

Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)

Department: Internal Medicine

Elective/Experience Title: Introduction To Rheumatology

Course Number: IMED 9226

Location of Elective: Essentia Health Care System & Fargo VA Regional Medical Center – Fargo, ND

Preceptor(s): Yuri Nakasato, MD & Meghan Scheibe, MD

Period(s) Offered: All

Course prerequisites:

Number of students per period: 1

Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: To gain education and experience in the care of patients requiring rheumatology services.

Objectives: Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the principles of physical examination of the musculoskeletal system.
2. Interpret the laboratory tests for diagnosis and management of rheumatic diseases with emphasis on synovial fluid analysis.
3. Interpret various imaging studies used in the diagnosis and management of rheumatic diseases with an emphasis on reading plain films and the interpretation of bone density testing (DXA)
4. Describe the community resources available for arthritis patients and the assessment of disability.
5. Recognize the presentation of the various rheumatic diseases observed in clinic

Instructional Activities: During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Evaluation of patients in an outpatient setting both at Essentia Health and the Fargo VA
2. Inpatient rounds and inpatient Rheumatology consultations
3. Participation in joint aspiration and injection
4. Case discussion on a daily basis
5. Appropriate educational conferences as selected by preceptor.
6. Interaction with other disciplines such as orthopedics, radiology and physical therapy in the concurrent care of patients with rheumatological disorders.
7. Assigned readings from basic rheumatology textbooks and major rheumatologic journals.

Criteria for Grading: During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. Evaluate by direct observation the student's performance of a history and physical with special emphasis on the musculoskeletal system.
3. Evaluate by direct observation the student's case presentation skills.
4. Evaluate by direct observe the student's ability to describe care and evaluation of clinic and hospital patients.
5. Evaluate the quality of the student's case or topic written presentation as criteria for an honors designation in the elective.
6. Evaluate student's ability to communicate in a "360" fashion.