Deadline for Early Bird Registration to the National Conference is May 15

The deadline for early bird registration rates to register for the Scleroderma Foundation's 17th annual National Patient Education Conference is fast approaching! The early bird rate is good through Friday, May 15, 2015, 5:00 p.m. Eastern. (Note: If you are unsure of your membership status, please call the Foundation at (800) 722-4673.)

The registration cost to attend the conference is:

- Early bird, Scleroderma Foundation members: $200
- Early bird, non-members: $250
- Meals only attendee: $135
- Child or teen attendee (17 or younger): $50

This one-of-a-kind patient education event will be held July 17-19, 2015, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Register for the conference online >>

Download a printable registration form >>

Stay Up-to-Date About the Conference

To stay up-to-date with all of the 2014 National Patient Education Conference information, sign up to receive our special conference e-blasts >> Our periodic email updates will notify you about this year’s speakers and workshops, special events and programming, and things to do while you’re in Southern California.
FDA Teams with Healthline.com to Better Serve Consumers

A new partnership between the Food and Drug Administration and Healthline.com will greatly expand the delivery of FDA Consumer Updates, the agency’s primary consumer-oriented publication that provides information about the safe use of FDA-regulated products.

The FDA-Healthline partnership is described in a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations that is based on “mutual recognition of the need to empower consumers with health information they can apply in daily life.” The goal is to “provide and promote FDA Information in the form of Consumer Updates to consumers” and offer to them “high quality and timely content concerning public health and safety topics, including FDA alerts on emerging issues and product recalls.”

Read the entire article at FDA.gov >>

Rheumatic Diseases and Rheumatologists

Rheumatic diseases, arthritis and other diseases of the muscles, joints and bones are common and have tremendous impact on the health and well-being of nearly 50 million Americans. People afflicted with rheumatic diseases are cared for by rheumatologists who are equipped with the tools to detect and treat them. While rheumatologists treat over 100 different forms of rheumatic disease and arthritis, this paper details the problems caused by the most severe forms of these and will highlight how rheumatologists are providing health care solutions for the millions of Americans suffering from these diseases.

Download the paper from SimpleTasks.org >>

What is Bone?

Made mostly of collagen, bone is living, growing tissue. Collagen is a protein that provides a soft framework, and calcium phosphate is a mineral that adds strength and hardens the framework. This combination of collagen and calcium makes bone strong and flexible enough to withstand stress.

Two types of bone found in the body —
cortical and trabecular. Cortical bone is dense and compact. It forms the outer layer of the bone. Trabecular bone makes up the inner layer of the bone and has a spongy, honeycomb-like structure.

Learn more about bone at the National Institutes of Health >>

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.