## **Faculty Biography Form**

Hispanic/Latina Women in Medicine: Critical Needs for Empowerment and Transformation in Practice 2024

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Mirla Avila, MD Program Director/Associate Professor of Neurology Texas Tech University

Mirla Avila, MD, is the department chair, program director of neurology and Director of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Demyelinating Disease Center at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, Texas, where she also serves as Associate Professor of Neurology and Associate Program Director of Neurology.

Dr. Avila is involved in several ongoing MS research projects, and has previously served as a principal investigator, co-investigator, and rating and examining neurologist. She has authored numerous abstracts, book chapters, and peer-reviewed articles on MS treatment and management. In addition to her academic contributions, Dr. Avila is an active participant in the MS community, conducting diverse patient educational programs sponsored by both the pharmaceutical industry and patient advocate groups. She is a member of the American Academy of Neurology as well as the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC), and has been designated as a Partner in MS Care by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS).

Dr Avila is also a singer/songwriter and composer who has recorded 6 albums and recently opened her small music publishing business and intends of opening a foundation with her music proceeds to help patients in need.