

Subject: Infographic: See How the Scleroderma Community Has Grown

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SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION

SUPPORT • EDUCATION • RESEARCH

eLetter #567 | August 15, 2014

Check Out the Scleroderma Foundation Inspire Community Infographic



One of the Scleroderma Foundation's most-used resources is our online community, hosted by Inspire, the online social network for health. For the Scleroderma Foundation's National Conference, Inspire designed an infographic depicting our community's immense growth.

With more than 13,000 members and 50,000 posts, the Inspire community has grown exponentially over the past few years. Members come from all around the world. Many of them are individuals struggling to find answers and resources about living with scleroderma, while others are caregivers or family members of someone with the disease. Discussion board topics range from advice for choosing a doctor to what food to eat to help alleviate scleroderma symptoms.

[Download the infographic](#) to see just how far we've come, or if you have yet to join the Inspire community, you can sign up at www.scleroderma.org/inspire!

Meet Your Elected Officials While They're Home

By now, you have heard that the Foundation's Advocacy Team was successful in its efforts to have "scleroderma" re-listed as a condition eligible for research funding through the Department of Defense's Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program. Congress is currently in recess and members are back in their home districts for a summer break. That makes now an excellent time to let your congressional leaders know about this success, and thank them for their support and assistance. We also want to ask

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leaders to continue to show support for the “Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act” legislation. In the House of Representatives, the legislation is [H.R. 1429](#); in the Senate, it is

[S.1239](#).

While members of Congress are in their home districts, it is an excellent opportunity to schedule a meeting with your senator or representative in your local district office. Let them know that scleroderma research and awareness is an important issue and why, as an elected official, he/she should support this legislation.

Here are some tip sheets to help make your visit more successful: [About the Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act](#) and [Fact Sheet about Medical Research](#).

For more information or to find how to contact your elected leaders, please visit www.scleroderma.org/advocacy or call us at (800) 722-4673.

Pulmonary Hypertension Association: PHA on the Road



PHA on the Road is a free full-day regional education forum hosted by the Pulmonary Hypertension Association. PH Patients and Families Education Forum, will be visiting new cities across the country in 2014. PHA on the Road delivers much needed PH education and support to patients and families in areas close to home. The forums feature

interactive presentations, education sessions and networking opportunities with other patients, caregivers, and medical professionals.

The 2014 PHA on the Road forums will be visiting:

- Houston (Online registration closes Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014, at 3 p.m. EST)
- San Diego (Online registration closes Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014, at 3 p.m. EST)

[Learn more and register at the PHA website >>](#)

Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation Patient Care Center



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For those living with pulmonary fibrosis, obtaining the most accurate and current information can be a challenging and frustrating task. In response to these concerns, the Pulmonary Fibrosis

Foundation launched the PFF Patient Communication Center (PCC).

The PCC, a dedicated call center staffed by health care professionals, provides patients, caregivers, and health care providers with the most up-to-date medical information, communicates the availability of support services, and provides information about other essential resources.

[Learn more at PulmonaryFibrosis.org >>](http://PulmonaryFibrosis.org)

Disclaimer: *The Scleroderma Foundation in no way endorses any drugs, treatments, clinical trials, or studies reported in the eLetter. Information is provided to keep the readers informed. Because the manifestations and severity of scleroderma vary among individuals, personalized medical management is essential. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that all drugs and treatments be discussed with the reader's physician(s) for proper evaluation and treatment.*

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