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LRI Joins Major New Collaboration to Understand Lupus Genetics

The Lupus Research Institute (LRI) will collaborate on important research to understand the genetics of lupus and to accelerate development of new treatments.

Spearheaded by personal genetics company [23andMe](#) in partnership with Pfizer Inc., the study will analyze the genetic make-up of thousands of people with lupus alongside their health history and environmental factors. The goal -- to uncover possible underlying genetic causes of lupus, specifically those associated with the onset, progression, severity and response to treatments.

“Research on human genetics has enormous potential to deliver information that can help improve lupus treatment,” said Margaret Dowd, President and CEO, Lupus Research Institute. “The more insights that researchers can gain, the faster better, safer drugs can be developed. We are pleased to represent the lupus community on the study Advisory Board.”

Success in Other Diseases Holds Hope for Lupus

23andMe has conducted similar genetic studies in other diseases with considerable success. For instance, over 10,000 people from around the world participated in a Parkinson’s disease project conducted with the Michael J. Fox Foundation and others that provided insights into how Parkinson’s affects men and women differently, and uncovered new genes associated with the disease.

Call for Patient Participation

“The innovative work 23andMe has done in Parkinson’s is very encouraging for patients with similarly challenging diseases like lupus,” continued Ms. Dowd. “Now we call on lupus patients as active partners in research studies like this as well as clinical trials needed to deliver new treatments that can change their future.”

[Click here](#) to learn more about the study and how you can join.



About the Lupus Research Institute

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