Marcella Snow is thankful for advances made in the treatment of psoriasis. For the past three years, the 58-year-old woman from Rushton, La., has found relief using a self-injectable biologic medication. Even so, Snow, who has plaque and scalp psoriasis, is hopeful that a cure will be found someday.

“Things have gotten better using a biologic, but I really don’t like taking something that increases my chances for some kinds of cancers,” she says. “That’s why I am for more research.”

While her two grown children and her two grandchildren, ages 2 and 4, haven’t shown signs of the disease, Snow would also like to see a cure found because she knows it’s possible that one or more of her family members could one day develop psoriasis as well. She doesn’t want them to have to endure what she has since first noticing scalp flaking in her 20s.

Though she knows psoriasis isn’t life-threatening, still, it can be quite uncomfortable. “It itches—I spend a lot of time scratching. To cope with the plaque psoriasis on her legs, she keeps her legs covered always.

Like many people living with psoriatic disease, Snow doesn’t talk about her disease all that often. “I really don’t get to talk with people with psoriasis. I know of one man who has it.” She recalls earlier days when she would avoid going to the beauty shop because she was tired of being asked, “What’s wrong with your scalp?” Now she keeps her hair long.

Snow doesn’t dwell on her disease, though. She appreciates the positive parts of her life, including her children, grandchildren and her recently retired husband. A part-time lactation consultant, she also enjoys volunteer work in her community.

Snow hopes that sharing her story will help to educate others. She believes that more awareness will create a greater push for continued research, and, one day, a cure.