



THE RESEARCH PROCESS

The Rheumatology Research Foundation is the largest private funding source of rheumatology research and training in the United States. This research has transformed the lives of many patients and continues to today.

Learn more at: rheumlab.org



1

All research begins with the same thing: an idea.



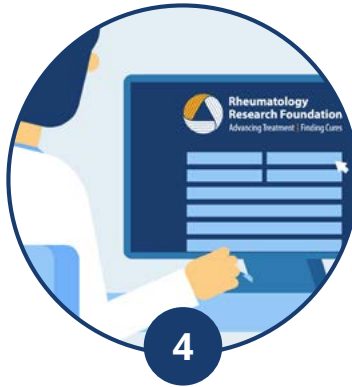
2

A researcher identifies a problem, hypothesis and potential solution.



3

Funding is needed to investigate rheumatic diseases, their causes and treatments.



4

To be considered for funding, a researcher applies for an award.



5

The Foundation uses a rigorous peer-review process to fund the best science.



6

Funding has allowed researchers to find causes and risk factors for many rheumatic diseases.



7

Researchers can better understand the progression of diseases.



8

Patients can also play a more active role in their care decisions.