The role of steroids and related drugs. “Many patients are treated with these types of drugs, yet we still don’t know whether steroids and antioxidants are effective. PANTHER will answer these questions once and for all, but only if patients enroll in this trial,” said Dr. Jesse Roman, professor and chair of the department of medicine at the University of Louisville and chair of the IPFnet Education Committee.

The second trial being conducted by the IPFnet is called ACE. The ACE trial will explore the effectiveness of anticoagulants in treating IPF based on published data suggesting a role for coagulation in lung fibrogenesis. ACE was designed to test the benefits of this intervention. “Well-designed clinical trials are being conducted in search of safe and effective treatments for IPF, but patient involvement in these trials is crucial for their success,” said Dr. Imre Noth, of the University of Chicago.

The new trials, PANTHER and ACE, are currently enrolling patients. To enroll patients or learn more, visit the IPFnet Web site (www.IPFnet.org) or contact the IPFnet site closest to your geographic location.

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HGS AND GSK ARE JOINING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST LUPUS

The devastating effects of lupus are felt by patients and their families and healthcare providers alike. This has inspired the alliance between Human Genome Sciences and GlaxoSmithKline. Together, HGS and GSK are pursuing a deeper understanding of lupus, working with everyone involved, from the research lab to the physicians.

By working together, we can take our commitment further in the fight against lupus.