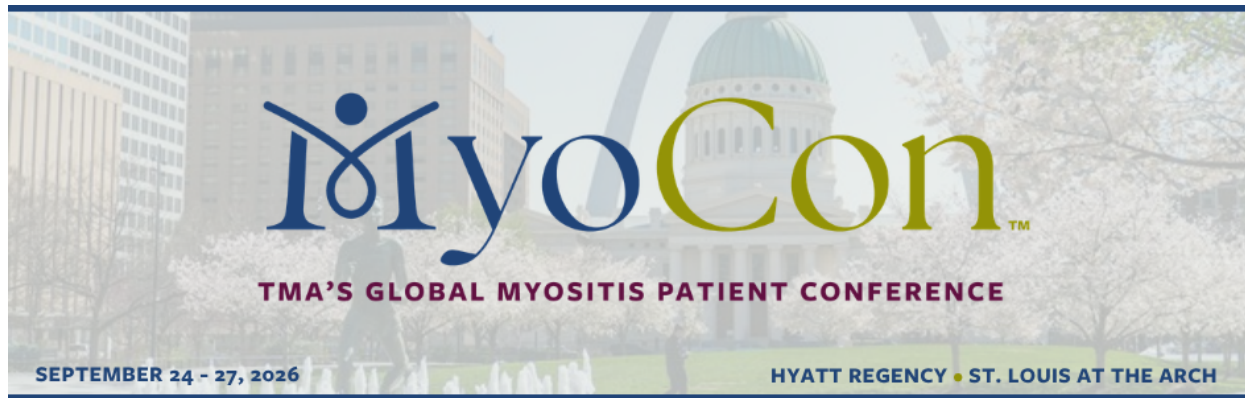




Registered Attendees: Get Ready for MyoCon

MyoCon 2026 is almost here! Registered attendees can now download the Yapp app for real-time conference updates, schedule details, reminders, and important onsite information.

This is also the time to finish planning your MyoCon experience. Be sure to secure your ticket to Heroes in the Fight and sign up for optional St. Louis excursions as soon as possible. Excursions are filling quickly and are expected to sell out. **Download the app, reserve your spots, and get ready for St. Louis!**



Download the Official MyoCon 2026 App

Registered MyoCon 2026 attendees can now download the official conference app through Yapp. To install the app, scan the QR code above or visit <https://my.yapp.us/MYOCON26> on your smartphone and follow the on-screen instructions. It's a quick, two-step process.

Already have the Yapp app installed? Tap "Add an Existing Yapp" or the green "+" button in the top right corner. When asked for the Yapp ID, enter MYOCON26, then press Enter on your device's keyboard or tap "Next."



Get Your Tickets for Heroes in the Fight

Join us during MyoCon 2026 for Heroes in the Fight, a special evening celebrating leadership, resilience, science, and care in the myositis community.

This meaningful awards celebration honors the patients, care partners, researchers, clinicians, and community leaders helping move us closer to a world without myositis. The evening includes a reception and dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. CT on Saturday, September 26.

Heroes in the Fight requires a separate ticket, so be sure to add yours as you make your MyoCon plans. We look forward to celebrating with you in St. Louis.

[Heroes in the Fight Awards Celebration Tickets](#)



2026 St. Louis Excursions

TMA is excited to bring back our optional field trips for those who want to expand their MyoCon experience while in St. Louis.

- Excursion registration is required, and is separate from conference registration. Each excursion is limited to 40 attendees. We do expect excursions to sell out.
- Only attendees who have registered for the conference are eligible to register for excursions.
- Excursions may be canceled for a refund until Friday, August 29. After that date, no refunds will be provided.

Accessibility Information

- Each excursion includes a tour component. This requires active participation (walking, wheeling, or similar).
- Each charter bus has a lift for boarding and can accommodate two passengers riding in their wheelchairs. Additional wheelchairs, walkers, or other mobility devices can be stored in the baggage area of the bus.
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires transportation operators to offer bus lifts with a minimum design load of 600 pounds and a platform that accommodates wheelchairs measuring 30 inches by 48 inches. The buses are ADA compliant, however due to weight and size, power scooters or motorized wheelchairs cannot be taken on the buses.

Busch Stadium, Home of the St. Louis Cardinals

Thursday, September 24, 2026

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Includes bus loading and transportation time.

Cost: \$35

Visit significant spots in Busch Stadium, home of the St. Louis Cardinals, and learn more about the legacy of the stadium and team from an experienced guide. The St. Louis Cardinals opened their new 46,000 seat retro-style downtown ballpark in April 2006. This tour is a one-hour guided experience that includes stops in the UMB Champions Club, the Redbird Club, the Broadcast Booth, and the Warning Track/Dugout (when available). The tour starts with a one-hour self-guided visit to the Cardinals Museum where staff members will be available to answer questions. The museum's seven galleries are a chronological journey through the rich history of the Cardinals, learning about the birth of the franchise, reliving special memories and interacting with great exhibits. Both the tour and the museum are handicapped accessible.

