Provide out-of-country treatments for Ehlers Danlos Patients!

PETITION - To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Whereas, The Canada Health Act requires provinces to fund medically necessary treatment for Canadians; and

Whereas, a growing number of people in Ontario suffering from Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (EDS) have to seek out-of-country treatment at their own expense because doctors in Ontario don't have the knowledge or skills to understand EDS symptoms and perform the required delicate and complicated surgeries; and

Whereas, those EDS victims who can't afford the expensive treatment outside of Ontario are forced to suffer a deteriorating existence and risk irreversible tissue and nerve damage; and

Whereas, EDS victims suffer severe dislocations, chronic pain, blackouts, nausea, migraines, lost vision, tremors, bowel and bladder issues, heart problems, mobility issues, digestive disorders, severe fatigue and many others resulting in little or very poor quality of life; and

Whereas, despite Ontario Ministry of Health claims that there are doctors in Ontario, who can perform surgeries on EDS patients, when surgery *is* recommended, the Ontario referring physicians fail to identify *any* Ontario neurosurgeon willing or able to see and treat the patient;

***We the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows*:**
Require the Minister of Health to provide the names of Ontario neurosurgeons who can – and will – perform surgeries on EDS patients with equivalent or identical skills to the EDS neurosurgeon specialists in the United States, and meet the Canada Health Act's requirement to afford equal access to medical treatment for patients, regardless of their ability to pay for out-of-country services.

Name (printed)	Address – and email optional - (printed)	Signature