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SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION

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eLetter #600 | March 27, 2015

NOTICE: Advocacy Day Postponed



The National Office of the Scleroderma Foundation recently put out an invitation to participate in an upcoming Scleroderma Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. on April 28th.

However, with consideration to Congress adjourning for its two-week Passover/Easter recess before our bill has been introduced, we are postponing Advocacy Day until later in the year, with the date still to be determined.

Once the scleroderma bill is introduced we will begin our grass-roots outreach to lawmakers, possibly including an organized Congressional Call-In Day as we've done in the past, leading up to an Advocacy Day in Washington.

If you have already sent in a letter of interest to participate in Advocacy Day, your application will be kept on file for consideration once the new date for Advocacy Day is finalized.

We will keep you updated on developments as our champions on Capitol Hill move our bill forward, as well as information about the bill's specific language and necessary actions on our part to garner support. Meanwhile, we thank you for your interest and your continued support to make the scleroderma community's voice heard in our nation's halls of Congress.

What to Expect at Your First Visit with a Rheumatologist

The first visit with any doctor can be a little nerve-racking. How should you prepare? What should you be sure to mention? What sort of procedures might there be? Here is a useful guide to what you should expect at your first

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appointment with a rheumatologist.

[Read the entire article at](#)

[SimpleTasks.org >>](#)

NCCIH 2014 Funding Priorities and Research Focus



The National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds and conducts research to help answer important scientific and public health questions about complementary health approaches. NCCIH works to determine what is promising, what helps and why, what doesn't work, and what is safe.

[Read about the NCCIH 2014 funding priorities at NIH.gov >>](#)

Learn About Sjögren Syndrome



Sjögren syndrome is an inflammatory disease that can affect many different parts of the body, but most often affects the tear and saliva glands. Patients with this condition may notice irritation, a gritty feeling, or painful burning in the eyes. Dry mouth (or difficulty eating dry foods) and swelling of the glands around the face and neck are also common.

[Learn more about Sjögren syndrome at Rheumatology.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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