

**Emory University**

**Division of Rheumatology**

**Fellowship Training Program**

*The Department of Medicine at Emory University offers two-year fellowships in rheumatology to qualified, promising physicians.*

## **Why Rheumatology at Emory?**

The Emory University Affiliated Rheumatology Fellowship Training program encompasses four critical rotations: Emory Clinic/Emory University Hospital, Emory Midtown, Grady Memorial Hospital and the Veterans' Affairs Medical Center. During their first year of training fellows spend a total of six months at Emory and two months each at Midtown, Grady and the VA. A full complement of conferences is offered to round out the clinical experience both in clinical and basic science topics. Additionally, opportunities for epidemiologic research exist at each of the four affiliate locations as well as at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

## **Goals**

During the two-year training program all fellows will:

- develop an extensive knowledge base on rheumatic disease
- develop proficiency in clinical history taking and physical examination
- become familiar with all diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in rheumatology
- become experts in analysis and integration of clinical data
- demonstrate excellence in patient management
- develop the ability to critically review the literature
- develop the ability to design, implement, interpret, and present research

## **The Emory Clinic/Emory University Hospital**

Fellows spend two of their six months in the outpatient Rheumatology practice at the Emory Clinic. The full spectrum of rheumatic disease is seen including complicated and unusual cases that have been referred from physicians throughout the southeast U.S. Under the supervision of Drs. Waltuck and Geletka, fellows become proficient in careful history taking and physician examination with particular attention to the musculoskeletal system. Emphasis is placed on thorough workups and careful clinical follow up. The remaining two months are spent as the inpatient consult fellow. During this inpatient rotation, the fellow is responsible for didactic sessions for the internal medicine residents that are rotating through rheumatology. The fellow also coordinates teaching rounds on the inpatient service.



## Grady Memorial Hospital



All fellows have a continuity clinic in the Grady Rheumatology clinic for one full day per week. Fellows typically see three new patients and ten follow-ups each clinic day. The Grady fellow will also see outpatients two half-days per week as part of the Early Arthritis Clinic (EAC) and the Lupus Clinic. In the EAC, patients with early inflammatory arthritis are followed and treated in a uniform regimen. Dr. Athan Tiliakos a number of part time clinical faculty staff the clinic. The Lupus Clinic is run by Dr. Sam Lim and is actively involved in many clinic studies, as well as those derived from his Georgia Lupus Registry.

Inpatient consultation rounds are conducted daily and urgent outpatient consultations are seen in the Urgent Care Center and Emergency Care Center. Patients are referred to Rheumatology from an extensive primary care network that includes the medical clinics and community based practices within the Grady Health Care System. Ample time is allotted on this clinical rotation for independent study. Fellows are encouraged to participate in ongoing research studies of patients with rheumatic disease and lupus and to initiate their own clinical projects.

## Veterans Administration Medical Center

Fellows on rotation at the VA Medical Center attend three half-day clinics per week. Two clinics are general Rheumatology sessions and the third is a musculoskeletal ultrasound clinic. Fellows develop proficiency in the evaluation and treatment of patients with a wide spectrum of rheumatologic diseases. Daily consult rounds and didactic sessions are held with Dr. Atkinson, Iqbal, or Tiliakos. In addition to Rheumatology responsibilities, fellows spend one half-day per week in either PM&R or Bone Radiology.



## Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM)



EUHM is a community hospital (540 beds) staffed by both private physicians and full-time faculty of Emory University. EUHM provides primary and some tertiary care for a metropolitan population. The hospital complex has recently undergone a \$270 million renovation.

## Conferences

A variety of conferences and seminars are offered throughout the year to enhance the fellow's educational experience and growth as a physician.

### Rheumatology Grand Rounds

Grand rounds are held every Wednesday morning and are attended by both faculty and fellows. Speakers are drawn from within the division, specialists in other divisions, and invited guest speakers from other institutions. All fellows are expected to present two lectures yearly on topics of their choosing. Staff is encouraged to present diagnostic dilemmas and cases with particularly difficult management issues.

### Pathology Conference

A staff pathologist leads didactic sessions as well as slide review. Fellows are encouraged to bring slides of recent interesting or challenging cases for review and discussion.

### Radiology Conference

Radiology conference is held monthly in collaboration with the Department of Radiology, Division of Musculoskeletal radiology. A core curriculum covers all aspects of radiology as they relate to musculoskeletal disease. Didactic sessions are presented by the radiology staff on plain radiography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, arthrography, and nuclear medicine. Radiographs of patients undergoing workups in our clinic are also presented for review.

### Journal Club

Under the guidance of Dr. Drenkard all fellows participate by reviewing recent rheumatologic literature. It is expected that all fellows will read and be current on the contents of "*Arthritis and Rheumatism*." All of the other major rheumatology journals are reviewed as well as any other pertinent papers from internal medicine, nephrology, pediatrics, radiology, orthopedics and immunology. In addition, first year fellows have a clinical journal club on Monday mornings before continuity clinic.

### Immunology Lecture Series

Fellows participate in a longitudinal immunology series to reinforce their understanding of the immune system. This strengthens their understanding of autoimmune diseases and the current and potential targets for therapy of these diseases.

### Core Lecture Series

From the first day of training, fellows function as clinical consultants in rheumatology. Therefore, each summer when new fellows begin their training, the faculty presents a core lecture series to rapidly orient fellows to the clinical practice of rheumatology. These lectures are supplemented with readings from the literature. Core lectures relating to the immune system are integrated into the yearly conference schedule. Topics include cells of the immune system, cytokines, the HLA system and complements.

## Current Fellows

### Second Year Fellows:

Mary Abraham, MD  
Medical School: Albany Medical College, NY  
Residency: Drexel University College of Medicine, PA

Jennifer Brandt, MD, MPH  
Medical School: Emory University School of Medicine  
Residency: Emory University School of Medicine

Shivani Garg, MD  
Medical School: Government Medical College Chandigarh  
Residency: Albert Einstein Medical Center

### First Year Fellows:

Kelly Kaysen, MD  
Medical School: Emory University  
Residency: NYU

Manjari Devidi, MD  
Medical School: Gandhi Medical College, Secunderabad, India  
Residency: St. Joseph Hospital/ University of Illinois

Suzana Alex John, MD  
Medical School: Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, India  
Residency: Rochester General Hospital Rochester, NY



## Leadership

### **Athan Tiliakos, DO**

Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director

Assistant Professor of Rheumatology

### **Arezou Khosroshahi, MD**

Rheumatology Fellowship Associate Program Director

Assistant Professor of Rheumatology

### **Ignacio Sanz, MD**

Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics

Director of Rheumatology

Director, Lowance Center for Human Immunology

## Key Rheumatology Faculty

**Karen Atkinson, MD.**; Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Freyhiwot Ayele, MD;** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Doyt Conn, MD;** Professor of Medicine.

**Raluca Cozmuta, MD,** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Cristina Drenkard, MD;** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Ayesha Iqbal MD.;** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Karen Law, MD;** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**S Sam Lim, MD, MPH;** Associate Professor of Medicine

**Aliza Lipson, MD;** Assistant Professor of Medicine

**Jonathan Waltuck, MD;** Associate Professor of Medicine

## Contact Information

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