

**University of Rochester**  
**Categorical Internal Medicine Residency Program**

**PGY1 Rheumatology Rotation**  
**Rotation Director: Christopher Ritchlin, M.D.**

**Overview and Rationale**

Musculoskeletal complaints are some of the most common chief complaints encountered by the primary care physician in the ambulatory setting. Internal Medicine inpatient rotations, however, provide little opportunity for residents to evaluate and treat patients with common musculoskeletal complaints. This elective was designed to provide first year residents with a solid foundation in the unique components of the rheumatologic history and physical exam, an understanding of immunologic laboratories that are critical to the diagnosis of common rheumatologic diseases, and a better understanding of the presentation of some of the more common rheumatologic diseases. This two-week elective is based completely in the ambulatory setting and is coupled with a self-study program on Blackboard. Residents have the opportunity to work with several faculty members as they evaluate rheumatology patients in the Allergy and Rheumatology Clinic. They also have the support of those faculty members as they complete their self-study assignments.

**Schedule, Responsibilities, and Supervision**

Residents are assigned one clinic per day, Monday through Friday. Clinic is either in the morning from 8:00am to 12:00pm or in the afternoon from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. While in clinic, the resident is under the direct supervision of a Board Certified Rheumatologist. The supervising attending will assign appropriate patients for the resident to evaluate and will review the patients with the resident. Residents will attend Unit conferences on Thursday mornings. When not in clinic, residents will complete the self-study material on Blackboard. Faculty members are available as mentors to assist with any questions that arise from the self-study material. Residents have no evening or weekend responsibilities.

**Resources**

Rheumatology, Third Edition Edited by Hochberg et.al.: Chapter 18 pages 169-177, Chapter 19, and Chapter 20.

“Screening Musculoskeletal Exam” DVD prepared by the University of Iowa

O’Dell, J, “Therapeutic Strategies for Rheumatoid Arthritis”, NEJM 2004;350:2591-602

Terkeltaub, R, “Gout,” NEJM 2003;349:1647-55

Olsen, N, Stein, C, “New Drugs for Rheumatoid Arthritis,” NEJM 2004; 350:2167-79

Khan, M, “Update on Spondyloarthropathies,” Ann Intern Med 2002; 136:896-907

### Learning Objectives and Assessment Methodologies

#### 1) Patient Care

Principle Educational Objectives	Assessment Methods
First year residents will become proficient in the history and physical exam as they apply to the musculoskeletal system and to autoimmune diseases.	Global Faculty Assessment Direct Faculty Bedside Observation

#### 2) Medical Knowledge

Principle Educational Objectives	Assessment Methods
First year residents will develop a basic understanding of RA, SLE, crystalline induced arthritis, OA, and the spondyloarthropathies.	Global Faculty Assessment Direct Faculty Observation Pre- and Post-test
First year residents will develop a basic understanding of the immunologic laboratories and their role in the diagnosis and treatment of autoimmune diseases.	Global Faculty Assessment Direct Faculty Observation Pre- and Post-test

#### 3) Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Principle Educational Objectives	Assessment Methods
Prior to the completion of this rotation, each PGY1 will continuously improve their care of rheumatology patients by identifying areas where their knowledge is deficient and reading to fill their gaps.	Global Faculty Assessment

#### 4) Interpersonal Skills and Communication

Principle Educational Objectives	Assessment Methods
During this rotation, each PGY1 will communicate clearly, compassionately, and sensitively with patients, families, support staff, and physician colleagues.	Global Faculty Assessment Direct Faculty Bedside Observation
During this rotation, each PGY1 will clearly and succinctly present patient information, both verbally and in writing, and discuss patient information with physicians from all disciplines	Global Faculty Assessment

5) **Professionalism**

<b>Principle Educational Objectives</b>	<b>Assessment Methods</b>
During this rotation, each PGY1 will demonstrate respect, compassion, integrity, and altruism in relationships with patients, families, and colleagues in all health professions.	Global Faculty Assessment Direct Faculty Bedside Observation

6) **Systems-Based Practice**

<b>Principle Educational Objectives by Level</b>	<b>Assessment Methods</b>
Prior to completion of this rotation, each PGY1 will understand basic principles of multidisciplinary care of patients with chronic rheumatologic disorders.	Global Faculty Assessment