



Our Research Strategy: 2025-2030



BACKGROUND

The Psoriasis Association is a charity founded in 1968, with the three following aims:

- 1.** To **promote research** into the causes, nature, treatment and cure of psoriasis and to publish and disseminate the results of that research.
- 2.** To **advance public education** into the causes, nature, treatment and cure of psoriasis.
- 3.** To **relieve** all those suffering from psoriasis.

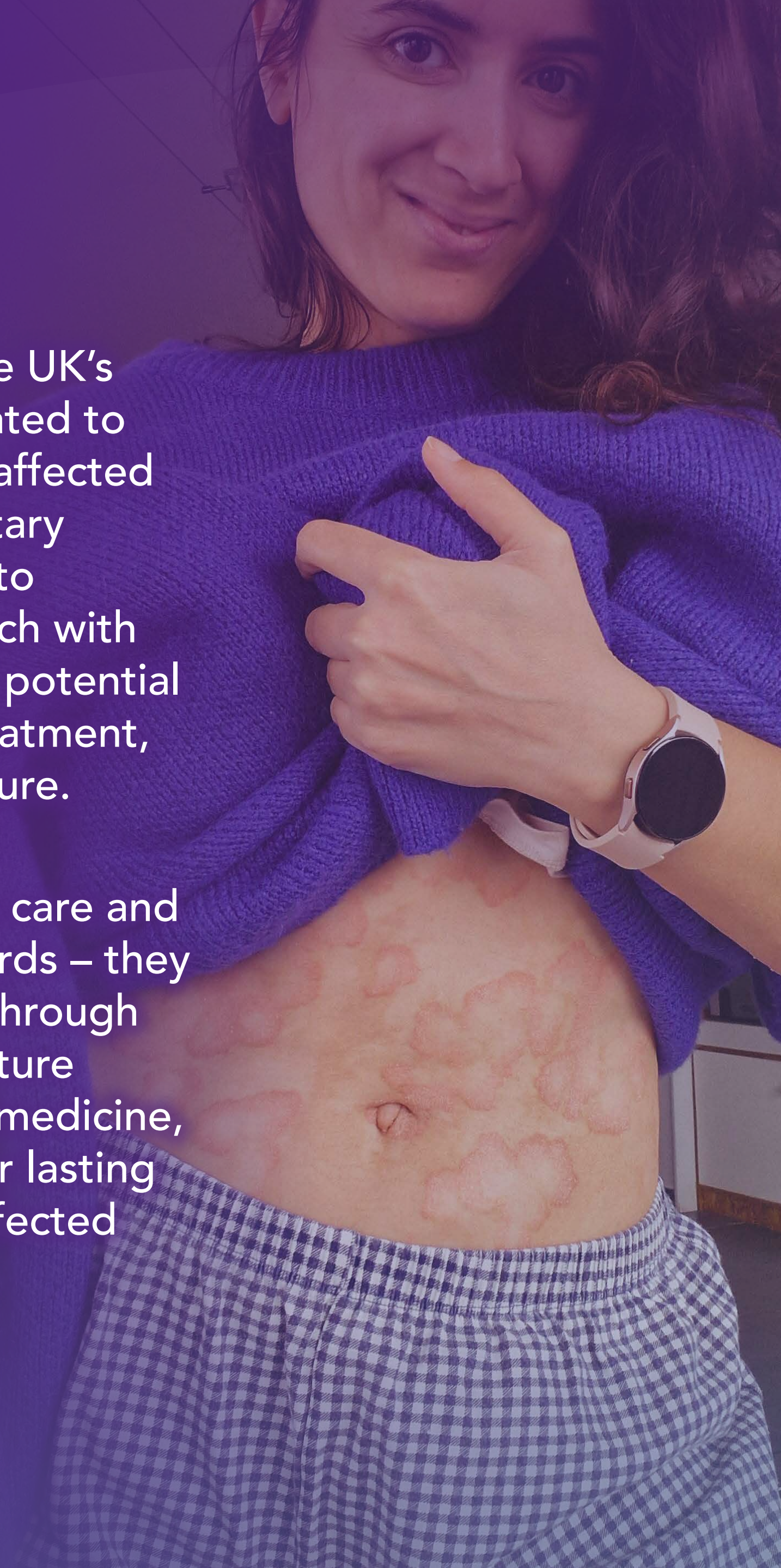


BACKGROUND

Research has always formed a central remit of the Psoriasis Association's work. By supporting **high quality research**, the Psoriasis Association is supporting those affected by all types of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. Since its' registration, the Psoriasis Association has awarded **over £6 million in research grants** exclusively to further the understanding of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. Research leads to a greater understanding of psoriasis and its impact on those affected. It also leads to developments in the treatment and management of psoriasis. Most importantly research delivers hope to those affected that their condition is not being ignored and that new ways of managing, treating and ultimately working towards a cure will continue to be invested in to help them and future generations.

The Psoriasis Association is the UK's leading national charity dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by psoriasis. Funded by voluntary donations, we are committed to supporting high-quality research with strong scientific merit and the potential to advance understanding, treatment, care and progress towards a cure.

Supporting people, advancing care and driving research aren't just words – they reflect our long-term vision. Through research and by supporting future leaders in health, science and medicine, we're building a foundation for lasting change in the lives of those affected by psoriasis.



OUR VISION

A future where everyone affected by all types of psoriasis lives a healthier, more confident life, free from stigma, with access to effective care, treatment, and support – while we continue to strive towards a cure.



OUR MISSION

To support individuals living with all types of psoriasis by advancing care, building a **strong research base**, and driving **groundbreaking research** forward to seek a **cure**. We strive to foster an inclusive society where those affected are understood, empowered, and supported, free from stigma and discrimination.



OUR VALUES

Empathy

We prioritise understanding and compassion in all our work.

Integrity

We are transparent, ethical, and accountable in all our efforts.

