The National Psoriasis Foundation
Urges All Members of Congress to Take Action in 2015 to
Support Americans with Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis

Specifically, the Foundation calls upon Members of Congress to:

1. **Sign the FY 2016 Psoriatic Disease Appropriations Sign-On Letter**
   This request seeks to address two significant needs of the psoriatic disease community by:
   
   1) Allocating **$1.2 million at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to fill needed data gaps** and to advance the public health agenda that was issued two years ago; and
   
   2) Supporting greater education and awareness of healthcare providers about psoriatic arthritis to reduce delays in diagnosis and treatment and to improve the quality of clinical care provided.

2. **Cosponsor H.R. 1600, the Patients’ Access to Treatment Act (PATA) Bill**
   This bipartisan legislation, introduced in the House by Rep. David McKinley (R-WV) and Lois Caps (D-CA), will help make specialty therapeutics – a category that includes a number of psoriatic disease treatments – more accessible by limiting the amount of out-of-pocket costs insurers can charge for such treatments.

   PATA had 142 cosponsors in the 113th Congress, demonstrating very strong bipartisan support behind this issue.

3. **Allocate Funding for Medical Research at the National Institutes of Health**
   A vibrant and appropriately funded NIH is critical to achieving the breakthroughs in research that are necessary to develop innovations in treatment and therapies for thousands of diseases, including psoriatic disease.

   The National Psoriasis Foundation supports the Ad Hoc Committee for Medical Research’s Recommendation that **at least $32 billion be allocated to NIH in FY 2016**.

   The National Psoriasis Foundation thanks members of Congress for their support and stands ready to work with all elected officials to advance policies and programs that will help find a cure for psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis and eliminate the devastating effects of psoriatic disease.

   For more information, please contact Quardricos Driskell, Health Policy Manager, at qdriskell@psoriasis.org.