



Be the **ONE**

The Arthritis Foundation exists to conquer arthritis. And to conquer it, we must continue boldly leading the fight against this crippling disease.

The Arthritis Foundation is driven by a passion to support the arthritis community. We're committed to audaciously attacking arthritis and its debilitating effects.

We've played a key role in medical milestones that have significantly improved people's lives, including the development of biologic medications. Uniquely qualified to lead the arthritis community, we've identified four science initiatives that build on these successes and accelerate the translation of research into care.

Patient needs remain central to our important work, and each of these initiatives puts the patient front and center.

These innovative initiatives will require new funding from individuals and philanthropic partners. With your help, we can bring our ideas forward as part of the Arthritis Foundation's overall program of work to pursue a cure and ease the burdens of arthritis.

We urgently need to ease the burdens of arthritis.





4 Initiatives for Better Patient Outcomes

Everyone with arthritis will reap the benefits.

ADVANCING Osteoarthritis Treatment

1

Osteoarthritis (OA) affects **27 million adults** in the United States, causing chronic pain, serious disability and diminished quality of life. There are currently no approved disease-modifying treatments that halt the progression of OA, only therapies that temporarily relieve symptoms.

New treatments require an innovative approach. To help encourage investment in drug development, the Arthritis Foundation is continuing our pioneering work in research and regulatory affairs by spearheading formation of an OA center of excellence – a clinical research network that boldly creates the infrastructure necessary to coordinate an entire field of study in therapeutics. Contributors will provide expertise in biomarker advancement and clinical trial design, which will facilitate getting new diagnostics and treatments to market faster.

IMPACT: The process of turning a new discovery into a new therapy is long and expensive. As the Arthritis Foundation builds on our research and advocacy experience, we will reduce the barriers that prevent further drug development and investment in OA. Employing novel study designs and lowering administrative costs will encourage corporations to invest in OA treatments, where very little advancement has taken place in the past. Greater interest in the disease will lead to more research, faster trials and ultimately new therapies.

CONQUERING Childhood Arthritis

2

Juvenile arthritis (JA) and other childhood rheumatic diseases impact **300,000 families** nationwide. While effective drugs exist, doctors must use a trial-and-error approach that often prolongs disease progression and suffering.

For seven decades, the Arthritis Foundation has been the bedrock of support for the JA community. Today, we're bolstering research that compares the effectiveness of different treatments while giving young patients and their parents a voice in the process. Personalized medicine, based on proven science, will eliminate the trial-and-error approach. We believe new breakthroughs are just around the corner.

IMPACT: Our leadership and impact on the JA community have led families to ask educated and essential questions, like "Which drug is right for my child?" and "Are biologic medications safe in the long term?" To answer these questions and dig deeper into pediatric research, we will leverage the power of our partnership with CARRA (Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance). Together, our reach and impact can be much greater. We will continue building community connections to pediatric research while ensuring that issues patients and their families care most about are guiding the discovery process.

CULTIVATING a New Generation of Rheumatologists

3

Arthritis needs to be treated by specialists who understand this complex family of diseases. But nationwide, patient access to clinical care is complicated by shortages of rheumatologists – shortages that are distributed unequally across the country.

To close the gap, the Arthritis Foundation is designing programs that expand our clinical fellowship opportunities, attracting a new generation of specialists to the field. While other organizations offer clinical training, the Arthritis Foundation is the only organization to base our program on the needs of patients. Fellows produced by these programs will receive specific training opportunities stemming from feedback given by our patient community, and they will start their careers in rheumatology well connected to us.

IMPACT: With success, local markets can meet the demand for pediatric and adult rheumatologists in their communities. By supporting local training opportunities, we can bring much needed care as well as the skills demanded by patients.

IMPROVING Quality of Care

4

No one is more vested in patient care than patients themselves. While physicians gain expertise in many diseases, every patient becomes an invaluable expert in his or her own condition. Patients deserve the best outcomes possible, and the Arthritis Foundation believes that best outcomes come through enhancement of doctor-patient dialogue.

For decades, the record-keeping paradigm has asked patients to contribute data. But what would it look like if records not only pulled data from patients, but also pushed data back to patients, helping them analyze their own health? How would the next clinical visit look if patients and doctors could be forearmed with data not just from the last clinical visit, but also of trends experienced in between patient visits? The Arthritis Foundation is leading the way in establishing a learning health system that leverages existing registries of patients, resulting in improvements in quality of care and quality of life.

IMPACT: Health outcomes will improve, driven by the acknowledgment that the patient is the other expert in the room. For physicians, the system will offer the opportunity to compare health data that is both clinically derived and patient reported, promoting change and the adoption of best practices. Not only will outcomes improve for people with arthritis, but there will also be greater control of inflammation clinically, better self-management outside of the doctor's office, and both doctor and patient will gain more from each visit.



Impact Through Innovation

Achieving our objectives in each of these initiatives will make a tremendous, life-changing difference in millions of lives.

For the first time:

- There will be earlier, more accurate arthritis diagnoses and treatments.
- Personalized medicine, grounded in proven science, will eliminate trial-and-error.
- The patient voice will be routinely represented and taken into account as health care decisions are made.
- Gaps will be bridged between patients, providers and researchers, and silos within the medical arena will disappear.
- Patients will become better informed and better equipped to manage and control their disease.
- Patients won't have to miss as much school and work due to illness and costly, long-distance travel to see a specialist.
- Arthritis and related diseases won't drain our national economy and personal pocketbooks as much as they do today.

Progress made in each area will have a ripple effect that benefits everyone with arthritis. Let's make the first time happen now.

Be Our Partner in Progress

The Arthritis Foundation has the expertise, connections and organizational focus to bring these groundbreaking initiatives to life, building off successes we've already achieved. We have the knowledge, services and infrastructure in place to complement and strengthen the work ahead.

Philanthropic investments totaling \$15 million will launch these bold, life-changing projects.

With your support, we will mobilize resources and aggressively pursue new discoveries, building on our legacy as a powerful, transformative force in the quest to conquer arthritis. We are uniquely qualified to deliver the solutions patients urgently need. And you are the ONE who can help make it happen.

Be the ONE

One will lead the way. Can we count on you to help conquer arthritis?