



ADVANCING

THE SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

OF LUPUS





THE STATE OF

Lupus Research

THE LUPUS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA IS WORKING TO:

ACCELERATE
THE PACE OF
LUPUS
RESEARCH

BROADEN
INVESTMENT IN
LUPUS
RESEARCH

ELEVATE
LUPUS
ON THE NATION'S
HEALTH CARE
AGENDA.

We know more about lupus than we did 10 years ago. Advances in lupus research have provided us with a better understanding of the possible underlying causes of the disease and its progression, and have provided unprecedented opportunities to greatly expand our knowledge base on lupus.

Doors are opening to new approaches for improved treatment and care. We are in a position to answer many of the questions about lupus that scientists have been asking for decades. With new scientific findings, additional pathways have been identified for further study. However, without an expansion of public and private support for medical research on lupus, many of these opportunities will be lost and further progress delayed.

As the world's oldest and largest national organization dedicated to lupus, the Lupus Foundation of America (LFA) advances lupus research, through its National Research Program: *Bringing Down the Barriers™*, in three ways:

- ▶ **Leads** special research initiatives and forges collaborative efforts among stakeholders to address critical issues in the field of lupus.
- ▶ **Funds** researchers at medical institutions nationwide to address gaps in understanding the causes, progression, and consequences of lupus.
- ▶ **Advocates** for expanded investment in research from public and private sources at the state and federal levels.

Bringing Down the Barriers

The Lupus Foundation of America (LFA) is dedicated to identifying and overcoming barriers that have stood in the way of advancing the science and medicine of lupus.

The LFA's National Board of Directors and Medical-Scientific Advisory Council are aggressively pursuing an agenda to find answers to the most difficult questions that have challenged lupus researchers for years.

Together with our national network of LFA chapters, field offices, support groups, and community representatives, we are working to improve the quality of life for people with lupus, and to find a cure for the disease.

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LEADING

The LFA leads collaborative efforts with key stakeholders on special research initiatives that shed new light on the drug research and development process.

Through strategic relations we have:

- ▶ Commissioned a national report that identifies barriers to lupus drug development and outlines strategies to overcome them.
- ▶ Established and published an international consensus definition of lupus flares to set new standards to measure changes in lupus disease activity.
- ▶ Collaborated with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to identify and validate clinical disease markers.
- ▶ Developed a Web-based training program for clinical investigators on using diagnostic tools to improve clinical trial outcomes.
- ▶ Established a consortium to analyze data from past clinical trials and improve future trial design.

“The LFA spurred millions of dollars to support the first-ever, comprehensive study to determine the incidence and prevalence of lupus in the U.S. This will lead to improved public policies, a better understanding of the disease impact, and additional research.”

— Dr. Sam Lim, Associate Professor of Medicine, Emory University



“The LFA research efforts are focused on advancing the cutting edge collective knowledge of lupus. We have been impressed by the quality of the peer-review process. The LFA adheres to the highest standards seen in other major funders of medical research such as NIH.”

– Wayne A. Barlin, Vice President, Wallace H. Coulter Foundation

FUNDING

The LFA research grant program provides direct funding to researchers and tackles the key scientific challenges identified by our panel of international lupus experts.

The grant program:

- ▶ Employs a rigorous, peer-review system to allocate dollars where they will be most effective, and;
- ▶ Supports promising areas of research that have not received adequate attention or funding.

When the LFA was founded in 1977, we recognized the need for more researchers to study lupus. By establishing a fellowship program we are fostering interest in lupus research among young investigators.

In recent years, we have seen many lupus scientific breakthroughs result from the LFA’s early grant awards. LFA-funded research grants provided seed money to researchers who first identified emerging and innovative scientific opportunities.

ADVOCATING

The LFA is dedicated to expanding investment in research and speaks as the leading and authoritative voice for those living with lupus.

Our advocacy efforts have:

- ▶ Stimulated millions of new dollars for medical research on lupus through federal and state government agencies.
- ▶ Supported greatly increased private investment in research and development of new treatments from pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.
- ▶ Activated new federal sources of funding for lupus awareness and education programs.

These efforts have complemented our own multi-million dollar research commitments. For each dollar donated to the LFA over the past four years, the LFA has stimulated more than \$2 in federal support for additional lupus research and education efforts.

LFA’S MEDICAL RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

We Focus on Promising Areas of Lupus Research Where There is a Gap in Understanding or Where There Has Been Insufficient Funding:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| • Adult Stem Cell Transplantation | • Compliance and Adherence | • Male Lupus | • Pediatric Lupus |
| • Biomarkers | • Diagnostic Criteria | • Mid-to-Late Stage Translational Research | • Pregnancy and Reproduction |
| • Cardiovascular Disease | • Environmental Triggers | • Lupus Nephritis | • Quality of Life |
| | • Epidemiology | • Neuropsychiatric Lupus | • Skin Lupus |



SUPPORT THE

Next Breakthrough

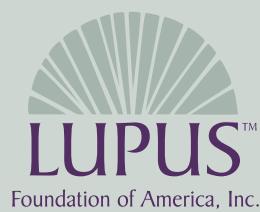
Your generous contribution enables us to continue our work to improve the quality of life of people living with lupus and search for the next lupus breakthrough. Help the LFA advance the science and medicine of lupus, improve treatment, and find a cure.

To speak to someone about making a donation or including the LFA in your will, please contact us at 202.349.1155.

To learn more about our research program or to find your local chapter, visit us at www.lupus.org.



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THE LUPUS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA (LFA) is the foremost national nonprofit health organization dedicated to finding the causes of and cure for lupus and providing support, services, and hope to all people affected by lupus.



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