

**From:** Pat Ricci  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2009 4:06 PM  
**To:** OS OPHS CFSAC (HHS/OPHS)  
**Subject:** patient testimony

As a long term PWC/PWME (20 years), please understand my frustration at our govt. agencies regarding CFS. The name CFS, as has been stated untold times, belittles our condition. Arguments still reign on a name change. Though some progress has been made in research, govt. agencies still want to steer the direction of research into a psychological bias. PLEASE, we need your help! We need diagnostic tests and treatment that WORKS. My symptoms HAVE NOT improved with CBT. I've tried biofeedback as well as exercise. Exercise only exacerbated my symptoms. It's time to get down to business and focus on helping us to get our lives back. I was previously employed as a Medical Technologist (clinical laboratory medicine) and biological editor. I've been on social security disability for 16 years. I want to be a productive member of society again. I've lost relationships as well as a good income for so many years as have so many others afflicted with CFS/ME as well as FM. Please don't let us down any longer.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Ricci