



## **Making the 'Invisible' - 'Visible'**

On Sunday 12th May 2019 the Academy of Nutritional Medicine are holding an enlightening and informative event - Multi-System Diseases: Improving Patients' Lives with Proper Diagnosis and Appropriate Treatment Interventions - <https://multisystemdiseases.eventbrite.co.uk>

The event this year falls on International ME Awareness Day. May is also the month that other so called 'Invisible Illnesses' also hold their individual Awareness Days.

The event will be covering illnesses that are known as 'invisible' - not necessarily invisible by sight but more that patients (and also sometimes their carers) feel invisible. Patients can feel they are invisible to doctors, the medical profession as a whole, to the Government and sometimes even to their own families and friends who struggle to understand their illness(es).

Being chronically ill can be an extremely isolating and lonely experience.

AONM strives to be inclusive with their events and the patient/carer ticket prices are kept to the very minimum cost. We also make the recordings available afterwards, some are available free on our YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/aonmvideos>

But we are acutely aware that there are many patients who are never seen or heard, so we'd like to do something to help change that for this year's Month of Awareness.

We invite you to send us your story (in summary). You are also welcome to add a picture. Please make sure this fills no more than one A4 page. Send to [admin@aonm.org](mailto:admin@aonm.org).

Only use your first name and please do not send photographs if the person is under 18 years of age. Give a brief description of your situation, e.g. your diagnoses, years being ill, whether you have received any treatment, etc.

We will print the stories and display them at the May 12th Event - there will be many doctors and other professionals in attendance. We also hope to attract some Members of Parliament. Your stories will be seen and read on the day by the attendees. You will be VISIBLE to everyone attending the event.

After the event we intend to keep the A4 stories/pictures and take them to the protest on the 22nd May outside Westminster. The protest is asking for 'Recognition, Diagnosis, Testing and Treatment for those with chronic illness such as Lyme Disease, fibromyalgia, ME, PANS/PANDAS".etc.

We completely understand that not everyone will wish their story to be taken to the protest. If you DO NOT wish for your story to be taken to the protest please let us know when you send it to us and we will make sure it is NOT used.

Please do share this information within groups where you think patients may wish to take part, the list of illnesses is not exhaustive.

Many thanks for your support. Together, step by step we CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

**#InvisibleNoMore #HealthNotHarm**

Thank you for your ongoing support

The AONM Team