



Mary Dunkle **Senior Advisor**

Mary Dunkle is Senior Advisor to the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD), with a primary focus on supporting the development of educational programs and resources for NORD's broad audience including patients and caregivers, medical professionals, students and the public.

She joined NORD in 1999 and served for many years as Vice President of Communications with responsibility for the organization's website, social media, Patient/Caregiver Information Center and publications. She was one of the primary NORD editors for a medical textbook on rare diseases published by Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, *The NORD Guide to Rare Disorders*.

More recently, she served as Vice President of Educational Initiatives, leading the department responsible for educational resources that include NORD's Rare Disease Database and the annual NORD Rare Diseases and Orphan Products Breakthrough Summit.

Mary's oldest son, John, experienced a medical crisis when he was two years old that ultimately was diagnosed as Guillain-Barre syndrome. In those pre-internet days, Mary and her husband spent many hours in the hospital's library searching for information.

Before joining NORD, Mary was a senior writer in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at Pennsylvania State University and Director of Public Relations at Danbury (Connecticut) Hospital. She is a graduate of DePauw University.

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