



September 17, 2014

Get Into the Drive for Better Lupus Treatments!

Join the Hundreds Who Teamed Up at NYC's First Lupus Trials Fair Launched by the Lupus Research Institute



Expert Panel participants (left to right): Margaret Dowd, Lupus Research Institute; Dr. Richard Furie, North Shore LIJ Health System; Dr. Meggan Mackay, The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research



Over 200 patients, families, physicians and scientists came together under one roof Saturday to learn, interact and participate in the drive for better lupus treatments at New York City's first Lupus Trials Fair launched by the [Lupus Research Institute](#) (LRI) and the [S.L.E. Lupus Foundation](#).

In just a few hours, attendees interacted directly with researchers at eight of NYC's leading institutions -- sharing experiences, ideas and needs and learning about more than 80 opportunities to participate in studies needed to transform patient lives.

LRI President and CEO **Margaret Dowd** emphasized, "Everyone in the lupus community – patients, scientists, researchers, healthcare providers, bio-pharmaceutical industry – each plays a role if we are to develop safer, effective therapies while moving toward prevention and a cure. Only one drug has been approved for lupus in over 50 years. But now, with more promising treatments in development than ever before, we need all hands on deck to get them tested and approved. Lupus patients hold the greatest power to accelerate new drug development -- the perspective, engagement and leadership that makes the greatest difference. Without patient participation, there is no clinical research."

The NYC Lupus Trials Fair is the first of an expanded program planned in the country's major cities and high-population states through members of LRI's National Patient Coalition. Formed by patients and families, the Coalition now marks 10 years of successful advocacy, education, and fundraising for lupus research.



Hospital for Special Surgery Researcher Dr. Jane Salmon with a patient.

As additional Fairs are scheduled, announcements will be posted on [LupusTrials.org](#), the LRI's dedicated website for education on clinical research. The customized search tool on the

website helps patients find lupus studies that might be right for them to discuss with their physician.



Lupus patient **Kaamilah Gilyard** strongly encouraged others to get involved. “Participating in a clinical study makes me feel both hopeful and helpful. I know I’m doing something truly meaningful that could save my own life and the lives of so many others.

Join Kaamilah and the nationwide lupus community. Use the customized search tool on LupusTrials.org to find lupus studies and explore with your physician. Share your experience in a clinical trial on the LupusTrials.org website. Join the daily dialogue on our [Facebook page](#).

Everyone’s passion and commitment is critical as we stand on the brink of breakthroughs that can transform patients’ lives.

Click for the [full press release](#).

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

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