Collaboration

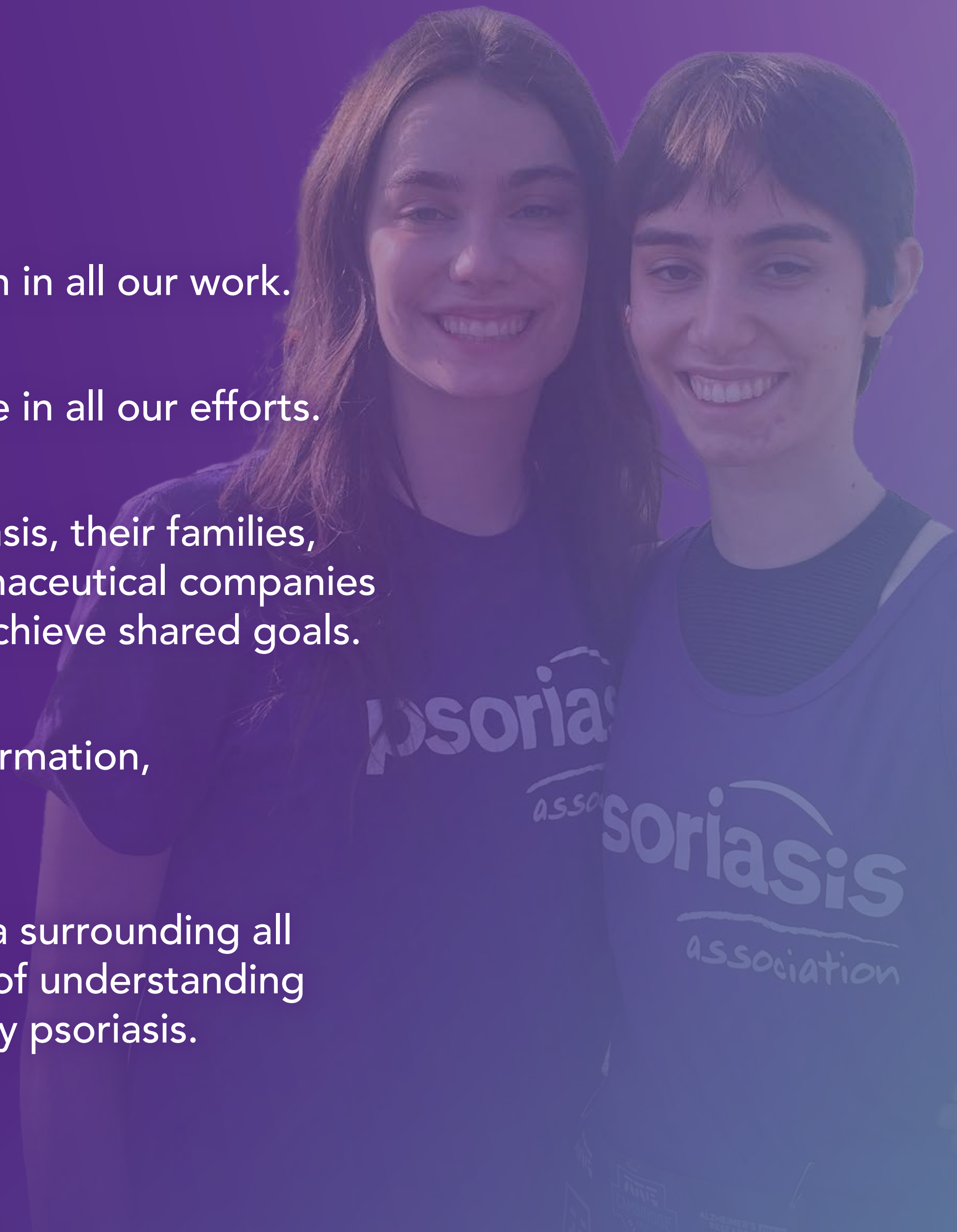
We work alongside people living with psoriasis, their families, healthcare professionals, researchers, pharmaceutical companies and the wider dermatology community to achieve shared goals.

Excellence

We strive to provide the highest quality information, support, research, and advocacy.

Anti-Stigma

We are committed to challenging the stigma surrounding all types of psoriasis, creating an environment of understanding and acceptance for all individuals affected by psoriasis.



OUR RESEARCH FOCUS

This Research Strategy contributes directly to three of our five strategic priorities outlined in the charity's overarching 2025-2030 plan:

Driving Research to Improve Outcomes

Advancing Care for People with Psoriasis

Celebrating 60 Years of Progress and Impact

By investing in research that is impactful, people-focused and high quality, we help accelerate new treatments and ultimately move closer to a cure.

Our Research Network, along with a sample of Psoriasis Association members, were consulted to identify key terms that best represent the future direction of the Association's research approach. The three most prominent terms were **impactful**, **people-focused**, and **high-quality**.



IMPACTFUL



To provide maximum benefit to our members and supporters we need to ensure that the research we fund has impact; significantly contributing to psoriasis related research and ultimately improving the understanding, treatment and management of the condition. Over the next five years, we will continue this commitment by:

- **Communicating updates and achievements** of the research and researchers we support using our website, publications and social media platforms to broaden the reach of our research and widen its impact. We will continue to explore digital technologies and platforms to share research findings more effectively and reach a wider audience.
- Working with organisations such as Researchfish and the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) to ensure that we capture the **outputs and impacts** of our research grants in a consistent manner that can be used for Psoriasis Association impact reporting and contribute to the impact reporting for the wider network of medical research charities. This will be both during and for five years after grants to fully capture impact beyond the grant period.
- Supporting the development of an academic meeting led by the Psoriasis Association to present research findings and share wider research outputs, fostering dissemination through dedicated academic fora.

