



Save the Date: Maryland Support Group Meeting

Please join the Greater Washington, DC Chapter's Maryland Support Group Meeting for a presentation by **Dr. Victoria Shanmugam from George Washington University Hospital**. She will discuss renal disease in scleroderma.



Saturday, September 17, 2016; 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Tenley-Friendship Neighborhood Library

4450 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016

(Handicapped parking available at the library. Metered street parking and paid parking available in the Container Store/Best Buy garage.)

Victoria K. Shanmugam, MD, FACR, FACP, is Director of the Division of Rheumatology, and Associate Professor of Medicine at George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates.

A native of London, Dr. Shanmugam graduated with honors in Medicine from the Imperial College School of Medicine. She completed residencies at St. Bartholomew's and the Royal London Hospitals and became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians in 2002. After moving to Washington, DC, Dr. Shanmugam pursued further residency and fellowship training in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology at Georgetown University before moving to George Washington University in 2014.

Dr. Shanmugam is principal investigator of the STOP scleroderma study, and has published several articles on organ involvement in scleroderma. Dr. Shanmugam has received numerous awards for her research, including an American College of Rheumatology Physician Scientist Development Award, the John Eisenberg Memorial Career Development Award, and the C. Bertram Hoffberger Research Achievement Award.

We look forward to seeing you!

Save the Date: Patient Education Conference in October



Mark your calendars!

The Scleroderma Foundation Greater Washington, DC Chapter invites you to its Patient Education Conference!

Saturday, October 8, 2016, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Location TBD.

Speakers include:

Dr. Virginia Steen, Georgetown University Hospital
Dr. Laura Hummers, Johns Hopkins University Hospital
Dr. Victoria Shanmugam, George Washington University Hospital
Dr. Zsuzsanna McMahan, Johns Hopkins University Hospital
Dr. Kathleen Holton, American University
Dr. Ron Brown, Howard University Hospital

Conference topics include: pulmonary and gastrointestinal issues, digital ulcers and wound care, nutrition, dental care, and an update on research!

Funding in part from the National Gold Sponsors:

Actelion Pharmaceuticals US
Bayer HealthCare

Look for registration information on our website in the next couple of weeks!

Community Outreach

The Scleroderma Foundation Greater Washington, DC Chapter participates in different community events to educate and inform individuals about scleroderma and to share the chapter's activities.

On June 11th, **Ingrid Denis**, member and Maryland Support Group Co-Leader, participated in the Sjögren's Walkabout & Autoimmune Disease Health Fair in Washington, DC. The event was hosted by the Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation and provided valuable information about the different autoimmune diseases affecting so many people.



On August 13th, **Carole Bernard**, Executive Director, participated in the KLM Community Day Health Fair in Largo, Maryland. The event consisted of free Health Assessment Testing with over 40 health care organizations. The event is sponsored by the Kettering Recreation Council, KLM Boys Girls Club, The Maryland Park Planning Commission, B&K Productions, and P.I.T.S Sports.

Need Your Feedback - Launching New Support Groups

The Chapter serves a large geographic area that includes



Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC. To better meet the needs of our members and their families, the Chapter is exploring launching three new Support Groups in:

1. Howard County/Baltimore County/ Baltimore City
2. Prince George's County/ Calvert County, and
3. Northern Virginia.

Currently, we have the Maryland Support Group that meets in Bethesda and Chevy Chase, Maryland offering wonderful presentations and the opportunity for individuals to gather together on a monthly basis. These three additional Support Groups would create new opportunities for our growing membership to connect with one another closer to their homes. We also would like to offer Virtual Support Group Meetings during the winter months, when it can be difficult for some folks to leave their homes. All one would need is a computer, and we would do the rest to schedule informative presentations and a virtual meeting space via the Internet. We are very excited about these new endeavors, and we want to get your input!

Below is a link to a survey that we very much would like for you to fill out. Your responses will assist us in knowing your interest in the three additional Support Groups, as well as the Virtual Support Groups! We ask that you complete the survey by August 31, 2016.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Click [HERE](#) to take the survey!

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Scleroderma Foundation Greater Washington, DC Chapter

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