

GENERAL INFORMATION

Who attends the conference?

Anyone affected by or with a family member affected by Juvenile Dermatomyositis and Juvenile Polymyositis is invited. Extended families will often attend together, bringing parents, children, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. There are activities at the conference for everyone. We expect more than 100 Cure JM Families and 50-70 Medical Professionals from around the world to attend.

Conference highlights:

- Parents of JM patients will enjoy social time to connect and educational sessions.
- Grandparents and extended family of JM patients have their own sessions and activities and are also welcome to attend any sessions they wish. Grandparents often attend even if their family cannot attend.
- Kids aged 3-9 enjoy their own activities in a supervised kids' camp and form life-long friendships while the parents are attending sessions. This includes all children, including siblings.
- Tweens aged 10-12 enjoy their own fun camp and are invited to the Teen Photography Workshop
- Teens aged 13-17 enjoy their own activities, including some age-appropriate sessions for JM patients. Teens and tweens may attend all, or as few of the sessions as they wish, it is up to each teen and parent to decide what is best for their family.
- Adult Patients aged 18+ will have their own activities, including coffee meetups and other social time.

How do I register for the conference?

There are three things to do to register:

1. Register for the conference at https://whova.com/portal/registration/cjfc_202306/
2. Book your hotel room in the Cure JM block at: Link Coming Soon
3. Register for the 8 th Annual Walk Strong to Cure JM D.C. at <http://events.curejm.org/walkstrongDC>

Where will the conference activities take place?

Gaithersburg Marriott Washingtonian Center – Lakeside 1 & 2, Salons D, E, F & G
9751 Washingtonian Blvd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

What costs should I expect?

- Conference: Thanks to generous underwriters and donors, Cure JM is able to offer this conference at a minimal cost of \$125 per adult, age 18+. Children and teens under 18 are complimentary.
- Hotel: Each family will reserve and pay for their own hotel room. Rooms in the Cure JM Block are \$139 per night plus tax.

• Food:

- Friday – A dinner buffet will be provided Friday night during the meet-and-greet.
- Saturday - Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner are provided, as well as snacks throughout the day. There are also stores and restaurants within walking distance and at the hotel. There will be coffee and light pastries during the General Session on Saturday morning.
- Sunday - Morning snacks are provided at the Walk Strong to Cure JM family walk, but families may want to purchase breakfast and lunch at nearby restaurants and shops.

A full list of area restaurants and shops is listed at <https://www.curejm.org/2023-cure-jm-national-family-conference/>

If you have special circumstances or would like more information about the costs of the conference, please contact us at conference@curejm.org.

What is the “dress” for the conference?

The Cure JM conference is a family-friendly event and is fairly casual. Most families will wear either casual or business casual attire for the weekend. For the celebration dinner on Saturday night, many families will choose to wear business casual or business attire, but this is not required. On Sunday, for the Walk Strong to Cure JM, most families will wear their “Walk Strong” T-shirt that will be provided, a Cure JM T-shirt, or a “Team Shirt” for their walk team (such as “Team Chase” team shirts or “Cure for Clara” shirts). Photos from past events are at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/curejm/albums/72157709233229857>

Is this a family-friendly conference?

Yes! The conference is a family-friendly weekend focused on Cure JM’s mission to find a cure for JM and improve the lives of families coping with JM. Cure JM’s leadership team is made up of patients, parents, grandparents, and friends of JM patients, and we know the challenges that can come with this disease. The conference is intended to be 100% family-friendly. Caregivers are free to manage the weekend however needed for their family, including breaks, rest time, medication breaks, etc. Please contact us at conference@curejm.org if you would like to discuss this further.