their permission. You can re-share information or content posts by including the originators.
- The MGFA Online Community strives to create and maintain a community in which people of many different backgrounds, heritages, and cultures are treated with respect.
- Recruitment for membership or services outside of MGFA is strictly prohibited. Online chat rooms and networking areas must be used only as a method of communicating and sharing ideas or guidance. Use of the chat rooms in any other way, such as recruiting for organizations, campaigns, company or personal advertising, self-promotion, external activism, political action or voting committees, company job postings or positions, or clinical trials would be grounds for suspension.
- Do not provide medical guidance, advice, or treatment information. If you are a licensed medical provider, please publicly identify yourself as such before providing medical statements or general treatment information. Do not post information about non-approved medical remedies.
- Remember that other participants have the right to reproduce postings to this site, so be careful with posting materials you do not want publicly distributed.

- Post messages or materials to the most appropriate chat or resource room. Do not spam several lists, rooms, buildings, or resource centers with the same message.
- The MGFA staff and Board members, as well as select, approved, and trained volunteers, monitor this Online Community including rooms, chat rooms, resource areas, buildings, and general areas that bring community members together. All messages must add to the body of knowledge. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY MESSAGE OR CHAT CONVERSATION FOR ANY REASON.

Discussion Group Etiquette

- All defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal material is strictly prohibited.
- Discriminatory, hostile, or intimidating messages or language will not be tolerated, whether based on a person's race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, social or economic class, educational level, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, size, family status, political belief, religion, medical status, or mental or physical ability.
- Include a signature tag or your full name on all posts.
- State concisely and clearly the topic of your comments. This allows members to respond more appropriately to your posting and makes it easier for members to understand content about key topics.
- Do not send administrative messages, such as “delete me from the community.” Instead contact MGFA or go to the Help Desk to make requests.
- Please keep comments short, concise, and to the point.
- Please help us review and manage derogatory, questionable, inaccurate, or hostile comments and conversations. If you read information that does not conform with the Code of Conduct, please alert MGFA at the Help Desk or contact us at MGFA@myasthenia.org.

Please carefully read the items listed in the disclaimer and legal rules below, particularly regarding the copyright ownership of information posted.

Privacy policy

The MGFA Online Community is committed to respecting the privacy of our members and of visitors to our site. We do not sell, rent, or share any personally identifiable information shared by visitors or our membership mailing list.

Privacy Policy

We Respect Your Privacy

Any personal information you provide to us including and similar to your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address will not be released, sold, or rented to any entities or individuals outside of our organization except as noted below. Please note that any personal information you provided to the MGFA Online Community profile creation will not be shared, but may be displayed to MGFA staff members and approved community volunteers.

With Whom Do We Share the Personal Information We Collect Through this Site?

Our Service Providers

We may share your personal information with companies (including our affiliates) that perform services on our behalf, e.g., companies that help process credit card payments. Our service providers are required by contract to protect the confidentiality of the personal information we share with them and to use it only to provide specific services on our behalf.

Government and Legal Disclosures

We may disclose the personal information we collect through this Site, when we, in good faith, believe disclosure is appropriate to comply with the law (or a court order or subpoena); to prevent or investigate a possible crime, such as fraud or identity theft; to enforce our Terms and Conditions or other agreements that govern your use of this Site; or to protect the rights, property, or safety of our company, our users, or others.

Research and Development Purposes

We may also from time to time share select personal information of our members (ONLY with the constituent's written consent) with third parties for research and development purposes.

We will not sell, rent, or lend such personal information to any third parties, other than as specifically disclosed in this policy.

External Sites

WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF EXTERNAL INTERNET SITES. YOU ARE ADVISED TO READ THE PRIVACY POLICY OF EXTERNAL SITES BEFORE DISCLOSING ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION.

Cookies

A "cookie" is a small data text file that is placed in your browser and allows us to recognize you each time you visit this site (personalization, etc). Cookies themselves do not contain any personal information, and we do not use cookies to collect personal information. Cookies also may be used by 3rd party content providers such as newsfeeds.

Remember the Risks Whenever You Use the Internet

While we do our best to protect your personal information, we cannot guarantee the security of any information that you transmit to us. You are solely responsible for maintaining the secrecy of any passwords or other account information. In addition, other Internet sites or services that may be accessible through our site have separate data and privacy practices independent of us; we therefore disclaim any responsibility or liability for their policies or actions. Please contact those vendors and others directly if you have any questions about their privacy policies. For any other information, please contact us using the Contact Us page.

Notification of Changes

If we decide to change our privacy policy, we will post those changes on our privacy policy page. By doing so, you will be aware of what information we collect, how we use it, and under what circumstances we disclose it. If at any point we decide to use personally identifiable

information in a manner materially different from that stated at the time it was collected, we will notify you. You will then have a choice as to whether or not we may use your information in this manner. We will use information in accordance with the privacy policy under which the information was collected.

Modifications to this Privacy Policy

We may modify this privacy policy at any time by electronic notice posted on the Site. Your continued use of the Site after the date that such notices are posted will be deemed to be your agreement to the changed terms.

Legal Notice

The MGFA Online Community is provided as a service. MGFA is not responsible for the opinions and information posted on this site by others. The information contained on this platform is provided for general informational purposes only. None of this information is intended or should be construed to be legal advice or a legal opinion.

WE DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES WITH REGARD TO INFORMATION POSTED ON THIS SITE, WHETHER POSTED BY THE MGFA OR ANY THIRD PARTY; THIS DISCLAIMER INCLUDES ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE MGFA BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER RESULTING FROM LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OR PERFORMANCE OF ANY INFORMATION POSTED ON THIS SITE OR WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY ACT OR OMISSION COMMITTED BASED UPON RELIANCE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, ON ANY OF THE INFORMATION OR CONTENTS POSTED ON THE SITE.

Do not post any defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials. Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner. The posting party agrees to assume liability for the content of any information or material they have caused to be posted on the Online Community platform, and any claim arising from such posting, including, but not limited to, claims for libel, invasion of privacy, commercial appropriation of one's name or likeness, copyright infringement, trademark, trade name or patent infringement, commercial defamation, false advertising, or any other claim whether based in tort or contract, or on account of any state or federal statute, including state and federal deceptive trade practices acts. In addition, the posting party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold the MGFA and its Board member harmless for all claims (whether valid or invalid), lawsuits, judgments, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, and expenses of any nature (including the assessment of reasonable attorneys' fees) resulting from or caused by the posting.

Messages should not be posted if they encourage or facilitate members to arrive at any agreement that either expressly or impliedly leads to price fixing, a boycott of another's business, or other conduct intended to illegally restrict free trade. Messages that encourage or facilitate an agreement about the following subjects are inappropriate: prices, discounts, or terms or conditions of sale; salaries; profits, profit margins, or cost data; market shares, sales territories, or markets; allocation of customers or territories; or selection, rejection, or termination of customers or suppliers.

Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without permission. By posting material, the posting party warrants and represents that they own the copyright with respect to such material or has received permission from the copyright owner. In addition, the posting party grants the MGFA Online Community, and users of this site, the nonexclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print, and use such information or other material.

The MGFA Online Community provides educational tools as a service for its members. The MGFA Online Community is not responsible for opinions and information posted on this site. The MGFA Online Community does monitor but does not moderate all postings on this site, but if any inappropriate posting is brought to the attention of the MGFA staff, the MGFA staff reserves the right to take appropriate action, including, without limitation, terminating access to any user who does not abide by these guidelines.