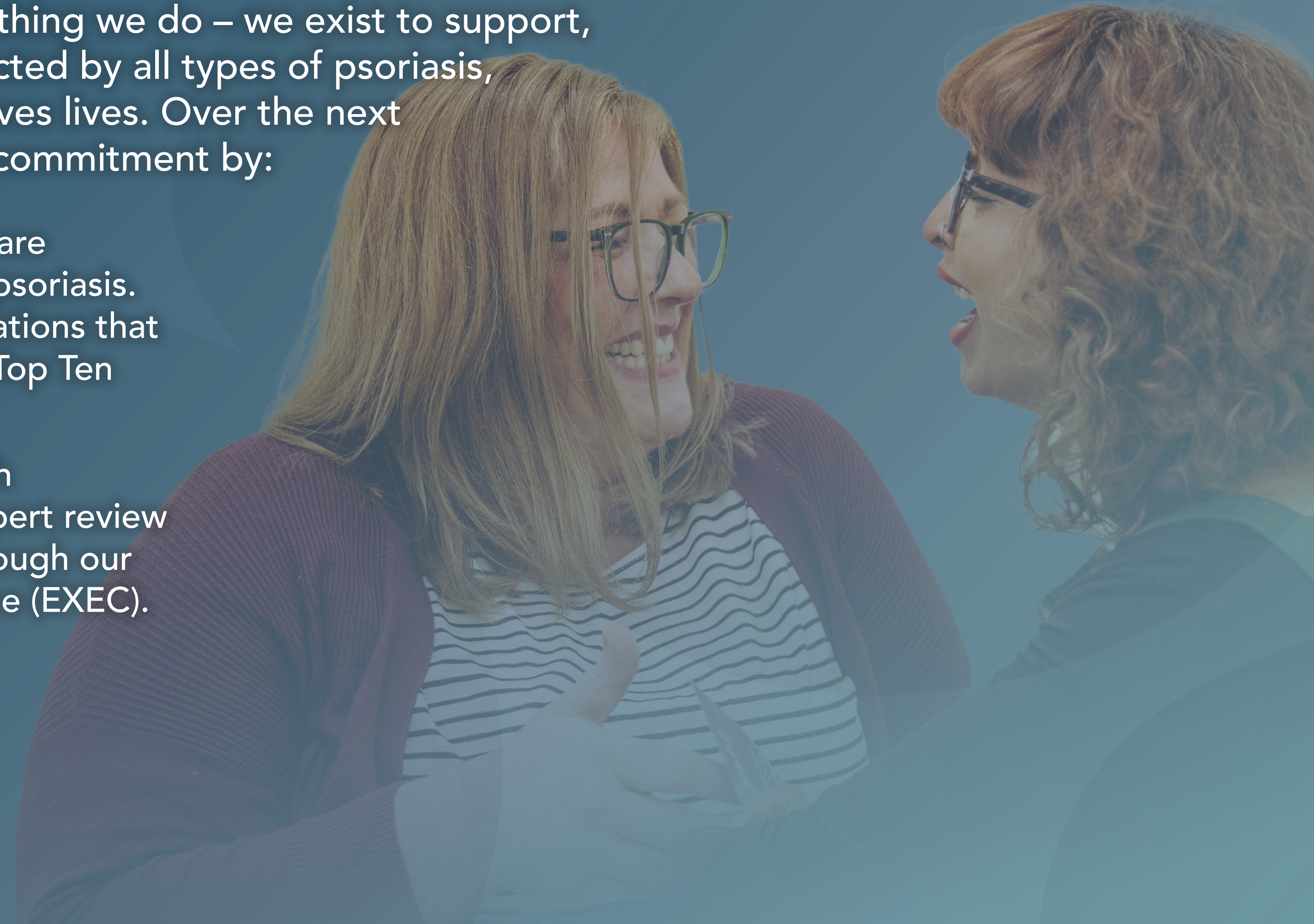


PEOPLE-FOCUSED



People are at the heart of everything we do – we exist to support, inform and empower those affected by all types of psoriasis, and to fund research that improves lives. Over the next five years, we will continue this commitment by:

- Funding research into areas that are important to those impacted by psoriasis. We will do this by funding applications that address one or more of our PSP Top Ten Research Priorities.
- Continuing to involve people with experience of psoriasis in our expert review process of grant applications through our Experts by Experience Committee (EXEC).



