# Sjögren's Foundation 2024 National Patient Conference

# Conquering Sjögren's Together – 40 Years of Progress!

## Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm (ET) Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm (ET)

he Sjögren's Foundation invites you to join us for our 2024 National Patient Conference! The Sjögren's Foundation is celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year, and we are excited to take this opportunity to bring you a new conference experience. This year's event is a two-day virtual event using a new and improved conference platform. You can expect a richer, more dynamic, virtual conference experience with more sessions and opportunities to connect!

Sjögren's is different for every person diagnosed, which is why educating yourself on the most up-to-date information about this disease is so important. This conference will allow both new and seasoned patients to increase their understanding of the complexities of Sjögren's, connect with fellow patients and learn new daily living tips by:

- Learning from national Sjögren's experts on both foundational and complex symptom topics
- Connecting with other patients in our new patient communities
- Visiting with exhibitors and product representatives in new virtual booths

During the main stage clinical sessions, you will learn from leading Sjögren's experts and you will have opportunities to ask them questions, in real time, right from the comfort of your own home. This has always been a popular cornerstone of the conference experience and treasured by past participants. This year, we are adding a special community session on Friday afternoon to allow an additional opportunity for Q & A with a Sjögren's expert.



Register online at www.sjogrens.org



### "Conquering Sjögren's Together- 40 Years of Progress"

## Day one – Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> (All times are Eastern Time)

#### 12:30pm Welcome and Opening Remarks

Janet E. Church Sjögren's Foundation President & CEO

#### 12:40pm Sjögren's Overview



#### Thomas Grader-Beck, MD

Dr. Grader-Beck will present a comprehensive review of Sjögren's disease including the range of symptoms that patients experience. He will give special attention to the difficulties that can be encountered in diagnosis and symptom issues not covered by other conference

presentations. In addition, he will offer thoughts on labs needed for best care and what to consider for monitoring and managing your disease.

#### 1:30pm Oral Manifestations in Sjögren's



#### Vidya Sankar, DMD, MHS

Understanding the daily care needed to minimize the impact on your oral health is critical for Sjögren's patients as approximately 93% of patients report they experience symptoms associated with dry mouth. Dr. Sankar will cover the range of issues that can be caused by dry mouth and

offer recommendations for successful management.

#### 2:10pm Exhibit Hall Open!

Take a break and visit our exhibit hall to talk with company representatives to learn about our sponsors and how they support Sjögren's patients!

#### 2:40pm Headaches in Sjögren's



#### Arun Varadhachary, MD, PhD

Headaches in Sjögren's patients are a common occurrence, but not all headaches are the same. Dr. Varadhachary will present the different types of headaches and highlight some of the most common triggers. He will also discuss management and treatment strategies for finding relief.

#### 3:20pm Foundation Update



Janet Church will help us celebrate the Sjögren's Foundation's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and discuss the exciting projects the Foundation is managing to ensure that Sjögren's work is moving forward to conquer the complexities of Sjögren's.

#### 3:50pm Community Connections!

Join one of our virtual conference communities and visit with other Sjögren's patients to connect, share and learn!

#### 4:20pm Childhood Sjögren's



Children living with Sjögren's will often present differently than adults. Dr. Sara Stern, pediatric rheumatologist and co-chair of the International Childhood Sjögren's Workgroup, will do an overview of childhood Sjögren's and give an update on research that

is happening through the workgroup and what that can mean for pediatric patients.

4:50pm Day One Wrap-up

## **QUESTIONS?**

Please visit our National Patient Conference page at www.sjogrens.org or call 301-530-4420

Register online at www.sjogrens.org





## Day two – Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> (All times are Eastern Time)

#### 12:30pm Opening Remarks & Awards Ceremony

Janet E. Church Sjögren's Foundation President & CEO

#### 1:00pm The Engaged and Empowered Patient Panel

#### Susan Barajas, Tammy Dodson, Allissa Latham, Robyn Laukien

Learning about your disease and understanding your symptoms is a necessity for Sjögren's patients. The more you know, the more empowered you will be in your role as a partner in your care! Our panel of patients from the Sjögren's Foundation Board of Directors will share their experiences advocating for their own health and how they have become engaged and empowered patients.

#### 1:30pm Ocular Manifestations in Sjögren's



#### Sezen Karakus, MD

Approximately 98% of Sjögren's patients experience dry eye. Dr. Karakus will share how Sjögren's impacts the eyes and what you need to know to protect your eyes, an understanding of the tests your doctor may perform and the treatment available. She will also share what you should know

about preparing for eye surgery and how to treat your eyes postoperation. Lastly, she will inform you about the relationship between Sjögren's and the corneal nerve along with current research findings.

#### 2:10pm Exhibit Hall Open!

Take a break and visit our exhibit hall to talk with company representatives to learn about our sponsors and how they support Sjögren's patients!

#### 2:40pm Healthy Sexual Function Throughout Life's Stages



#### Cuoghi Edens, MD

Vaginal dryness, yeast infections, pregnancy concerns and vaginal atrophy are topics many Sjögren's patients avoid talking about, but these symptoms are something female patients will likely consider at different stages of their life. Dr. Cuoghi Edens will lead us through these delicate topics with ease and leave you feeling informed and comfortable about taking charge of your sexual and reproductive health.

#### 3:20pm Fetal Heart Block Overview



#### Jill Buyon, MD

Pregnancy is a concerning topic for many Sjögren's patients in childbearing years. As a follow-up to Dr. Edens talk on sexual function, Dr. Jill Buyon will spend a short time discussing fetal heart block and the Stop Bloq Initiative.

#### 3:35pm Community Connections!

Join one of our virtual conference communities and visit with other Sjögren's patients to connect, share and learn!

#### 4:00pm Dermatology Issues in Sjögren's



#### Natalie Wright, MD

Dr. Wright will share a general overview of skin issues commonly associated with Sjögren's including dry skin, atopic dermatitis and purpura. In addition, she will visit topics of Raynaud's, hair loss and other less common dermatology issues patients may experience. She will also touch on when

you should engage your care team and treatments that can help you manage your dermatology issues.

#### 4:40pm What's on the Horizon in Sjögren's?



#### Darise Farris, PhD

Remarkable things are happening in Sjögren's! There is so much hope for the future with all we are learning! Dr. Farris will share currently active research projects and what we hope to learn to improve the diagnosis and treatment of Sjögren's patients.

5:10pm Conference Recap and Closing Remarks

*Janet E. Church* Sjögren's Foundation President & CEO

5:30pm Conference Adjourns





## **Registration Form**

Registrant				
Name				
Street Address				
City		State	Zip	
Telephone	_ E-mail			

FEES -	please	check	appro	priate	fee
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Members: \$80 If registering online, you must use discount	Member	Non-Member
code emailed to all members to receive discount	\$80.00	\$100.00
Non-Members: \$100		

3	<ul> <li>PAYMENT – Mail to Sjögren's Foundation, 10701 Parkridge Blvd., Suite 170, Reston, VA 20191</li> <li>Enclosed is a check or money order (in U.S. funds only, drawn on a U.S. bank, net of all bank charges) payable to Sjögren's Foundation.</li> </ul>				
	🖵 MasterCard 📮 VISA 📮 Discover 📮 AmEx				
	Card Number	Exp. Date	CC Security Code		
	Signature				

## QUESTIONS? Call 301-530-4420 or visit www.sjogrens.org



## Please Note

Registrants must have a device with internet access to join the conference. Recorded videos of each lecture will be available to registrants for 90 days after the conference.



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