



Dear (insert HCP name)

On behalf of the Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (CPFF), I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to a new Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) Patient Education and Support Group Toolkit developed by the CPFF in consultation with a medical steering committee. The development of the toolkit was made possible through a grant from InterMune Canada, Inc.

Although many patients living with IPF have limited mobility, hindering their motivation to stay active or participate in everyday activities, the CPFF is looking to identify patients who are self-advocates, seeking to learn more about their disease and overcome the mental and physical obstacles associated with IPF. Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) is a disease characterized by progressive scarring, or fibrosis, of the lungs. A diagnosis of IPF often has patients and their caregivers scrambling to learn about the condition, how to manage the condition and how to access patient support resources and treatment. Patients and their caregivers often feel isolated. Those patients affected by IPF may not physically be in a position to advocate and it falls upon caregivers and loved ones to be their advocate. These key patients and caregivers have the ability to strengthen the IPF community by example, reaching out to others affected by IPF. In order to develop a stronger community, it is imperative to educate and identify these motivated patients, and empower them to work with other patients.

This toolkit provides health care professionals and willing patients or caregivers, the resources to begin a grassroots IPF patient education and support network in their community. In addition to providing tools to develop support groups, the toolkit materials also provide information to assist patients and healthcare providers in their day-to-day interactions. Workshops can be held in person at a treatment centre / community venue, or virtually via teleconference or webinar, based on the personal preference of the workshop leader and the mobility of the participants. Toolkits are available by mail or online at www.cpff.ca as downloadable workshop modules

To successfully launch this initiative, the CPFF is looking to engage active, community-based, first-line health care professionals to lead the initial IPF patient education and support workshops. Through advocacy we hope to draw attention to this devastating disease. Within these workshops, we hope to identify leaders in the IPF community to continue this program. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in identifying possible healthcare professionals or active IPF patients and caregivers who would be willing to work with us to introduce this program to other patients.

Thank you for considering this request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,

Robert Davidson,
President, Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
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The Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation is a registered Foundation established to provide hope and support for those effected by Pulmonary Fibrosis. The CPFF is a not-for-profit charitable organization, established to realize three objectives in the battle against Pulmonary Fibrosis, raise funds to finance research to better understand, develop treatment and find a cure for Pulmonary Fibrosis, raise public awareness about this fatal disease and offer support to those effected by Pulmonary Fibrosis. The CPFF will work closely with the medical community and with your support we will develop treatment, find a cure, build awareness and provide much needed support to all effected by Pulmonary Fibrosis.