PEOPLE-FOCUSED

- Creating and promoting opportunities for people living with psoriasis to get involved in research. As a patient support organisation, we believe that research has the most impact when people with psoriasis are actively involved in the research from the start. As such, we will continue to support researchers and prioritise research projects with **patient and public involvement (PPI)**. PPI is defined by the NIHR as research that is 'being carried out 'with' or 'by' members of the public rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them.' PPI can include reviewing a research proposal, attending a focus group, sitting on a steering committee, consulting on research materials, consulting on research ethics, reviewing dissemination plans, presentations and engagement activities, being a co-applicant and co-researcher. We will continue to provide a platform for researchers to advertise research opportunities through us.



PEOPLE-FOCUSED

- Remaining committed to supporting PhD students through studentships and opportunities to showcase their research at conferences. The Psoriasis Association values the importance of inspiring and equipping the next generation of dermatology researchers to drive advancements in the field. Moving forward, we will enhance our engagement with grant-holders and PhD students past and present, nurturing early career researchers and actively seeking feedback to ensure our support remains meaningful and effective.

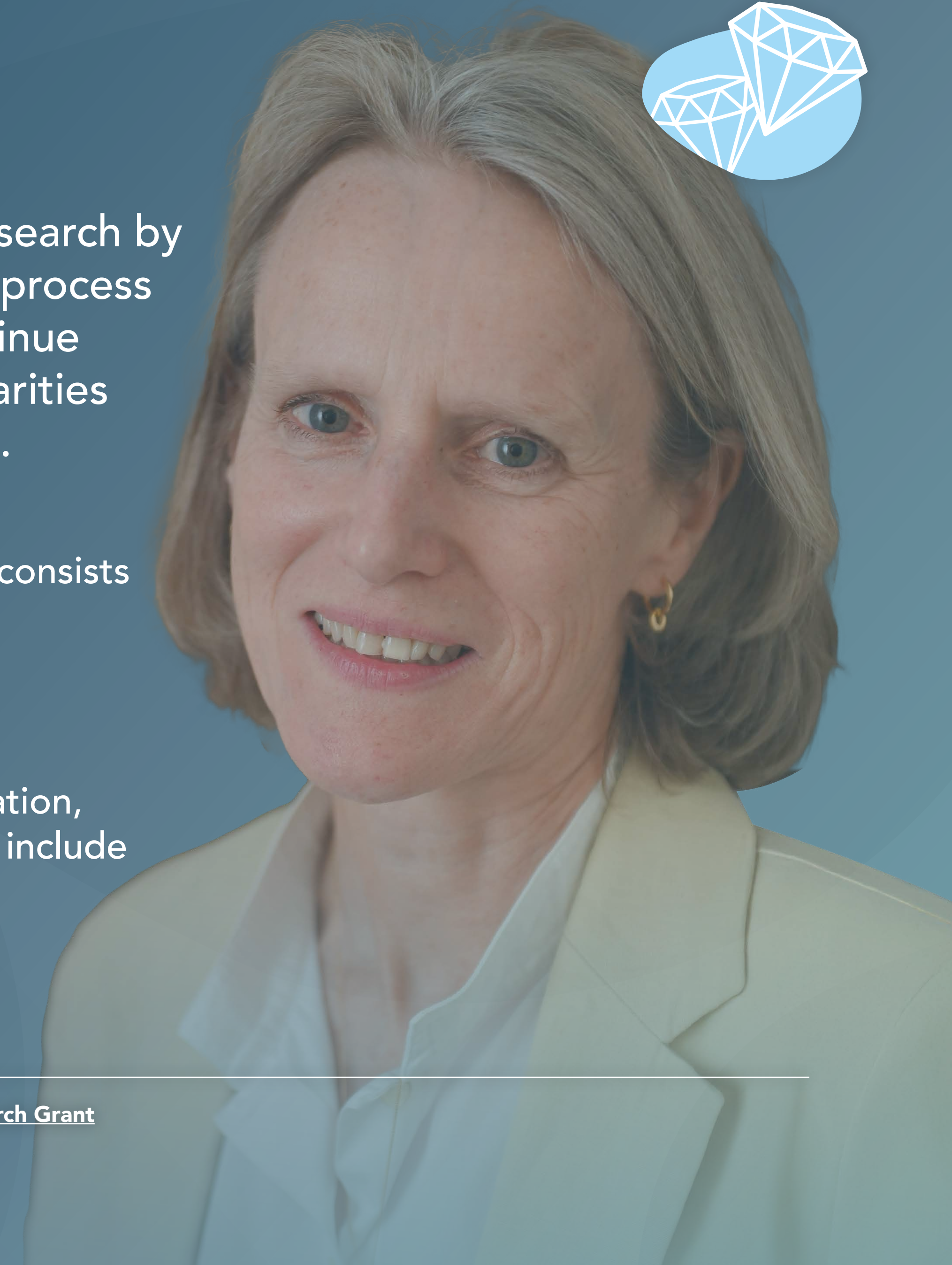
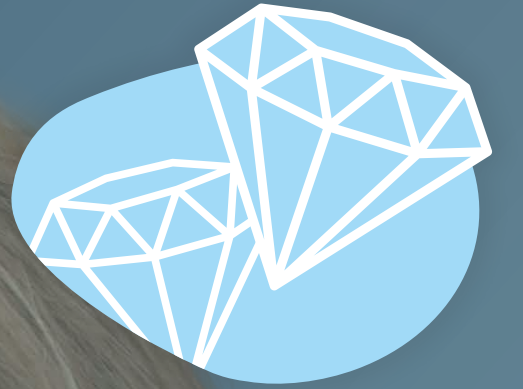


