Show Your Support for Those Fighting Scleroderma

We’ve added new items to our online store that feature special eye-catching artwork which asks “Help Put An End to Sclero-What?!” during Scleroderma Awareness Month. There are T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, hats and more! We also have items that feature the Scleroderma Foundation logo or the phrase “Ask Me About Scleroderma.”

Visit our store on CafePress at www.cafepress.com/sclerodermafoundation to make a purchase. A portion of each sale benefits the Scleroderma Foundation. For more information about how to help fight to end Sclero-What? during Scleroderma Awareness Month, please visit www.sclerodermaawareness.org today!

And remember, send us your Scleroderma Selfies using the hashtag #sclerodermaselfie on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. We’re compiling photos for our next awareness campaign!

Researchers Identify Biomarker in Helping Curtail PAH Caused by Scleroderma Progression

Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among scleroderma patients, yet the need for the detection of biomarkers in blood and serum at early stages of the disease still remains unmet. If researchers can solve this particular diagnostic need, it could significantly aid in the early-stage detection of scleroderma and prevent progressive deterioration.
The circulation of Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells in patients with scleroderma have been found to secrete a protein, CXCL4 (a chemokine) in excess, according to research carried out at The University Medical Center, Utrecht, the Netherlands (as mentioned in a report in the online version of New England Journal of Medicine, December 18, 2013.) CXCL4 has thus been assumed as a direct link (clinical biomarker) for both sclerodmera and PAH. Now, this connection offers the potential for developing a therapeutic target for scleroderma.

Learn more at the Pulmonary Hypertension News website >>

Arthritis Supplement Recalled Due to Undeclared Drug Ingredients

California-based Nano Well-being Health, Inc., has issued a voluntary recall for Super Arthgold (500 mg) – a dietary supplement marketed for joint pain and arthritis – after testing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration found it contained undeclared drug ingredients, making it an unapproved new drug.

The drug ingredients found in the supplement but not listed on the label are the prescription muscle relaxant chlorzoxazone and two prescription nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), diclofenac and indomethacin.

Read more at the Arthritis Foundation website >>

JAN - The Job Accommodation Network

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace.

Learn more about the Job Accomodation Network at AskJAN.org >>

Memorial Day Weekend

Reminder: The Scleroderma Foundation's National Office will be closed Monday, May 26 due to Memorial Day. We will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, May 27.

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.