

## Become Involved!

Membership in TARA never costs. However, your donation helps to defray the costs associated with running TARA. There are brochures, mailings, web-service, conference fees, educational materials to name but a few. Consider supporting TARA with contribution. Your contribution in any amount will be greatly appreciated.

- \$25  
 \$50  
 \$100  
 \$500  
 \$1,000  
 Other Amount \_\_\_\_\_

You may wish to make a special contribution in memory of or in tribute to: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Remembrances acknowledged without disclosure of gift amount.

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Your Full Name

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Make Check or Money order Payable to:

TARA

2030 County Line Rd. Suite 199

Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

All contributions are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowable by law.

## What is Takayasu's Arteritis?

Takayasu's Arteritis (TA) is an rare form of vasculitis. Inflammation damages large and medium-sized blood vessels. The vessels most commonly affected are the branches of the aorta, including the blood vessels that supply blood to the arms and travel through the neck to provide blood to the brain. The aorta itself is also often affected. Arteries that provide blood flow to the heart, intestines, kidneys and legs may be involved.

Inflammation of large blood vessels may cause segments of the vessels to weaken and stretch, resulting in an aneurysm. Vessels can also become narrowed or even completely blocked (called an occlusion).

The cause of Takayasu's Arteritis is unknown and there is currently no known cure for this rare disease.



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# Takayasu's Arteritis Research Associations



[www.takayasus.org](http://www.takayasus.org)

## What is the Takayasu's Arteritis Research Association?

The Takayasu's Arteritis Research Association (TARA), is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) voluntary health organization established in the United States in 1999 to seek out and advocate for people who have Takayasu's Arteritis (TA). Tara is funded primarily by the generosity of its members, their relatives, and friends.

The goal of TARA is to promote public awareness about this disease by providing current information to patients, families, friends and medical professionals and helping to facilitate avenues of funding for research on TA, seeking new ways of early detection of the disease, better treatments of TA and, finding a cure for Takayasu's Arteritis.

TARA has located patients all over the world, including, England, Canada, Brazil, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and all over the United States. There many are others out there with this disease that we have yet to find.

## What does TARA do?

TARA programs include:

Securing funds and funding research into better diagnostic, better, less

toxic treatments and curing Takayasu's Arteritis.

Maintaining a web site that provides patient-oriented information on Takayasu's Arteritis, which includes a bulletin board where patients can share their questions about and experiences with this disease;

Publishing a newsletter that provides articles on coping skills, patient empowerment, and the latest in relevant research;

Distributing a variety of patient-oriented education publications.

Promoting a Keep-in-Touch (KIT) program, which provides an avenue for patient-to-patient communication within a member's geographic region when possible.

Sponsoring conferences where leading medical professionals and researchers speak on the nature of this disease, current research efforts, treatments, and coping with a chronic illness.

From Congress to state legislatures, from community hospitals to hundreds of national organizations, TARA with your help will be the leader in efforts to advance Takayasu's Arteritis up the research ladder through advocacy, research and education, in hopes of reducing the human suffering, both physically and emotionally, as well as the economic toll of this disease.

## What is advocacy?

Advocacy is the act of educating others about an issue, supporting/defending a cause and recommending an action.

## Advocacy is important to you!

Public advocacy allows individuals and groups to be heard by their members of Congress and to truly make a difference. Your signatures, letters and time are what will capture the attention of your Members of Congress. With your help, our goals to find better diagnostic tools, better less toxic treatments and eventually wipe out Takayasu's Arteritis can be achieved through educational efforts aimed not only at patients their families, friends and medical providers, but also at our legislators.

The Takayasu's Arteritis educational message is simple and powerful: Action is needed to curb this devastating disease. We need to encourage increased research and education to prevent, diagnose and treat Takayasu's Arteritis in a timely fashion. We need additional funding for Takayasu's Arteritis research. While this is a simple message, results are achieved when many voices are heard. We need your help! You and TARA can make a difference.

Please Join TARA Today at :  
[www.takayasus.org](http://www.takayasus.org)