HIGH-QUALITY

We will be committed to supporting high-quality, reliable research by implementing a rigorous assessment, review, and reporting process through our Medical and Research Committee. We will continue our membership of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) and as such abide by their guidelines and principles.

- All reviewers of applications adhere to a code of conduct and our conflicts-of-interest policies. Our Medical and Research Committee consists of highly experienced academics and clinicians from across the UK.
- As a key component of the grant application, all applicants must submit a *lay application written in clear, accessible language.
- Grant recipients must submit annual reports to the Psoriasis Association, detailing their progress and the allocation of funds. Each report will include a lay summary to make research updates accessible to everyone.
- Grant holders are encouraged to publish their findings through open access sources.

* Guidance on writing a lay case for support can be found on the Psoriasis Association's website: [Apply for a Research Grant](#)



OUR
RESEARCH
AIM

Accelerate **innovative research** to improve the management of psoriasis, discover new treatments and ultimately find a cure for psoriasis.

OUR RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1.

Increase funding for psoriasis research across all areas through targeted grants and strategic partnerships.

2.

Support collaborative research initiatives with universities, hospitals, and appropriate partners.

3.

Continue to **encourage and fund** research to address the [James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership on Psoriasis Top 10 Research Questions](#) and assess the progress made in answering these questions.

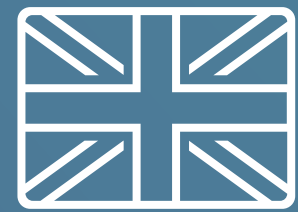
4.

Consider involvement in research looking at the psychosocial impact of psoriasis and how to improve quality of life. Support research into stigmatisation of people with psoriasis and strategies to manage this. These areas are integral to our broader strategic focus on reducing stigma and raising public awareness.

