

Charity: Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK

Area Covered: National

Charity Number: 1161828.

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About the Charity:

Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK is the only charity dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by Scleroderma and Raynaud's. We exist to improve awareness and understanding of these conditions, to support those affected, and ultimately to find a cure.

We receive no funding from large organisations or government bodies and we are entirely reliant upon the generosity of our community and organisations like yours. Without the hard work of our supporters and institutions we would not be able to continue the life-changing work we do across the country.

Our most crucial resource is access to people, and the opportunity to be amongst your players and supporters, in order to fundraise and raise awareness, would be invaluable for our yearly fundraising actions. The conditions are very poorly known across the UK, with 4% of people having heard of Raynaud's and only 1% of people having heard of Scleroderma. Having a public presence for the charity is essential to improving that public awareness.

Despite the low awareness, Raynaud's affects 1 in 6 of us. For people affected, the small blood vessels in the extremities are over-sensitive to changes in temperature or stress. This causes a Raynaud's attack, where the fingers can change colour from white, to blue, to red. A Raynaud's attack can be a very uncomfortable, possibly painful, process. It can also make everyday tasks, like buttoning a jacket or unzipping a purse, very difficult.

Scleroderma can be a devastating condition, not only to the individual diagnosed but also to family and friends. Scleroderma is a rare autoimmune condition, which means the body is attacking itself by overproducing collagen, causing hardening and scarring to the skin and internal organs. 'Normal' life can become a struggle and the simplest of tasks can become impossible as the condition reduces normal function of affected areas. Scleroderma has no cure, it is a life limiting condition and can be life threatening.

Mission Statement:

The mission of Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK is to provide educational and emotional support for those with Raynaud's and scleroderma and their families. SRUK is committed to increasing awareness of these potentially devastating conditions and raising money for essential research in order to determine cause, enhance treatment and ultimately find a cure.