



DISCOVERY

Pioneering discovery to cure lupus



July 31, 2014

Help Amplify Call for Better Access to Better Lupus Care

Be a Joiner - Make a Difference

Despite the benefits of the Affordable Healthcare Act (ACA) many patients still face **serious barriers** to accessing quality care. The Lupus Research Institute is among the 333 patient organizations that signed the “I am (Still) Essential” [letter](#) to Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Sylvia Mathews Burwell calling for immediate measures to improve how the Affordable Care Act is implemented in the coming year. Critical issues highlighted include: **restrictions to benefits, expensive co-payments for patients and difficult-to-understand plans.**

Greater access to quality care for people with lupus is a high priority for the LRI and our National Coalition of patient groups throughout the country. Please use the [LRI Legislative Action Center](#) to add your voice -- email your legislators in the House of Representatives about the need to **support the Patients' Access to Treatments Act (PATA), HR 460**. PATA is designed to **hold rising patient co-payment drug costs down and increase access to quality treatment.**

In addition, August is a perfect time to **meet with your legislators** to make them aware of lupus and issues important to lupus patients! While Congress is in recess for the month, your Senators and Representatives are often available to see constituents in their hometown offices. To prepare, here is a brief [webinar](#) and [toolkit](#) with background on the relevant issues for people with lupus and tips on how to advocate effectively.

Your visit could make the difference with a vote supporting the PATA bill and other legislation to increase research funding and improve treatment for lupus!

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for a life without lupus

About the Lupus Research Institute

The world's leading private supporter of innovative research in lupus, the LRI champions scientific risk-taking in the hunt for solutions to this complex and dangerous autoimmune disease.

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