

TABLE 1. Characteristics of Rural and Urban Participants and Interviewees

	Quantitative			Qualitative		
	Rural ^a	Urban ^a	P value ^b	Rural ^a	Urban ^a	P value ^b
n	11	23		4	4	
Age , years (mean)	55.9 (9.67)	50.9 (11.2)	.23	45.7 (5.17)	56.6 (5.31)	.19
Sex (%)			.15			> .99
Male	9.09	0.00		25.0	0.00	
Female	90.9	100		75.0	100	
MS type (%)			.51			> .99
Relapsing-remitting	70.0	87.0		100	75.0	
Primary progressive	20.0	8.70		0.00	25.0	
Secondary progressive	10.0	4.35		0.00	0.00	
MS disease duration , years (mean)	17.6 (8.61)	13.7 (9.06)	.28	16.7 (6.55)	17.0 (4.94)	.97
BMI (mean)	27.3 (3.20)	29.6 (7.77)	.36	28.3 (3.50)	27.5 (2.44)	.86
Highest education completed (%)			.80			.34
High school or less	27.3	27.3		25.0	25.0	
Some college	27.3	13.6		0.0	25.0	
4-year degree	18.2	22.7		50.0	0.00	
Advanced degree	27.3	36.4		25.0	50.0	
Race/ethnicity (%)			.42			> .99
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00	4.35		0.00	25.0	
Asian	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
Black or African American	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
Hispanic or Latino	10.0	4.35		0.00	0.00	
Middle Eastern or North African	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
White	90.0	91.3		100	75.0	
Household income (%)			.25			.72
Less than \$40,000	44.4	31.8		25.0	25.0	
\$40,000 to less than \$80,000	0.00	27.3		0.00	25.0	
\$80,000 to less than \$120,000	33.3	13.6		50.0	25.0	
\$120,000 or more	22.2	27.3		25.0	25.0	
Employment (%)			.13			.41
Employed	45.5	69.6		100	50.0	
Out of work/not working	0.0	8.70		0.00	0.00	
Homemaker	0.0	4.35		0.00	0.00	
Retired	9.09	8.70		0.00	50.0	
Unable to work	45.5	8.70		0.00	0.00	
Household size (%)			.42			.51
1 person	20.0	17.4		0.00	25.0	
2 people	60.0	39.1		50.0	50.0	
3 to 5 people	20.0	43.5		50.0	25.0	
6 or more people	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	

(continued)

TABLE 1. (continued) Characteristics of Rural and Urban Interviewees

	Quantitative			Qualitative		
	Rural ^a	Urban ^a	P value ^b	Rural ^a	Urban ^a	P value ^b
Dependents (%)			.59			.26
0	72.7	50.0		50.0	50.0	
1	9.09	13.64		25.0	0.00	
2	9.09	27.3		0.00	50.0	
3 or more	9.09	9.09		25.0	0.00	
USDA HFSSM			.32			> .99
High food security	100	69.6		100	100	
Marginal food security	0.00	4.35		0.00	0.00	
Low food security	0.00	13.0		0.00	0.00	
Very low food security	0.00	13.0		0.00	0.00	

BMI, body mass index; MS, multiple sclerosis; USDA HFSSM, United States Department of Agriculture Household Food Security Survey Module.

^aData are shown as either mean (\pm standard error of the mean) or n %.

^bSignificance determined using Pearson χ^2 test for categorical variables or 2-sample *t* test for continuous variables.