



## **“Who will give me the ANSWERS?”**

**This was the anguished question our volunteer, “Jacqui,” kept asking** – we were at a medical conference to help educate doctors from around the world about endo –

**she was in pain**, 2 surgeries in 9 months (one with an expert), taking too many painkillers, not able to sit comfortably, not comfortable standing either. **Jacqui was in emotional pain too** – wanting to become pregnant (though far too sick for a healthy pregnancy or to care for a baby)

**Like Jacqui, we all want ANSWERS!!! – and we want and expect that doctors will give them to us...**

**Jacqui didn’t like my response**, based on 32 years of experience, starting with being bedridden with endometriosis and related health problems myself:

## **YOU !**

**YOU – with the help of Association resources and others with endo – you will give yourself the answers...**as Jacqui did, in her case, with Traditional Chinese Medicine, acupuncture, and massage, giving her relief so she can start to think about putting her life back together and to consider her options.

**The parents I talked with today didn’t like my response either –**

their daughter, mid-30s, in pain with urination, with bowel movements, etc., etc., etc.... -- would also like to have children. The parents had a list of doctors they’d drawn up, wanting my opinion on each one...I explained –

**how individual the disease is in each woman** (and that most will make the best decision given good information, support, and resources) and

**that when you choose a physician you’re usually also choosing your treatment**

for instance, if you choose a surgeon, you will likely end up with surgery

if you choose a doctor who favors hormonal treatments, that’s likely what you’ll get

**No one lays out a real smorgasbord of options –**

first, there aren’t a lot of options: gyns really only have 2 tools – surgery and hormones

second, few refer to others with more expertise or to other specialties

**We really can’t expect them to have answers for a disease that is much more than simply a gyn disease or simply misplaced tissue...**

**With your support, the Association has made huge progress**

- our **Chronic Pain Research Alliance** has built momentum in Washington to give greater priority to the pain conditions of women
- our **powerful** **Journal of Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology** motivates physicians to care for teens
- our **4 books, brochures in 30 languages**, a website and Facebook used by tens of thousands
- **stunning new research from our Vanderbilt team shows that endo can be passed along from both the father’s and the mother’s side. This effect lasts for generations!**
- **high quality private-label supplements and ProSirona topical natural pain reliever** have helped many

- **our educational program for medical students worldwide**, introduces them to complex diseases such as endometriosis, **guiding them to develop helpful approaches, and not to blame the patient!**

**despite our successes, there is a long way to go and we are at a CRISIS point**

**Why is your Association in crisis?...**

- **though the economy as a whole is recovering** (U.S. stock market for October was the best since Oct. '02 and the S&P 500 index rose 10.8%, the best since Dec. '91, Associated Press 11/1/11), alas, **nonprofits historically are the last to recover**
- **an IT crisis of huge proportions** – **our 20-year-old core software**, maintaining nearly a quarter million records, that helps do everything from linking women with endo to each other (with permission) to filling clinical trials – **crashed!** Our wonderful IT volunteer saved us from complete disaster this time but told us we **must** replace the software – an expensive proposition. **We need your generous contributions to help pay for the large capacity, high-functionality software NOW!**

**What a tragic loss if the Endometriosis Association doesn't survive to help women like Jacqui, the parents who called me today and their daughter...** These women and families – millions around the world are terribly vulnerable to the marketing, especially online, **promising ANSWERS**. Girls and women like:

- **the suicidal 13-year-old** and her confused and desperate parents – **their surgeon told them endometriosis could no longer be causing her pain because the surgery took care of that!**
- the woman so desperate that she's considering paying the **outrageous surgical charges of \$25 - \$26,000 (cash upfront)** believing that paying so much will ensure better results!
- **the 47-year-old with severe candidiasis** – "I can't think, can't keep a thought," and sudden, double-over twisting pain
- **the woman telling me** she's completely better since surgery put her into menopause but later tells me **she's in severe pain, unable to sleep at night** unless she takes lots of medication
- the young mother who tried for 10 years to get pregnant (going to "the best" fertility specialists) who finally took matters into her own hands. "I got healthy," eating healthy, exercising, using alternative medicine approaches that made sense for her – voila, she proudly showed me the picture of her baby
- **the 17-year-old in such intense pain (after four surgeries, Lupron, etc.) begging for a hysterectomy**
- the 26-year-old traveling for surgery because the surgeon's website says he's the best in the world!
- the 65-year-old, **15 years post-hysterectomy, suffering from complications & endo-related health problems**
- the general practitioner who called today looking for help for his patient with severe symptoms

