

# CSRO FELLOWS CONFERENCE: 2016

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# CSRO History

**2003**

11 State Rheumatology leaders met in Washington, DC spoke to Congress and successfully advocated for equitable reimbursement of in-office infusible biologics.

The Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations was subsequently formed

CSRO Mission: To advocate for rheumatology care at the Federal level and to establish State rheumatology societies to advocate on their own behalf at home.

# CSRO Activities

- First national rheumatology organization to hire full-time representation on Capitol Hill. Through Hart Hlth Strategies we advocate to the Administration, Congress, FDA, HHS & other Federal Health Agencies
- Formed State societies keeping them current on key legislative and regulatory issues impacting their patients. There is now an annual meeting of State Society leaders each September.
- We provide education and support to other Advocacy groups including the Arthritis Foundation, Global Healthy Living Foundation, Psoriasis Foundation, Lupus Foundation and others.

# CSRO Activities

- We are members of the Alliance of Specialty Medicine, promoting sound federal healthcare policies for specialty practitioners.
- Several years ago, we asked WJ Weiser to help us manage many of our advocacy efforts. As a result, we're now able to maintain real-time contact with our State members & provide them up-to-date info re Legislative issues that impact their patients.
- We established NORM, the National Organization of Rheumatology Managers in 2005.

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...and that brings us back to you.