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SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION

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eLetter #538 | January 17, 2014

Registration Now Open for African-American Patient Education Day



The Scleroderma Foundation's second African-American Patient Education Day will be held on Saturday, March 22, in Philadelphia. Join us, along with Virginia Steen, M.D., of Georgetown University Medical Center, and Laura K. Hummers, M.D., of Johns Hopkins University Medical Center, for the all-day learning event that will specifically look at how the African-American population is affected by the disease.

The event will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, located at 1201 Market St., in Philadelphia. Registration starts at 9 a.m. The program begins at 10 a.m. and will conclude by 4:30 p.m. The cost to attend is \$15 per person, and includes lunch and snack.

There are four easy ways to register for the event:

1. [Register online >>](#)
2. Call us at (800) 722-4673 and we can process your registration and credit card payment over the phone.
3. [Download the registration form](#) and mail the completed form along with your registration fee to: Scleroderma Foundation, 300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105, Danvers MA 01923
4. [Download the registration form](#) and fax the completed form to (978) 463-5809 (credit card only)

For those who wish to stay overnight, there is a small room block reserved for the event. Contact the hotel directly at **877-212-5752** and mention 'scleroderma.'

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Kerri Connolly, Director of Programs and Services, at (800) 722-4673 or email kconnolly@scleroderma.org.

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Scleroderma Symposium to be Held by Susan Marie Scleroderma Foundation



On Saturday, February 22, 2014, the Susan Marie Scleroderma Foundation will be holding a Scleroderma Symposium from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Participants will learn how to recognize the symptoms and treatment options for lung disease in scleroderma, discuss the

evidence to support rehabilitation intervention for the hands and face, and much more.

This is a FREE symposium, however, a \$20.00 deposit is required at time of registration. The deposit will be refunded upon signing in at the symposium. Checks and registration should be sent to:

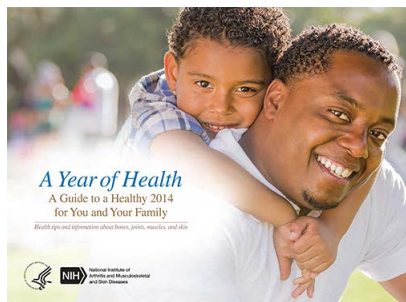
Susan Marie Scleroderma Foundation
4450 Lakeside Ave.
N Ft Myers, FL 33903

The Symposium will be held at the Naples Community Hospital, 350 7th Street N, Auditorium, in Naples, FL 34102.

The Susan Marie Scleroderma Foundation is a significant contributor to the Scleroderma Foundation's [National Patient Education Conference Scholarship Fund](#).

[Visit the Susan Marie Scleroderma Foundation website for more information >>](#)

Order Your 2014 Health Planners from NIH



The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) has created a series of free multicultural health planners for 2014, titled *A Year of Health: A Guide to a Healthy 2014 for You and Your Family*. These planners provide research-based health tips and information about staying healthy and managing conditions of the bones, joints, muscles, and skin.

Planners are still available but quantities are limited, so order yours today!

[Order your free health planner at the NIH website >>](#)

How to Be a Friend to Someone Who's Sick or Grieving

When difficulties arise, friendships are often strained to their limits. Some people can't handle a friend's illness or bereavement and simply fade away.



Others may rely on insensitive cliches and generalizations to communicate, leaving the sick or grieving person feeling infantilized or disrespected. In this article there are some useful tips on

how to be a better friend to someone who is going through a difficult time, whether it's illness or loss.

[Read the article at The Age >>](#)

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