



Sarcoma Awareness Month Call to Action

Make your voice heard during Sarcoma Awareness Month! With the sarcoma community coming together during July to support sarcoma awareness, this is a perfect time to use our collective voices to tell Congress about the needs of sarcoma patients and survivors.

You can make a difference by emailing your legislators and sharing with them why the sarcoma community needs more resources. We've made it easy for you to reach out with a sample email and details on how you can identify and find contact information for your Senators and Representative. Email your Congressperson to tell them why we need them to pay attention to the needs of the sarcoma community. The goal is to introduce them to the sarcoma community, impress upon them the need for more resources, especially federal research funding, and encourage them to become a champion for our issues.

Tips and Tricks

Tell them you are a constituent. Be sure to let them know that you live in their state or district. Members of Congress are most responsive to the concerns and needs of their constituents.

Make it personal. Make your email stand out by telling them why you care about the needs of the sarcoma community. A personalized email is more compelling and gets more attention from busy Congressional staff. Include a few brief details about how you are connected (patient, survivor, caregiver) and why this is so important to you personally. The sample language that we have provided can be customized by you to make it come from your own voice!

Keep it brief. Legislators and their staff hear from hundreds of people every day on a large and diverse range of issues. Their time is limited, so it is important to keep your email brief and to the point.

Find Your Member of Congress

United States Senate: <https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact>

United States House of Representatives: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

Sample Email

As your constituent, I am writing to you during Sarcoma Awareness month to introduce you to the needs of the sarcoma community. I ask you to consider becoming a champion for this rare disease that does not receive enough attention.

Sarcoma is a cancer of soft tissue and bone with at least 50 subtypes of sarcoma, with the potential for the existence of more than 100 subtypes. While the disease is considered rare in adults, comprising just 1 percent of all adult cancers, it is rather prevalent in children, making up approximately 20 percent of all childhood cancers. Because sarcomas are commonly hidden deep in the body, it is often diagnosed at a later stage when it is more difficult to treat. There are few treatment options for sarcoma and an extreme need for new therapies.

Unfortunately, federal dollars for sarcoma research are greatly limited. A minimal amount of the National Cancer Institute or the Department of Defense's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs funds have been dedicated to sarcoma research. Without more research funding, sarcoma will continue to lag behind other cancers that are seeing innovative breakthroughs and advancements in therapies.

Sarcoma patients, survivors, and their families need leaders like you to help in our efforts to spur more research, leading to much needed treatments.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further.