

Name of rotation: Rheumatology

Division: Rheumatology

Course Director: Raymond Flores, M.D.

Site(s): UMMC, VA, Kernan

Duration of rotation: one month only
 2 weeks possible

General description of the rotation including educational purpose, rationale or value:

The rheumatology elective allows the intern/resident to participate in the active consultative service of the Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, which sees patients in the emergency room, general medical, neurological, surgical, obstetrical, and pediatric wards and specialty clinics at UMMC, the VA and Kernan. In addition, residents are exposed to the active private rheumatology practice maintained by the faculty at the FPO. The main goal of the rotation is to provide the resident with exposure to patients who manifest a broad range of rheumatic illness, as well as learn the approach and principles important in their diagnosis and management.

Resident responsibilities, including interns and residents:

The resident will be expected to participate in all the clinical activities of the division. This will include inpatient consults at UMMC and the VA, participation in the Arthritis/Rheumatology Clinics at both institutions as well as seeing private outpatients in the FPO. The resident will be supervised during these activities both by the fellow and rheumatology faculty. The resident will also be expected to attend the division's weekly clinical conferences as outlined below. Generally, the resident will be expected to present one topic for discussion during the month at the weekly Rheumatology Grand Rounds conference on Monday. The fellow will be responsible for instructing the resident(s) throughout the month rotation on a variety of topics, i.e., RA, SLE, osteoarthritis, scleroderma, microcrystalline diseases, etc., through informal small group conferences. Night call/weekend call is not expected.

Educational Objectives: An expanded version of the competencies is listed under Core Competencies in Internal Medicine. Those listed here are specific to this rotation. Since residents may choose this elective during any year of training, PGY-1 goals and objectives are distinct for those for upper level residents, and PGY-2 and 3 goals and objectives are similar.

During this rotation, the PGY-1 resident will:

Patient Care

1. Obtain/perform a comprehensive rheumatology evaluation, including musculoskeletal joint exam.
2. Use a polarizing microscope for the demonstration of crystals in synovial fluid.
3. Gain exposure to patients with a variety of common rheumatology diseases and develop competence in their diagnosis and management.
4. Perform joint and soft tissue injection.
5. Develop increasing independence in patient evaluation and management.

Medical Knowledge

1. Interpret serologic tests/procedures characteristic of rheumatology.

Practice-Based Learning - See Core Competencies

Interpersonal and Communication Skills – See Core Competencies

Professionalism – See Core Competencies

System-Based Practice – See Core Competencies

During this rotation, the PGY-2 or 3 resident will:

Patient Care

1. Obtain/perform a comprehensive and in-depth rheumatology evaluation, including musculoskeletal joint examination.
2. Demonstrate use of a polarizing microscope for the demonstration of crystals in synovial fluid.
3. Evaluate and manage patients with a variety of common rheumatology diseases and develop competence in their diagnosis and management.
4. Perform joint and soft tissue injection independently.
5. Develop increasing independence in patient evaluation and management.

Medical Knowledge

1. Interpret serologic tests/procedures characteristic of rheumatology.

Practice-Based Learning - See Core Competencies

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

1. Teach other learners on the team, e.g., interns, students.
2. Enhance their interpersonal and leadership, demonstrating high level of competence.

Professionalism – See Core Competencies

System-Based Practice – See Core Competencies

Check all principle teaching methods used during this rotation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attending teaching rounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Interdisciplinary rounds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patient management discussions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Small group discussions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Conferences specific to rotation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bedside clinical rounds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Individual instruction of procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Review of diagnostic studies, including radiology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____		

Describe the most important educational content, including the mix of diseases, patient characteristics, types of clinical encounters, procedures and services:

Residents see patients who manifest a broad variety of rheumatic disease in various outpatient settings including the University Health Center and the VA Arthritis Clinic. They also participate in the active inpatient consultation service provided by the division at both the UMMC/VA. The rheumatology consultation service attending provides supervision for the intern/resident for the inpatient service, while clinic attendings and individual rheumatology faculty provide supervision and are the physicians of record for the clinics and FPO experience, respectively. Residents are supervised by the rheumatology clinical fellows, who are responsible for one to one instruction on a variety of topics throughout the rotation.

Check the principal ancillary education materials used:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Reading lists	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pathologic material
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Radiologic studies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other noninvasive studies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Handouts on relevant topics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Articles from the literature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: Primer of Rheumatic Diseases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Case studies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: ACR Slide Collection		

Methods used to evaluate the resident and the rotation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluation of residency performance and professionalism
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evaluation of attending teaching skills and other attributes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rotation assessment by resident
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Observation of resident's clinical competency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Observation of resident's leadership and teaching skills
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Review of the resident's history/physical exam, progress notes and documentation of procedures in the chart
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resident's attendance of rounds and conferences monitored
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____

Identify strengths and limitations specific to the resources of the sponsoring institution:

Strengths would include exposure to a good mix of general rheumatology patients, both in the clinics as well as in the private practice setting; exposure to other disciplines important in the care of rheumatology patients, i.e., bone/joint radiology, active orthopedics/joint replacement service, hand clinic, etc., commitment of the clinical faculty to one to one small group "bedside" teaching.

Conferences or Attending/Patient Care Rounds: (Journal club, division rounds, etc.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
Rheumatology Grand Rounds	VA	Monday	12:00 noon
Journal Club	MSTF	Thursday	12:00 noon
<u>Clinics:</u>			
Arthritis Clinic	UHC	Wednesday	pm
Arthritis Clinic	VA	Mondaypm	

Other information: More intensive exposure to clinical rheumatology and/or participation in clinical/bench research projects in rheumatology is possible.

The resident and faculty members of the Postgraduate Education Committee reviewed and edited the content of this curriculum at its meeting on 7/18/07.