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## **New Grant Encourages Advancement in Pediatric Psoriasis Research**

**Portland, Ore. (December 6, 2017)** —The [National Psoriasis Foundation \(NPF\)](#), in collaboration with the [Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance \(PeDRA\)](#), announces the 2018 [Pediatric Psoriasis Challenge Grant](#), to foster advancement in pediatric psoriasis research. The grant, which consists of as many as two \$75,000 awards, encourages the advancement of innovative research in pediatric psoriasis and supports projects that address any aspect of the disease, including cause, diagnosis, treatment options and related comorbidities.

“A psoriasis diagnosis can be devastating for anyone; however, our youngest patient population faces the most challenges,” said Michael Siegel, Ph.D., senior vice president of research and clinical affairs, NPF. “This grant aims to fund research that will lead to solutions that minimize the burden of psoriasis and enable children living with the disease to thrive and ultimately realize an improved quality of life.”

Pediatric psoriasis carries dynamic challenges that can influence children physically, socially and emotionally, affecting their overall quality of life. Additionally, managing pediatric psoriasis can be tricky, as there are still fewer approved therapies available for treating pediatric patients than there are for adults.

“We are thrilled to align with patients and the NPF on advancing pediatric studies, and to be able to leverage our strong research network for this important initiative,” said Sheila Rittenberg, executive director, PeDRA.

Psoriasis is more than skin deep. According to a study published in the British Journal of Dermatology, the overall rate of comorbid medical conditions in pediatric patients under the age of 20 is double that of their peers who do not have psoriasis. Children with psoriasis are at higher risk for a range of cardiovascular and metabolic comorbidities, especially obesity, as well as dyslipidemia, diabetes, and hypertension. Of equal importance, pediatric patients may suffer from poor self-esteem, depression and anxiety, which can persist into adulthood.

Staying true to its mission of finding a cure for psoriatic disease and improving the lives of those affected, NPF has awarded more than \$17 million in research grants and fellowships to date. With this grant, NPF continues to fund and promote research into psoriatic disease and related

comorbidities. To learn more about the 2018 Pediatric Psoriasis Challenge Grant visit:

[www.psoriasis.org/grants](http://www.psoriasis.org/grants)

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Over the last 50 years, the [National Psoriasis Foundation](#) (NPF) has become the world's leading nonprofit patient advocacy organization fighting for individuals with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. NPF leads this fight by driving efforts for a cure and improving the lives of the more than 8 million Americans affected by this chronic disease. To date, NPF has funded more than \$17 million in research grants and fellowships, and [to commemorate 50 years](#), NPF plans to raise an additional \$2 million for early scientific career research programs in 2017 alone. Each year, NPF strives to support, educate and advocate on behalf of more individuals living with or caring for someone with the disease than ever before. As part of that effort, NPF established the [Patient Navigation Center](#) to offer personalized assistance to everyone with psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis. [Join our community today](#) and help drive discovery and create community for all living with psoriatic disease.