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# The Sjögren's Foundation 2025 National Patient Conference Connect, Learn and Thrive!

Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> –12:30 pm - 5:00 pm (ET) Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> –12:30 pm - 4:30 pm (ET)

he Sjögren's Foundation invites you to join us for an exciting and empowering two-day virtual experience at the 2025 National Patient Conference! This year on April 11th and 12th we will come together to connect and learn so you can thrive while living with Sjögren's!

The National Patient Conference is the Sjögren's Foundation's largest educational event, bringing together patients and talented medical experts to provide the latest information on Sjögren's disease. This virtual event allows you to participate from the comfort of your home while still benefiting from live expert sessions, Q&As, and patient community connections.

This year's event will cover:

- Our foundational program, An Overview of Sjögren's
- Oral and ocular management
- Management of overlapping autoimmune diseases

- How Sjögren's disease affects your ears, nose & throat and nervous system
- What's happening in childhood Sjögren's
- Latest Sjögren's research and what we are learning about different patient profiles and genetics

A popular cornerstone of the Sjögren's Foundation conference experience is the chance to have your questions answered by experts. At the end of our clinical sessions, you will have the opportunity to ask our speakers questions about their presentation topics. We are also excited to announce that we will be bringing back the popular "Chat with a Doc" session with Dr. Donald Thomas for one hour on both Friday and Saturday!

We look forward to you joining us where you can connect with other Sjögren's patients, learn from experts and gain the knowledge to thrive with your Sjögren's disease!



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# 2025 National Patient Conference

# Day one – Friday, April 11<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



#### Brandon Law, MD

Dr. Law 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 occur in diagnosis and the symptom presentations not covered in the other conference presentations.

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



#### Michael Brennan, DDS

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 and report that dental care is the

largest medical expense. Dr. Brennan will cover the range of issues that can be caused by dry mouth and offer recommendations for successful management.

# 2:10pm Exhibit Hall Open!

Attendees can visit our exhibit hall and talk with company representatives from our sponsors to learn how they support Sjögren's patients!

# 2:30pm Sjögren's and the Ears, Nose and Throat



#### Nadia Mohyuddin, MD, FACS

Dr. Mohyuddin will discuss the effects Sjögren's can have on the ears, nose and throat along with options for alleviating symptoms and preventing complications.

# 3:10pm Foundation Update



Janet Church will discuss the exciting mission-focused work at the Foundation. The Sjögren's field is advancing and moving forward quickly! Learn how the Foundation is meeting the challenge to ensure patients' needs are met!

# 3:30pm Community Connections!

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

#### 3:30pm Chat with a Doc- Day one



#### Donald Thomas, MD, FACP, FACR

This session runs for one hour, concurrent to other programming. Dr. Thomas will answer general questions about Sjögren's that may not be covered by other speakers. This session is not a private chat area and personal medical advice will not be given.

# 4:00pm Understanding Public Policy and Advocacy Efforts



#### Eli Greenspan

The Foundation's advocacy expert will join us to discuss how public policy works and how our advocacy efforts can help shape these policies. In addition, he will share highlights of the Foundation's advocacy efforts and how patients can get involved.

#### 4:20pm Managing Overlapping Autoimmune Diseases



#### Daniel Wallace, MD, FACP, MACR

Polyautoimmunity is not uncommon for Sjögren's patients. Multiple sources have reported that over half of Sjögren's patients experience more than one autoimmune disease. In this session, Dr. Wallace will focus on the more common autoimmune diseases that may accompany Sjögren's including,

lupus, rheumatoid arthritis and scleroderma. He will also present ideas for managing overlapping diseases as well as share how to recognize signs of onset of another autoimmune disease.

5:00pm Day one Wrap up



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# Day two – Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> (All times are Eastern Time)

#### 12:30pm Opening Remarks

Janet E. Church Sjögren's Foundation President & CEO

#### 12:35pm Childhood Sjögren's



#### Scott Lieberman, MD, PhD

Children living with Sjögren's will often present differently than adults. Dr. Lieberman will provide an overview of childhood Sjögren's and give an update on research that is happening through the international childhood Sjögren's workgroup.

# 1:05pm Ocular Manifestations in Sjögren's



#### Lee Guo, OD

Approximately 98% of Sjögren's patients experience dry eye. In this session, Dr. Guo will share how Sjögren's impacts the eyes and what you need to know to manage dryness and protect your eyes. Understand the tests that your doctor may perform

and the available treatments to help keep your eyes as healthy as possible.

# 1:45pm Exhibit Hall Open!

Take a break and visit our exhibit hall to talk with company representatives and learn more about our great sponsors!

# 2:05pm Your Neurological System and Sjögren's



#### Brent Goodman, MD

As we learn more about the neurological manifestations of Sjögren's it becomes more apparent that there is a strong neurological component. In this session Dr. Goodman will discuss the Central, Autonomic and Peripheral Nervous Systems and the role

they play in Sjögren's. You will also receive a glimpse into the upcoming clinical practice guidelines for neurology.

# 2:45pm Community Connections!

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

Donald Thomas, MD, FACP, FACR

#### 2:45pm Chat with a Doc- Day two



#### This session runs for one hour, concurrent to other programming. Dr. Thomas will answer general questions about Sjögren's that may not be covered by other speakers. This session is not a private chat area and personal medical advice will not be given.

# 3:15pm Understanding Endotypes & Patient Profiles in Sjögren's



#### Sara McCoy, MD, PhD

We know that Sjögren's is a heterogenous disease and that patients present symptoms differently. In this session, Dr. McCoy will share research studies that show different patient profiles (endotypes) and why this matters for disease diagnosis, management and treatment.

#### 3:45pm What We Know about Genetics and Sjögren's



#### Christopher Lessard, PhD

Remarkable things are happening in Sjögren's and genetics! In this session, Dr. Chris Lessard will discuss the ongoing Sjögren's genetic research at Oklahoma Medical Research Foundations' Gene & Human Disease Research Program.

#### 4:15pm Conference Recap and Closing Remarks

Janet E. Church Sjögren's Foundation President & CEO



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