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SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION

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eLetter #563 | July 11, 2014

Charity Navigator Presents Scleroderma Foundation with Sixth Consecutive Four-Star Rating



The Scleroderma Foundation's sound fiscal management practices and commitment to accountability and transparency have again earned it a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. This is the sixth consecutive

year that the Foundation has earned this top distinction. Only 3 percent of the organizations that Charity Navigator reviews have earned six consecutive four-star evaluations. This indicates that the Scleroderma Foundation outperforms most other charities in America.

Since 2002, using data-driven analysis, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a four-star rating. In 2011, Charity Navigator added a second dimension of Accountability and Transparency (A&T) to its rating methodology, and now reviews 17 governance and ethical practices as well as measures of openness, and provides information on its website for each charity evaluated. The A&T metrics, which account for 50 percent of a charity's overall rating, reveal which charities have best practices to minimize the chance of unethical activities and whether they freely share basic information about their organization with their donors and stakeholders.

[Read the letter from Charity Navigator's CEO Ken Berger announcing this achievement >>](#)

[View the Scleroderma Foundation's analysis here >>](#)

Webinar: Understanding Interstitial Lung Disease in Systemic Sclerosis

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As part of "Scleroderma Week at the ATS" and in conjunction with PAR partner the Scleroderma Foundation, the American Thoracic Society (ATS) presented a live webinar entitled, "Understanding Interstitial Lung Disease in Systemic Sclerosis" hosted by Tracy Frech, MD, MS of the University of Utah. The webinar is now available to view for free on the ATS website.

[Click here to watch the webinar >>](#)



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Take Heart When Learning About Rheumatic Diseases



Rheumatic diseases are much more than simple aches and pains. Chronic joint pain is often associated with rheumatic diseases, but rheumatic diseases can also cause damage to vital organs including the heart. Learn how several rheumatic diseases impact the heart from the American College of Rheumatology website.

[Read the entire release at Rheumatology.org >>](#)

How to Make a Loved One's Time in the Hospital Easier for Everyone



A hospital stay, whether unexpected or not, is hard on everyone involved. It's important to know how to make a hospital stay as smooth and painless as possible. You may have more control over the situation than you think.

[Read the article at LifeHacker.com >>](#)

Disclaimer: The Scleroderma Foundation in no way endorses any drugs, treatments, clinical trials, or studies reported in the eLetter. Information is provided to keep the readers informed. Because the manifestations and severity of scleroderma vary among individuals, personalized medical management is essential. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that all drugs and treatments be discussed with the reader's physician(s) for proper evaluation and treatment.



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