The Economy Museum at the St. Louis Federal Reserve

Thursday, September 24, 2026

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

The museum is 0.2 miles, a 5-minute walk, from the hotel. No transportation will be provided.

Cost: \$15

This 100+ year old building houses the award-winning Economy Museum at the St. Louis Federal Reserve. The tour will immerse you in a one-of-a-kind experience that explores the economy and money in a fun and interactive way. With over 100 exhibits, games and displays, visitors can explore zones to learn in an interactive way. Zones include topics such as the **Eighth District, You and the Economy, and The Vault**. The museum is on the first-floor level. More details will be sent upon registration.

NEW EXHIBIT ALERT! The Economy Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis recently debuted a currency case exhibit featuring select authentic silver and gold certificates from the St. Louis Fed's currency collection.

SOLD OUT: Washington University in St. Louis
The Jeffrey T. Fort Neuroscience Research Building (Fort Labs)

Friday, September 25, 2026

8:00 am – 12 noon

Includes bus loading and transportation time.

Register for Your Excursion Today

Mark Your Calendar Today!



MyoCon Orientation
Session

MyoCon Virtual Session Conference Orientation & Getting Acquainted @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm EDT

Join us for this virtual "Know Before You Go" session designed to help you feel confident and connected before you arrive in St. Louis.

We'll begin with a quick conference overview, including what to expect onsite, how to navigate the schedule, and tips for making the most of MyoCon.

Then, attendees will join small breakout rooms by diagnosis type to meet others with the same myositis subtype before arriving in St. Louis.

Bring your questions and leave feeling more prepared, connected, and confident for MyoCon 2026.



Conference Volunteer
Sign-Up

Conference Buddy and Volunteer Sign-Up Deadlines

There is still time to sign up for a Conference Buddy or volunteer onsite at MyoCon 2026.

A Conference Buddy gives attendees a friendly, familiar face before and during the conference. If you're new to MyoCon, you can request a buddy, and if you've attended before, we invite you to sign up to be a buddy for someone else.

Onsite volunteers also help make MyoCon run smoothly by greeting attendees, serving as room ambassadors, and supporting the conference experience. Both opportunities use the same sign-up form.

♥ **Volunteer role sign-ups close Sept. 10.**



Myositis &
Motherhood

Myositis and Motherhood: What to Expect Across Pregnancy, Birth & Postpartum hosted by TMA Women of Color Affinity Group @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EDT

Growing your family while living with myositis can raise many questions about pregnancy, medications, delivery, postpartum recovery, flares, fatigue, and caregiving. This session will offer practical guidance for family planning, pregnancy, birth, and postpartum life, with tips for working with your care team at each stage.

To join this session, **register for MyoCon 2026** in person or **order the recordings** and you will receive the invitation to join all virtual pre-and post-conference content!

Plan Your Trip

Before you pack your bags, here are a few helpful travel details for your MyoCon trip.

- [Host City](#)
- [Know Before You Go](#)
- [The Hotel](#)
- [Getting to the Hotel](#)
- [Restaurants/Dining](#)
- [Power Wheelchair, Scooter, Bed Lift Rentals](#)
- [Pharmacies](#)

Plan Your MyoCon 2026 Trip



Clinical Trials Move Forward One Careful Step at a Time

If you've been following developments in myositis research, you've probably heard recent news that Novartis and Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) have **paused certain clinical trials of experimental CAR T-cell therapies** for autoimmune diseases, including idiopathic inflammatory myopathies (IIM). While headlines about trial pauses can

[Read More](#)

sound concerning, this is how the clinical research process is designed to work.

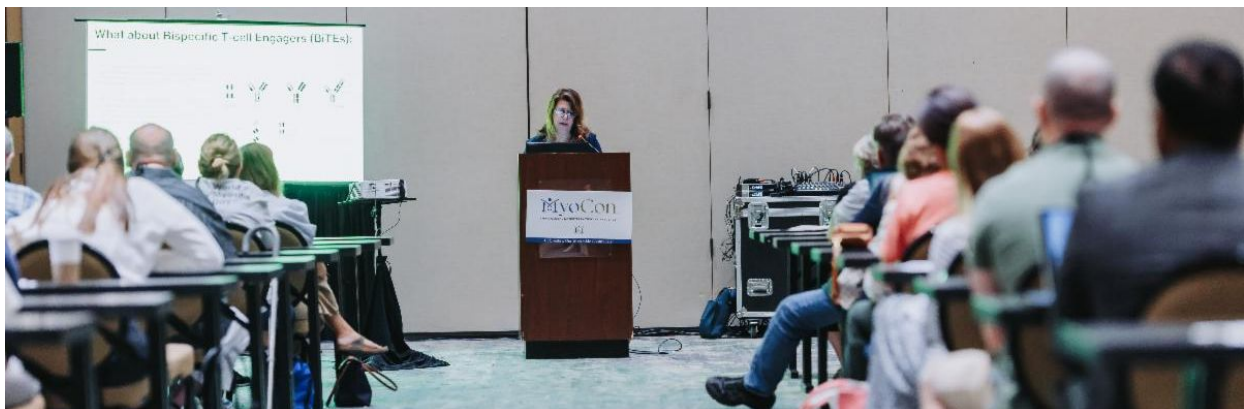
Clinical Trials Sessions at MyoCon

This year's conference includes three sessions dedicated to clinical trials in myositis. Leading global researchers in two breakout sessions will present the current state of myositis studies, and discuss what may be on the horizon for the field. An additional session will feature patients who have participated in clinical trials sharing their real-world experiences. This educational content is especially timely given the recent announcements from **Abcuro, argenx, Priovant, Novartis, and Bristol Myers Squibb**.

