

## **Philip De Jager, MD, PhD**

Dr. Philip De Jager is the Weil Professor of Neurology at Columbia University Medical Center where he directs the Division of Neuroimmunology. The division consists of the Multiple Sclerosis Center and the Center for Translational & Systems Neuroimmunology. The focus of the division is to characterize and target the role of the immune system in neurodegenerative disease such as Alzheimer's disease (AD), Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Parkinson's disease (PD).

After completing Yale University with a degree in Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry as well as Medieval French literature, Dr. De Jager received a Ph.D. in Neurogenetics from Rockefeller University and an M.D. from Cornell University Medical College before completing his M.M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and MIT. He has served as a neurology resident in the Partners Neurology program at the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH). He then joined the faculty at HMS and BWH, rising to the rank of Associate Professor before joining Columbia University Medical Center. He has been recognized for his leadership in the field of multiple sclerosis research with both the Harry Weaver Neuroscience Scholar Award (2008) and the Barancik Award for Innovation in MS Research (2014) by the National MS Society.

The goal of Dr. De Jager's work as a clinician-scientist is to apply modern methods of human immunology, genomics and computational biology to the understanding of common neurodegenerative diseases such as AD, PD, and MS. He has applied his discoveries from basic research to identify novel targets for drug development and to create novel tools to enhance clinical decision-making and to prevent the onset of these neurodegenerative diseases.