

**Pre-Conference Announcement**

**Lupus Seminar Co-Sponsored by the  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'  
Office on Women's Health**

**A Call to Action:  
Addressing the Healthcare and Wellness Needs of Women Living with Lupus:  
Epidemiology, Treatment and Care, and the Call for a National Lupus Action  
Plan**

**For Presentation at the**

**Third National Leadership Summit  
On Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health  
A Blueprint for Change Conference**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Women's Health, the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the Office on Minority Health, and the Health Resources and Services Administration will sponsor a "call to action" seminar at the "Third National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health, A Blueprint for Change" conference. This conference is hosted by the Office on Minority Health, HHS on Saturday, February 25, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Gaylord Conference Center in Oxon Hill, MD.

This seminar, A Call to Action: Addressing the Healthcare and Wellness Needs of Women Living with Lupus: The Epidemiology, Treatment and Care, and the Call for a National Lupus Action Plan seminar will address the following issues:

- (1) The current state of Lupus in the lives of women living with Lupus;
- (2) A review of the current care and treatment for Lupus patients;
- (3) Strategies to involve health care providers in becoming more aware of Lupus;
- (4) Addressing issues, challenges, and successes of advocacy groups in the area of Lupus awareness, funding, research, treatment, support, and ultimate cure of Lupus; and,
- (5) The leadership role HHS can provide for improved treatments, research, funding, and advocacy for the cure and awareness of Lupus.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Participants will be able to identify the basic signs and symptoms of Lupus and increase their knowledge base.
2. Community/Faith-based organizations will be able to apply the knowledge learned in the sessions to expand Lupus programs and services.
3. Participants will be able to ask the right questions of their providers to ensure that they are evaluated effectively if they suspect they might have Lupus.
4. Health care providers will be more aware of Lupus and more pro-active in testing for Lupus.
5. Public health officials and policy advisors will be more sensitive to the needs of Lupus patients.

**Seminar Outcomes:**

1. Providing a comprehensive set of recommendations to the Office on Women's Health's Lupus Working Group to develop a Call to Action to develop a National Action Plan to address issues of disparities in the healthcare and wellness of women living with Lupus.
2. Publication of a Call to Action document identifying the actions needed to comprehensively address disparities in the health care and wellness issues for women living with Lupus.