Clinical trials are an important part of the process for bringing new medications and treatments to the market for use by patients. Frequently, this research requires participation by patients who are willing to be test subjects to determine if a new drug or other therapy is safe for use by humans, has the intended effect on the disease, and what adverse effects might arise.

Cell therapy represents an exciting new direction for the treatment of autoimmune conditions like myositis. Many clinical trial programs for different cell therapies are underway, and some potentially promising data has been published. Much is still unknown about these treatments, however, including long-term impact; how durable the therapeutic effects may be; and if there are unexpected effects. Those who may consider participating in a cell therapy clinical trial should proceed with a great deal of caution and ask as many questions as necessary to be sure they are comfortable with all the possible downsides of the trial.

Novartis recently announced a pause on its clinical trials in myositis after three cases of life-threatening immune reaction. BMS has also paused its myositis trial. These pauses give investigators, regulators, and trial sponsors an important window to fully evaluate the available information, understand what occurred, and determine the appropriate path forward for the AUTOGRAPH and Breakfree-1 clinical trials in myositis. Establishing safety is the utmost priority in a trial, along with determining efficacy.



[Learn More or Ask Questions Directly of Experts](#)

at MyoCon in the Following Sessions

Clinical Trials in Myositis: From Trial Design to Results

Saturday, 1:30-2:30 pm

- Julie Paik, MD, MHS – Associate Professor of Rheumatology, Johns Hopkins University; Director of Clinical Trials and Co-director, Johns Hopkins Myositis Center; Chair, TMA Medical Advisory Board

Clinical trials are the gold standard for testing new medications for safety and effectiveness. Learn more about the myositis trials currently enrolling, which may improve patients' quality of life and better control disease activity. Are you thinking about screening for a trial? Do you want to catch up on the latest data? Are you looking for news about drug development in myositis? Don't miss this session, delivered by TMA's Medical Advisory Board Chair and Director of Clinical Trials at the Johns Hopkins Myositis Center.

Real Talk on Myositis Studies from Clinical Trial Participants

Saturday, 9:30-10:30 am

- Bennett Chamberlain
- Joe Feidt
- Lindsay Guentzel
- Malati Shinazy

Participating in a clinical trial is a way to contribute to research that advances new therapies, develops new knowledge that improves our understanding of disease, and can give access to cutting-edge treatment options. This session will help members of the myositis community better understand what participation in a clinical trial may entail, offering a unique opportunity to learn directly from speakers who live with myositis and have enrolled in a clinical study. Each panelist has participated in an interventional trial used to assess whether a certain drug was effective for their form of myositis. Direct insights will be offered on the full spectrum of trial participation, from qualifying for a trial to interacting with trial investigators. Learn more about informed consent, study sponsors, study site processes, placebo control, post-trial follow-up, and more.

The Evolving Landscape of Cellular Therapies for Myositis

Sunday 8:30-9:30 am

- Anahit C. Mehrabyan, MD – Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Neuromuscular Disorders, Department of Neurology University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Elie Naddaf, MD – Associate Professor of Neurology, Mayo Clinic; Vice Chair, TMA Medical Advisory Board
- Julie Paik, MD, MHS – Associate Professor of Rheumatology, Johns Hopkins University; Director of Clinical Trials and Co-director, Johns Hopkins Myositis Center; Chair, TMA Medical Advisory Board
- Guillermo J. Valenzuela, MD, F.A.C.R. – Medical Director, Integral Rheumatology & Immunology Specialists and IRIS Research and Development; Past President, Florida Society of Rheumatology

This physician panel will discuss different types of non-stem cell therapies being studied for myositis, highlighting their therapeutic targets and potential clinical benefits. Learn about CAR T-cell and CAR natural killer (NK)-cell therapies, and about cell therapy targets from CD19 chimeric antigen receptor (CD19 CAR) to B-cell maturation antigen (BCMA). Panelists will discuss safety and risk versus benefit, autologous and allogeneic therapies, and review ongoing clinical trials. Designed to contextualize this rapidly progressing science, the session will close with a peek at combined therapy approaches and the future of cell therapies for severe autoimmune disease.

Be sure to visit the MyoCon 2026 Yapp App for full session details, conference schedule, updates and more!

As always, thank you for being part of *our* myositis community. We can't wait to see *you* in St. Louis!



THE MYOSITIS ASSOCIATION

Connect with us!



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