5.

Identify research gaps and commission research as appropriate.

WHAT THE PSORIASIS ASSOCIATION WILL FUND



The Psoriasis Association funds research in the United Kingdom only, into the causes, treatment and care of psoriasis including psycho-social aspects of the condition and factors affecting quality of life.



The Psoriasis Association will fund research into the various types of psoriasis. Applications regarding the comorbidities of psoriasis will also be considered if they align with one of our **top 10 research priorities**.



WHAT THE PSORIASIS ASSOCIATION WILL FUND

The Psoriasis Association offers three funding opportunities:



1. **PhD Studentships** – Fixed-amount grants supporting a three-year study. The value of these studentships is reviewed annually.

A separate application for travel bursaries may be submitted. These are considered on a case-by-case basis, once during the studentship, up to £1,000.

2. **Small Grant Awards** (in partnership with the Cecil King Memorial Foundation) – Grants of up to £10,000, primarily aimed at early-career researchers.

3. **Ad Hoc Funding** – When gaps in research and knowledge are identified, funding applications will be reviewed on an individual basis.*

The Psoriasis Association wishes to encourage and improve the **quality of research** to develop an appropriate, broadly accepted evidential base.

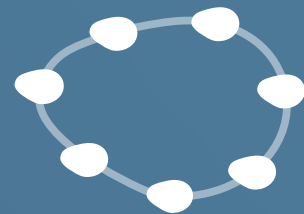
* Grant applications will be considered outside the grant call if: -

- they are time critical
- the research is clearly in the strategic interest of the Psoriasis Association
- funding is available

WHAT THE PSORIASIS ASSOCIATION WILL FUND



The Psoriasis Association recognises that researchers in fields related to medicine and dermatology, including for example pharmacy, nursing and psychology also have an interest in psoriasis, its impact and treatment and broader issues. Our policy is to stimulate, and where possible to sustain, such interest in the widest possible **research community** and to contribute to the building of a diverse skill base in psoriasis research.



The Psoriasis Association recognises the involvement of other grant awarding organisations such as the Wellcome Trust, National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), Medical Research Council (MRC), British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) and the British Skin Foundation (BSF) in offering substantial awards. The Psoriasis Association will benchmark itself against these organisations and proactively seek **collaboration opportunities** where appropriate.



The Trustees of the Psoriasis Association will agree the programme of grants in any financial year according to funds available.



Further information on the general principles of the funding of research by the Psoriasis Association can be found **here: [Apply for a Research Grant](#)**



SUMMARY

Over the next five years, the Psoriasis Association will invest in high-quality research to benefit both individuals living with psoriasis and those conducting psoriasis-related studies. Our supported research will drive meaningful advancements in the treatment and management of all types of psoriasis.



FUTURE STRATEGY

The Psoriasis Association will mark its 60th anniversary in 2028 by celebrating achievements in research and launching new opportunities for growth. This will include highlighting breakthroughs, engaging supporters and researchers and reinforcing our commitment to long-term progress.

Previous anniversaries have seen similar investment in impactful research and professional development initiatives. For example, the 50th Anniversary marked the launch and support of major projects such as Biomarkers and Stratification To Optimise outcomes in Psoriasis (BSTOP), and the PsoWell training programme for healthcare professionals. These initiatives have had lasting impact on the understanding, treatment, and management of psoriasis and reflect our ongoing commitment to meaningful progress.

Our research strategy is scheduled for review in 2030, unless an earlier reassessment is necessary due to a significant shift in the Psoriasis Association's research remit or to align with any newly developed charity-wide strategies.





www.psoriasis-association.org.uk
01604 251620
mail@psoriasis-association.org.uk

The Psoriasis Association
Dick Coles House
2 Queensbridge
Northampton
NN4 7BF

The Psoriasis Association Registered Charity Numbers 1180666 and SC049563

Supporting People



Advancing Care

Driving Research