**What a tragic loss if we don't survive to help all these families and more...**

**The pain and anguish facing millions of women with endo is a scandal!**

**It's Time to End the Anguish!**

Counting on you,



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**PLEASE HELP NOW!**

[click here](#)

**P.S. We can't end the anguish of endo without your support! Please [click on the link above](#) or you can use your credit card to fax, call in, or mail your donation. Fax (414) 355-6065, Phone (414) 355-2200. *A special Note: We have [free gifts](#) to offer you at every level of donation. Keep scrolling down for the premium sheet, print it out and scan & email, fax, or mail it in! **OR** you can write in the premium(s) of your choice in the "Special Instructions or Comments" box at checkout. (Click on the link in the box above to donate and indicate your premium(s) online.)***

**P.P.S. CREATE A SNOWBALL EFFECT:**

I live in Wisconsin so I understand snowballs – get one rolling and it picks up more and more snow as it goes down a slope. Let's build a snowball effect against endo: make your donation, then ask five friends or family members to donate – you've just created a snowball against endo!



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# Yes – I’ll help end the anguish!

Please indicate your premium choices by checking one box  for each giving category

- \$25..FREE**  “Compact” outlining the toxins in cosmetics. How to protect yourself!
- or  12 Steps to Reduce Toxins During Pregnancy. Brochure from leading physicians and scientists
  
- \$50..FREE**  Introduction to Organic Lawns and Yards. 55 page, science based introduction to a healthy home environment
- or  Managing Your Chronic Pain. 16 page illustrated booklet to help you regain control of your life
  
- \$100..FREE**  Preventing Endo: It May be Possible! Scientific / medical chapter from a new medical textbook
- or  Immunotherapy: A Comprehensive New Treatment Approach to Endo. Chapter from a new medical textbook
- or  Engraved brick in Association Garden of Hope – inscribe a message of inspiration with your name or in honor of a loved one
  
- \$150..FREE**  Resources for People in Pain. 60 pages, carefully developed and illustrated: pain assessment tools, treatment plan, general health, care-giving considerations, financial and other resources
- or  Sample an EA-Select supplement – **circle one:** Maximum Probiotic, Magnesium, Multi-Vitamin, Buffered Vitamin C, Antioxidant. Values from \$7.90 to \$42.90
- or  Book on remarkable pelvic floor physical therapy approach for painful adhesions and scar tissue due to endo and surgeries
  
- \$250..FREE**  Physician’s DVD on living with endo: for you to share with a health care provider who needs an endo “attitude adjustment”
- or  Nature cards by artist and Lifetime Member Polly French – a packet of 6 cards plus a larger card or matted (5x7) piece suitable for framing. Polly’s beautiful impressionistic renderings of birds and flora are sure to delight!
  
- \$350..FREE**  Expert lectures from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine educational event covering basic therapy, science of new therapies, future therapies, Q&A; 3 DVDs
- or  Full-size bottle ProSirona, topical pain reliever – Still in pain? Try this all natural roll-on which has received rave reviews from members. Specially formulated for endo and for fibromyalgia.
  
- \$500..FREE**  The just published Journal of Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology supplement edited by Mary Lou Ballweg and Marc Laufer, M.D., Children’s Hospital-Harvard, to share with anyone needing to know our girls are suffering
- or  Complete your collection of Association offered books – please circle your selected title: *The Endometriosis Sourcebook* by Mary Lou Ballweg and the Association; *Endometriosis: The Complete Reference for Taking Charge of your Health* by Mary Lou Ballweg and the Association; *A Key to Healing Through Nutrition* by nutritionist Dian Mills; *Endometriosis: Libro de consulta* by the Endometriosis Association; *Never Be Sick Again* by Raymond Francis
  
- \$1000..FREE**  Ceramic Angel Pin – wearing a ceramic yellow ribbon and the words “Love and Support” engraved on her wing, boxed with gauze and a yellow ribbon – for being an angel to the Association!
  
