



Dear Cure JM Families and Friends,

Today I am more optimistic about better treatments coming online for children with JM than ever before.

I just returned from the American College of Rheumatology National Conference, where I met with representatives from two pharmaceutical companies enrolling patients for new drug trials for myositis. Our partners at the National Institutes of Health are preparing three additional drug trials; one is already fully enrolled.

Cure JM's Center of Excellence at George Washington University announced the successful results of a JM clinical trial for the drug abatacept, where nine in ten patients saw significant measurable improvement after 24 weeks. This trial and others would not have been possible without the direct support Cure JM, and our families have provided to JM doctors and researchers through the Giving Tuesday Holiday Challenge.

I simply cannot thank you enough for that support.

Children with JM face innumerable challenges. I know I don't need to tell you that. And while Cure JM's great progress in funding better treatments, better medical care, and better outcomes are important milestones of success, there is so much more to be done.

This year Cure JM will provide more funding than ever before to premier research institutions in the U.S. and abroad. We are investing in the next generation of brilliant young researchers. We've created the Clinical Care Network with the goal of developing and further improving medical care in every corner of the country and beyond.

But it breaks my heart that every time a promising research project goes unfunded because we simply don't have the resources. Often significant breakthroughs come from unexpected places. We should leave no stone unturned.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your dedication to Cure JM and the Holiday Challenge as we approach the BIG DAY--Giving Tuesday--on November 29. You and other Cure JM families are the reason we have the quality care that we have today. Yet there is so much more to be done. We won't rest in our quest for better treatments, fewer side effects, and a CURE for our kids.

With appreciation,

Jim

Jim Minow  
Executive Director

P.S. To have your gift matched, visit [www.curejm.org/give](http://www.curejm.org/give). Your gift will fund promising research and help leave no stone unturned for children living with juvenile myositis.