

Elective: Internal Medicine; Rheumatology

Clerkship electives in Rheumatology provide an excellent opportunity to see autoimmune and musculoskeletal disease up close. Students interested in internal medicine and family medicine, as well as those interested in MSK-based specialties such as orthopedics and physiatry often choose Rheumatology as a clinical elective. Whether it is an opportunity to see rare and striking connective tissue diseases and vasculitis, or a chance to improve MSK clinical skills, students find the rotation varied and rewarding.

The rotation is comprised of time on the Rheumatology Consult service as well as 3-4 half-day outpatient clinics per week. These may include time in SLE, Scleroderma, or Vasculitis clinics in addition to general Rheumatology clinics with lots of inflammatory and some non-inflammatory disease.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe approaches to diagnosis and treatment of various forms of mono and polyarthritis.
2. Recognize severe multisystem rheumatic disease and develop an approach to initial workup and management.
3. Perform an accurate and reliable MSK examination.
4. Develop entry-level skills in safe and accurate therapeutic injection of large joints.
5. Communicate effectively with referring physicians through dictations and consult notes.
6. Discuss and evaluate the evidence underlying patient management decisions through a case-based presentation.
7. Recognize the social determinants of health in the management of chronic diseases such as RA and SLE.

Location: Health Sciences Centre with occasional clinics off-campus in private Rheumatologists offices, Grace hospital or St. Boniface Hospital

Teaching and Education Sessions: Teaching around cases, consults and admitted patients will occur daily. Students will attend City-wide rounds Thursday mornings and resident presentations Thursdays at noon.

Call: There are no overnight call responsibilities for this rotation.

Availability: Electives are available throughout clerkship with a minimum of 2 weeks duration

Contact: Melissa Blonjeaux Email: mblonjeaux@exchange.hsc.mb.ca Phone: 787-1103