

Residents and Students,

Welcome to Rheumatology! We are glad you have chosen us for an elective. To orient you to this elective see the following information.

Nature of the rotation: Rheumatology is an outpatient elective. There is an inpatient consult service run by the fellows and you are invited to participate, but not expected. A pediatric outpatient experience is available as well, for those interested, upon request. Clinic is held Monday – Thursday. Friday is our academic day.

Clinics: (2nd floor ACC for MCG clinics and 4th floor 4D for VA clinics)

Monday – 8:00 AM until finished (usually 5:00 PM) at MCG.

Tuesday – 8:30 – 12:00 at the VA. 1:00 – until finished at the VA for residents and 1:00 – until finished at MCG for students.

Wednesday – 9:00 (after Grand Rounds) until finished at MCG

Thursday – 8:00 – until finished at MCG

Friday – 8:00 – 10:00 didactics 5th floor main hospital (BI-5086) and 1:30 – 3:30 (2nd floor orthopedic library, every other Friday with Dr. Joe)

Faculty: Drs. Walter Moore (Associate Dean for GME and Chief, Division of Rheumatology), Bruce Goeckeritz (Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director), Mini Bhaskar, Joseph Bailey, Rita Jerath (Chief of Pediatric Rheumatology)

Fellows: Drs. Ana Funariu (senior fellow, pager 6275) and Alok Sachdeva (junior fellow, pager 5934)

Administrative Assistants: Ms. Shawnda Claxton and Mrs. Beverly Courson.
Phone 1-2981 and 2982.

Clinic Support Staff: Deirdre Bush, LPN and Ive Banks, nursing assistant. Clinic phone numbers: 1- 1399, 1-1401, 1-1402 and 1-1403.

Expectations:

Be in clinic on time. If you are going to be late or absent students, please notify Liz Jones in the clerkship office (1-2055), and residents please contact Shiloh Peterson in the housestaff office (1-2423), and Shawnda Claxton or Beverly Courson (1-2981/2) in the Rheumatology office, or one of the faculty. All absences will need to be excused through the clerkship office.

Provide pertinent patient presentations. The nature of outpatient medicine does not always afford the luxury of lengthy patient encounters and thus not every patient encounter you have while on Rheumatology will result in as comprehensive a presentation as inpatient medicine. This does not mean that your presentations are not to be pertinent to the chief complaint or reason for follow up. Before you enter a patient's room to begin your encounter review the chart and determine what occurred at the time of the last outpatient visit including tests and therapeutic interventions, and discuss with the patient the result of such interventions, along with exploring any new complaints. When presenting to an attending or a fellow be prepared. Know the reason for follow up, results of tests and interventions and have explored the chief complaint.

Read: If you have spare time before presenting your patient read on your patient's diagnosis or complaint in any our several textbooks or on-line sources. In addition it is expected you will read about your patient's diseases after hours. From time-to-time you may be asked to give an informal discussion on a topic to your peers. Be willing participants.

Learning objectives: During your time on Rheumatology Elective you will see many examples of the most common rheumatic diseases seen in the private practice of rheumatology as well as examples of less frequently seen diseases, unique to a tertiary care center. It is expected you will develop a working knowledge of the classic presentations of the most common rheumatic diseases and a passing familiarity with the less common ones. Examples of diseases you can expect to see include but are not limited to osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, osteoporosis, Sjogren's syndrome and systemic sclerosis. In addition you will see plenty of the common pain syndromes including fibromyalgia and chronic low back pain.

Educational resources: In the clinic you will find a copy of Kelly's Textbook of Rheumatology and Klipple's Rheumatology. In addition we have compiled a selection of readings from the most recent rheumatology primer available on loan through Shawnda Claxton. (1-2981). A collection of rheumatology case studies is available on line through the American College of Rheumatology at www.rheumatology.org Follow the link for professional education to online curriculum cases.

