



Alliance for Lupus Research

PREVENT. TREAT. CURE.

The mission of the Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR) is to find better treatments and ultimately prevent and cure lupus; a debilitating autoimmune disease, by supporting medical research. The ALR was founded in 1999 by Robert Wood Johnson IV, a member of the Johnson & Johnson family and owner of the New York Jets, after his daughter was diagnosed with the disease. Over the years the ALR has become the largest private funder of lupus research in the world.

In 2002 the ALR kicked off its signature national fundraising program, “Walk with Us to Cure Lupus” (ALR Walk). By the end of 2012, ALR Walk is expected to have raised over \$22 million to support the most aggressive and innovative lupus research the scientific community has to offer. Today, tens of thousands of volunteers from across the country have joined this grassroots effort. These dedicated individuals share their stories and their spirit, while raising awareness of the ALR mission.

Facts about the ALR

- ALR has given more money to lupus research than any non-governmental agency in the world. **By the end of 2012, the ALR will have committed over \$78 million to lupus research.**
- The ALR Board of Directors funds all administrative and fundraising costs, **100% of all donations raised goes directly to support lupus research programs.** The ALR uses a strategic business model in fundraising and employs a “venture capitalist” approach to fund innovative projects for rapid results.
- ALR-funded researchers are held to the highest standards: NIH-style peer-review to guarantee best projects are funded; stringent benchmarks, collaborative work and two year funding horizon to guarantee quick return on investment.
- Since 1999, the progress is clear: from no new treatments in decades, to several drugs in clinical trials. The ALR has been directly supportive of 12 of the agents currently in clinical trials.
- The ALR successfully initiated and organized the effort to include lupus as a disease eligible for funding under the Department of Defense (DOD) Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP). To date, lupus has continued to be one of the few diseases to have medical research funded by the DOD.
- In 2008, the ALR-funded International SLE Genetics Consortium (SLEGEN) announced their discovery of multiple genes linked to lupus. This historic finding is the first time direct genetic links have been associated with lupus.
- Looking back over the last several years, the ALR is proud of the many thousands of people across the country that have joined our quest for a cure by donating their time, voices, or dollars.

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