

## From John Varga, M.D., Chair of the Scleroderma Foundation Medical Advisory Board

It was not many years ago that scleroderma research was being done by a relatively small group of investigators. This allowed us to know what was happening in the various areas of research and apply the new information to our clinical practices.



Today, however, we see advances in scleroderma and diseases related to it spreading over an increasingly wide area. More doctors are learning about scleroderma and diagnosing it quickly and accurately. The Scleroderma Foundation reports a sharp increase in requests for information and hits on its website. All of these are signs that progress is being made.

Along with progress comes change. It is more difficult to stay in touch with studies and research than ever before. This is why I bring the Physician Membership Program to your attention.

The time has come for doctors treating patients and those doing research to have one place to go to learn the latest in the field.

The Scleroderma Foundation does good work speaking up for those with the disease and supporting research. Read through this brochure and learn the benefits of becoming a physician member. There is much to gain from it.

Sincerely,



Chair of the Medical Advisory Board  
Gallagher Professor of Medicine  
Feinberg School of Medicine  
Northwestern University  
Chicago, Illinois

## About the Scleroderma Foundation

The Scleroderma Foundation is the leading nonprofit dedicated to serving the needs and interests of people with scleroderma. Our mission shapes and guides everything we do. This mission has three parts—support, education and research.

### Support

With active chapters in 24 states and more than 160 support groups nationwide, the Scleroderma Foundation strives to help patients and their families cope with scleroderma through mutual support programs, peer counseling, physician referrals and educational information.

### Education

We promote public awareness and education through patient and health professional seminars, literature and publicity campaigns.

### Research

The Foundation exists to stimulate and support research to improve the treatment of, and ultimately find the cure for, scleroderma and diseases related to it. We estimate we have directly funded about \$12 million in research over the years, and now fund at least \$1 million annually.



For information contact Carolyn Weller, R.N., Vice President of Education and Research, at [cweller@scleroderma.org](mailto:cweller@scleroderma.org).

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## The Scleroderma Foundation's PHYSICIAN MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM



