

# Grow Rheumatology Research Funding

91 million Americans live with arthritis & other rheumatic diseases, but until this year, there was only one federal research program dedicated to arthritis.

Arthritis is the:

- #1 cause of disability in the United States.
- #2 cause of medical discharge from the U.S. armed services (after battlefield wounds). It affects one-third of servicemembers. For veterans, it is even more prevalent and also the leading cause of disability.

Beneficiaries of rheumatology research include **60 million adults** and **300,000 children** with doctor-diagnosed arthritis in the United States.

AMERICAN COLLEGE  
of RHEUMATOLOGY  
*Empowering Rheumatology Professionals*



# Greetings!

**UNTIL FY 2024, THE CDC HAD THE ONLY** dedicated federal arthritis research program. Now, the DoD has added funding to address the disproportionate impact of arthritis on servicemembers. As the leading cause of disability, arthritis is impacting all Americans, and ***Congress should invest more in research dedicated to rheumatic disease.***

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TO:

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