- \$1500..FREE**  Lifetime Membership in the Endometriosis Association – join this select group of individuals who have made a lifetime commitment to finding the cause and cure for this frustrating disease! The Lifetime Membership pin, a profile in a newsletter article on Lifetime Members (or anonymity if you wish), and a special yearly report only for Lifetime Members accompany this privileged category.
- or  Inspiring, professionally-produced Sacagawea DVD about EA founder, Mary Lou Ballweg, shown on occasion of winning the prestigious Sacagawea Trailblazer award
  
- \$2500 and up..**  A gift appreciation package, including the latest groundbreaking studies from our Vanderbilt team showing endometriosis can travel on the father or mother’s side; EA-Select private label supplements (\$131.60 value, including Multi-Vitamin, Vitamin C, Magnesium, Antioxidant, and Probiotic); full-size bottle of ProSirona, revolutionary topical pain reliever; ceramic angel pin (described in \$1000 category above); small print of birds/flora, a delicate, impressionistic rendering, suitable for framing, by artist and Lifetime Member Polly French; an Endometriosis Awareness wristband; and several small surprises

I choose not to receive a premium.

Donors may receive one item from each smaller category if they wish. (Example: if you donate \$250, you may choose a premium in that category, plus one premium from each of the \$150, \$100, \$50, and \$25 categories.) While not anticipated, if supplies of premiums run short, we will substitute another premium from the same category. Donors of \$100 or more will be recognized in the newsletter Donor Honor Roll unless anonymity is requested.

**DOUBLE YOUR GIFT! MANY COMPANIES MATCH EMPLOYEE GIFTS TO CHARITIES. ASK YOUR HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE.**

**RESPOND BY DECEMBER 31, 2011 FOR FREE ITEMS**      **AMOUNT OF MY GIFT: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

- I am interested in joining the End Endo Now Club, a monthly giving club. You choose the amount to be automatically transferred from your checking account or charged to your credit card each month. We’ll send the form. A FREE Endometriosis Association bumper sticker, imprinted with our toll-free number, will be mailed after your first contribution.
- Check or money order enclosed, payable to Endometriosis Association
- Charge my MasterCard or VISA (circle one) **Account#** \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Use your credit card to fax, call, mail, or send your donation online**

**Fax:** (414) 355-6065 **Phone:** (414) 355-2200 (M-Th, 8:30-5:00 F 8:30 – 4:00 CST)

**Website:** [www.EndometriosisAssn.org/donate.html](http://www.EndometriosisAssn.org/donate.html)

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**Donations are tax deductible. Any amount is appreciated. Thank You!**

***“Newly diagnosed women, as well as those merely suspected of having the disease, are bombarded with an array of often conflicting information.”***

*“In many respects, the key role in the development of future tools to battle endometriosis lies with those afflicted. It is imperative that women suffering from the disease understand what is known (and not known) about endometriosis. This requires thoughtful dissection of all existing information with a critical eye, rather than blind acceptance of promotional efforts by selected clinicians.*

*Organized consumer groups also function effectively to promote scientific investigation in the field. A strong lobby is required to help raise the priority of basic and applied research in endometriosis, because federal funds are particularly sensitive to such pressures. To date, endometriosis has received little federal or industry interest. Only public input will help reverse this trend.*

*Finally, local and national associations serve a critical purpose as educators in the community. Newly diagnosed women, as well as those merely suspected of having the disease, are bombarded with an array of often conflicting information. Consumer organizations can provide an unbiased source of information and guidance for these women. Educating the patient population is guaranteed to provide the greatest impact in promoting quality care for those suffering from endometriosis.”*

*David Olive, M.D.*

***“Consumer organizations can provide an unbiased source of information and guidance for these women.”***