



DISCOVERY

Transforming lives through innovation.



September 24, 2014



First Research Grants Awarded by New NIH Accelerating Medicines Partnership

*Alliance for Lupus Research and Lupus Research Institute Active Supporters to Improve
Treatments for Lupus Patients*

The **Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR)** and the **Lupus Research Institute (LRI)** are pleased to report the first milestone in the [Accelerating Medicines Partnership \(AMP\)](#) recently launched by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to accelerate understanding of autoimmune diseases lupus and rheumatoid arthritis (RA). The NIH has awarded **\$6 million in grants to 11 research groups** nationwide to establish the Accelerating Medicines Partnership in Rheumatoid Arthritis and Lupus (AMP RA/Lupus) Network.

“These awards represent the first phase of an unparalleled approach to identify pathways that are critical to disease progression in rheumatoid arthritis and lupus,” said NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.

Over the next five years, the AMP RA/Lupus Network will analyze tissues and blood samples from patients with lupus or RA to generate a comprehensive understanding of both diseases and uncover new targets for drug development. Valuable insights into the mechanisms of autoimmune disease are also anticipated.

A Common Goal

AMP is made possible by funding from NIH’s National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal

and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), several pharmaceutical companies and non-profit organizations in addition to contributions from the LRI and ALR.

“The new AMP RA/Lupus Network is an exceptionally robust group of top lupus investigators who bring strong synergies between clinical experience and expertise in cutting-edge technologies,” noted Margaret Dowd, President and CEO of the Lupus Research Institute. “The LRI appreciates the opportunity to represent the lupus research and patient community in collaboration with government and industry to accelerate innovation to deliver better, safer treatments.”

“The Accelerating Medicines Partnership is research funding at its best,” said Alliance for Lupus Research President Kenneth M. Farber. “The Alliance for Lupus Research is thrilled to be a part of a truly collegial initiative among government, industry and non-profit organizations. Such a partnership across these sectors to address the crucial need for better treatment options demonstrates the determination and focus of all involved to accelerate advances and improve the lives of people with lupus.”

[Click here](#) for the full press release from NIH with additional information about the AMP project.

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.

Lupus Research Institute

330 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1701, New York, NY 10001

T: 212.812.9881 F: 212.545.1843

e-mail: Lupus@LupusNY.org

LupusResearchInstitute.org | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)