



2016 Lupus Insight Prize Awarded to Dr. Ann Marshak-Rothstein *Innovative Project to Pursue Cause and Improved Treatment of Cutaneous Lupus*

BOSTON, MA (June 23, 2016) – The 2016 Lupus Insight Prize was presented today to Ann Marshak-Rothstein, MD, Chief, Rheumatology, UMass Memorial Medical Center and Professor of Medicine and Cell Biology, University of Massachusetts Medical School for a project with great promise in improving treatment for lupus nephritis. The award was announced at [FOCIS 2016](#), the 16th Annual Meeting of the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies.

The Lupus Insight Prize is a collaborative initiative among the [Alliance for Lupus Research \(ALR\)](#), the [Lupus Foundation of America \(LFA\)](#) and the [Lupus Research Institute \(LRI\)](#). The \$200,000 Prize recognizes a major, novel insight and/or discovery that has the promise of changing thinking about lupus as well as a high likelihood of generating further advances in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

Unprecedented Project Aims to Improve Treatment of Cutaneous Lupus

The Lupus Insight Prize will enable Dr. Marshak-Rothstein to research cutaneous lupus erythematosus (CLE), an autoimmune disease that targets connective tissue, including the skin.

“Looking at the disease symptoms in mice, we will be able to investigate the role of two specific Toll-like receptors, TLR9 and TLR 7, on different types of cells,” explained Dr. Marshak-Rothstein. “We will explore why the skin is attacked by the body’s immune system and evaluate potential new CLE therapies. We will also research the role of UV radiation damage to determine the connection between sun exposure and CLE.”

About Lupus

Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation and tissue damage to virtually any organ system in the body. The health effects of lupus can include heart attacks, strokes, seizures, organ failure and possible death. By the most conservative estimates, there are at least 322,000 Americans with definite or probable lupus, with independent surveys suggesting an estimated 1.5 million people affected.

For more information visit LupusInsightPrize.org.

For More Information about the Funding Organizations:

[Alliance for Lupus Research](#)

[Lupus Foundation of America](#)

[Lupus Research Institute](#)

About FOCIS

FOCIS exists to improve human health through immunology by fostering interdisciplinary approaches to understand and treat immune-based diseases.

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