UPMC Scleroderma Center Information

How should I prepare for my first clinic visit?

We can give you the best advice if we can review all of your medical records pertinent to scleroderma before your visit. Working to ensure that your records are received prior to your first patient visit is the most important way to prepare for your visit. They should be received a minimum of three days prior to your visit. For this purpose, we will send you one or more “release of information” forms to give to your physicians’ offices. We are particularly interested in the results of:

- ANA and other scleroderma-related antibody testing
- Chest x-ray and high resolution CT scan of lungs
- Pulmonary function tests (PFTs)
- Echocardiogram, EKG and stress tests
- X-rays (barium swallow) or motility tests of the esophagus
- Stomach emptying tests and small intestinal x-rays
- Reports of endoscopies (scoping) of the esophagus and/or stomach
- Recent routine laboratory tests (blood counts, chemistries, thyroid tests, urinalysis)
- Scleroderma-related hospital discharge summaries, consultation notes or letters from rheumatologists or specialists which refer to scleroderma complications
- CDs containing CT scans, other x-rays, or echocardiograms

Please do not “hand carry” your medical records as we will not have time to review them before or during your visit. This may limit our ability to provide you with the best recommendations at the time of your visit.