Melanoma Awareness Month: Ways to Get Involved

The Melanoma Research Alliance has an exciting month of activities planned for Melanoma Awareness Month.

May 9, 2025 By Melanoma Research Alliance

Melanoma Awareness Month, held each May, is an occasion to connect and be in community with others who have been touched by melanoma. With this month brings the opportunity to join forces with other melanoma advocates to raise awareness of melanoma research, the importance of early detection, and the many ways to practice sun safety.

The Melanoma Research Alliance has an exciting month of activities planned for Melanoma Awareness Month - and we hope you can join us! Read more to learn about all the ways you can get involved and make a difference next month.

Join MRA this Melanoma Awareness Month:

SPF: Save, Protect, Fund Melanoma Research

This Melanoma Awareness Month, SPF takes on a new meaning: Save, Protect, Fund Melanoma Research. Every new gift to the Melanoma Research Alliance in May will be matched, and 100% of donations go directly to life-saving research. Double your impact and help fund breakthroughs. Together, we can stop melanoma.

As always - 100% of every donation made to MRA goes directly to research, without administrative, development, or other fees, because of the ongoing generosity of our founders! MRA has been recognized with Charity Navigator’s Highest Four-Star Rating, and MRA also maintains a Platinum Seal of Transparency on Guidestar.

Donate today and double your impact!

MRA to Announce 2025 Research Grantees: May 1st

In recognition of Melanoma Awareness Month, MRA, the largest non-profit funder of melanoma research, will announce its 2025 grantee cohort. MRA-funded investigators represent the brightest minds working to advance melanoma prevention, timely diagnosis, and treatment.

2025 funding focus areas will include: Rare Melanomas; Metastasis and Leptomeningeal Disease; Neoadjuvant/Adjuvant Treatments; Enhancing Anti-Tumor Immune Responses; & Improving Diagnostic, Predictive, and Prognostic Biomarkers!

Stay tuned for the announcement, which will be shared first on MRA's blog!

Ask the Expert: All Things Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocyte (TIL) Therapy

MRA recently sat down with Dr. Stephanie Goff, senior research physician in the Center for Cancer Research at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), to discuss future research directions in TIL therapy. Now through May 2nd, Dr. Goff is answering questions about TIL therapy in the Melanoma > Exchange! Head on over to ask Dr. Goff your questions.

Breaking New Ground in the Fight Against Cancer

MRA's Chief Executive Officer Dr. Marc Hurlbert is joining a panel of experts on Tuesday, May 6th at 11:30 AM PT as part of the Milken Institute's 2025 Global Conference for a panel discussion titled, "Breaking New Ground in the Fight Against Cancer."

Cancer continues to be one of the leading causes of death worldwide. By 2040, the number of new cancer cases is expected to reach nearly 30 million. With rapid advances in science and technology, invasive methods for diagnosing and surveilling cancers are being supplanted by innovative, non-invasive methods like liquid biopsy. How might these technologies disrupt current practices? This panel of experts will offer a look into the innovations on the horizon and a prediction of how these innovations will affect the future of cancer care.

MRA Meet-Up with Dermatologist Dr. David Polsky and Patient Advocate J.D. Durkin

We invite you to join our Melanoma Awareness Month Meet-Up on Wednesday, May 7th at 5:00 PM ET for an exciting session, "Early Detection, Remote Telemedicine, and AI." This online panel discussioin will feature dermatologist Dr. David Polsky of NYU Langone and patient advocate and journalist J.D. Durkin. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and connect with experts and peers.

Register for the webinar today!

Weekly Giveaways on MRA's Instagram Page

MRA is thrilled to be working with so many incredible brands focused on promoting sun safety, melanoma awareness, and research. Head on over to our Instagram page every week for a chance to win an MRA SPF Society bag full of goodies from our amazing parners! Here's who we are working with this Melanoma Awareness Month:

- Bimini Bay Outfitters

- Daily Shade
- L'Oréal: La Roche Posay & CeraVe
- Mama Sol
- Melan
- SOL LABS
- Sqween
- Toadfish
- WATSKIN

Melanoma Story Swap

We are inviting all those touched by melanoma to join us on May 14th at 7PM ET for the opportunity to share your story, hear from others, and make lasting connections.

*Registration is highly encouraged.

Register today!

Coming Soon: Ask the Expert: Prediction and Prevention

Dermatologist Dr. Allan Halpern of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center joined MRA at our 2025 Melanoma > Exchange Patient Forum in February. He gave a spectacular talk on the power of AI in melanoma detection, and now he will be answering your questions in the Melanoma > Exchange community on Inspire from May 19th-23rd.

Watch his talk and make sure to join the Melanoma > Exchange so you don't miss his Ask the Expert segment!

Take the Eye Patch Challenge!

May is also Ocular Melanoma Awareness Month - a time to shine a light on this rare but serious melanoma subtype - and our friends at Eye on Grace Foundation are spearheading the Eye Patch Challenge! Learn more about the challenge below and be a part of the movement!

Don't Fry Day

The National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention has designated the Friday before Memorial Day - May 23rd - as "Don't Fry Day" to raise awareness of skin cancer prevention and to encourage everyone to protect their skin as they head outdoors to kick off the summer season.

Join us in promoting this important campaign within your own community with the easy-to-use

Don’t Fry Day toolkit! The toolkit includes dozens of messages, images, infographics and more that you can use on your own social media and beyond.

Access the Don’t Fry Day Toolkit.

Become an Advocate!

Want to get even more involved with MRA this Melanoma Awareness Month? There are several ways to stay connected!

- Advocate Interest Form: MRA greatly values the voice of Patient Advocates, and we invite you to join our efforts. Get started by letting us know how you might like to contribute (webinars, events, focus groups, editorial, etc.).
- Use the Tool Kit: MRA created a toolkit for advocates to use this Melanoma Awareness Month and beyond. Explore more about MRA, melanoma facts and figures, social media graphics, and more!
- Send in a Video: We are collecting video testimonials from the melanoma community about what research meants to YOU. Add your voice to our campaign and you might be featured on our social media.

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http://beta.docker.cancerhealth.com/blog/melanoma-awareness-month-2025-ways-get-involved