



Report on the 20th MSUD Symposium

Introduction to MSUD: Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD) is a rare genetic disorder characterized by an inability to properly break down certain amino acids. This leads to a harmful build-up of substances in the blood and urine, often giving the urine a sweet odor, reminiscent of maple syrup. MSUD affects approximately 1 in 185,000 infants worldwide.

Symposium Overview: The Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD) Family Support Group held the 20th MSUD Symposium in Reston, Virginia, in June 2024. The event brought together families, researchers, and medical professionals to discuss advancements in MSUD research and care.

Attendance: The symposium saw about 200 attendees, including families and professionals from over 20 states throughout America and representation from six other countries. Among the attendees were 40 individuals with MSUD, ranging from six months to 55 years old, and eight people who have had liver transplants. We were also pleased to welcome 12 families attending the symposium for the first time.

Symposium Highlights: The symposium included a diverse range of sessions and panel discussions aimed at advancing the understanding and treatment of MSUD. Sessions covered topics such as new research findings, innovative treatments, patient care strategies, and the latest in nutritional management. Experts from various fields presented their work, sharing insights into the genetic, metabolic, and clinical aspects of MSUD. The panels featured engaging discussions on patient experiences, caregiver challenges, and the future direction of MSUD research and advocacy. Attendees had the opportunity to

interact with leading scientists, clinicians, and fellow community members, fostering a collaborative environment for learning and support.



Acknowledgment: We extend our deepest gratitude to our sponsors, including SSIEM, whose generous contribution of \$1,000 made this event possible.

For more information about MSUD and the MSUD Family Support Group, please visit our website at www.msud-support.org.

Respectfully submitted,



MSUD Family Support Group
958 Medinah Terrace
Columbus, Ohio 43235