**Advanced Specialty Continued Accreditation Application: Rheumatology (Internal Medicine)**

401 North Michigan Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60611 · United States · +1.312.755.7042

www.acgme-i.org

**Submission for Continued Accreditation:** This Advanced Specialty Application is for programs applying for **Continued Accreditation ONLY** and is used in conjunction with the Accreditation Data System (ADS).

All sections of the form applicable to the program must be completed for it to be accepted for review. The information provided should describe the existing program. For items that do not apply, indicate “N/A” in the space provided. Where patient numbers are requested, provide exact numbers as requested and indicate the exact dates for the data entered. If any requested information is unavailable, an explanation must be given, and it should also be indicated as unavailable in the appropriate place on the form. Once the form is complete, number the pages sequentially in the bottom center.

The program director is responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied in this form and must sign it. It must also be signed by the designated institutional official (DIO) of the Sponsoring Institution, who will submit the application electronically in ADS.

Review the International Foundational Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education and Advanced Specialty Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in Rheumatology. The International Foundational, Advanced Specialty, and Institutional Requirements may be downloaded from the ACGME International website: [www.acgme-i.org](http://www.acgme-i.org/).

Email questions regarding the form’s content to acgme-i@acgme-i.org.

Email questions regarding ADS to ADS@acgme.org (type the program number in the subject line).

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| Program Name: Click here to enter text. |

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**Introduction**

**Duration and Scope of Education**

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| * + - 1. What is the length, in months, of the educational program?

Choose a length. |

**Institutions**

**Sponsoring Institution**

1. Does the fellowship function as an integral part of an ACGME-I-accredited residency in internal medicine? [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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**Program Personnel and Resources**

**Other Program Personnel**

1. Does the program have a meaningful working relationship, including availability for teaching and consultation, with at least one of each of the following specialists?
2. Dermatologist [ ] YES [ ] NO
3. Nephrologist [ ] YES [ ] NO
4. Orthopaedic Surgeon [ ] YES [ ] NO
5. Pathologist [ ] YES [ ] NO
6. Radiologist [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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**Resources**

1. Are the following laboratory and imaging services present at the primary clinical site or at participating sites?
2. Angiography [ ] YES [ ] NO
3. Bone densitometry [ ] YES [ ] NO
4. Clinical immunology lab [ ] YES [ ] NO
5. Compensated polarized light microscope [ ] YES [ ] NO
6. Computed tomography (CT) imaging [ ] YES [ ] NO
7. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) [ ] YES [ ] NO
8. Ultrasound for both diagnostic and interventional musculoskeletal applications at the bedside

 [ ] YES [ ] NO

1. Ultrasound for both diagnostic and interventional musculoskeletal applications in the ambulatory clinic [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Are the following patient services available to the program?
2. Consultation services for obtaining biopsies of kidney, muscle, nerve, skin, and vasculature [ ] YES [ ] NO
3. Facilities for rehabilitation medicine [ ] YES [ ] NO
4. Orthopaedic surgery consultation for joint arthroplasty and other surgical treatments [ ] YES [ ] NO
5. Orthopaedic surgery services for synovial biopsies [ ] YES [ ] NO
6. Pathology services for kidney, muscle, nervous system, skin, synovial, and vascular biopsy materials [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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**Eligibility Criteria**

1. How does the program ensure all fellows have completed an ACGME-I-accredited internal medicine residency program or another internal medicine residency program acceptable to the Sponsoring institution’s Graduate Medical Education Committee? (Limit 250 words).

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**Specialty-Specific Educational Program**

**ACGME-I Competencies**

**Professionalism**

1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles? (Limit 300 words)

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**Patient Care and Procedural Skills**

1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate the ability to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in a variety of health care settings, including inpatient and ambulatory settings? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in the following?
	1. Providing care for patients with whom they have limited or no physical contact through telemedicine
	2. Using critical thinking and evidence-based tools
	3. Using population-based data

Describe how competence is evaluated in each area listed. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in treatment of the following?

Autoimmune manifestations of infectious conditions

Crystal-induced synovitis

Infection of joints and soft tissues

Inflammatory myositis

Metabolic disease of bone

Monogenic and polygenic autoinflammatory syndromes

Non-articular rheumatic diseases, including fibromyalgia

Non-surgical exercise-related injury

Osteoarthritis

Osteoporosis

Pediatric rheumatic diseases

Regional musculoskeletal pain syndromes, including acute and chronic musculoskeletal pain syndromes and exercise-related pain syndromes

Relapsing polychondritis

Rheumatoid arthritis

Sjogren’s Syndrome

Spondyloarthropathies

Systemic diseases with rheumatic manifestations

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Systematic sclerosis and scleroderma mimics

Vasculitis, including primary large, medium, and small vessel vasculitis

Describe how competence is evaluated in seven of the 20 areas listed. (Limit 700 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in the following?
	* + - 1. Examination and interpretation of synovial fluid under conventional and polarized light microscopy
				2. Interpretation of radiographs of normal and diseased joints, bones, periarticular structures, and prosthetic joints

Describe how competence is evaluated in each of the areas listed. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in assessment and management of musculoskeletal pain?. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in performing arthrocentesis of peripheral joint and periarticular/soft tissue injections, including experience in performing these procedures under ultrasound guidance? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate competence in performing and interpreting diagnostic ultrasonography of painful musculoskeletal structures commonly encountered in rheumatology clinic, including synovial joints, periarticular soft tissues, tendons, and ligaments? (Limit 300 words)

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**Medical Knowledge**

1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care? (Limit 400 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of the scientific method of problem solving and evidence-based decision-making? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of indications, contraindications, and techniques for, and limitations, complications, and interpretation of results of those diagnostic and therapeutic procedures integral to the discipline, including the appropriate indications for and use of screening tests and procedures? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of the indications for and interpretation of the following?
	1. Arthroscopy
	2. Biopsy specimen, including histochemistry and immunofluorescence of tissues relevant to the diagnosis of rheumatic diseases
	3. Bone densitometry
	4. CT of lungs and paranasal sinuses for patients with suspected or confirmed rheumatic disorders
	5. Electromyograms and nerve conduction studies for patients with suspected or confirmed rheumatic disorders
	6. Lip biopsy, parotid scans, and salivary flow studies
	7. MRI of the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) for patients with suspected or confirmed rheumatic disorders
	8. Plain radiography, arthrography, ultrasonography, radionuclide scans, CT, and MRI of joints, bones, and periarticular structures
	9. Arteriograms (conventional and MRI/magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA) for patients with suspected or confirmed vasculitis
	10. Schirmer’s and rose Bengal tests
	11. Ultrasound scans of normal and painful musculoskeletal structures commonly encountered in a rheumatology clinic, including synovial joints, periarticular soft tissues, tendons, and ligaments

Describe how knowledge is evaluated in six of the 11 areas listed. (Limit 600 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of the following?
	1. Anatomy, basic immunology, genetic basis, cell biology, and metabolism pertaining to rheumatic diseases, disorders of connective tissue, metabolic disease of bone, osteoporosis, and musculoskeletal pain syndromes
	2. Pathogenesis, epidemiology, clinical expression, treatments, and prognosis of the full range of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases
	3. Pharmacokinetics, metabolism, adverse events, interactions, and relative costs of drug therapies used in the management of rheumatic disorders
	4. Physical and biologic basis of the range of diagnostic testing in rheumatology, and the clinical test characteristics of these procedures

Describe how knowledge is evaluated in three of the four areas listed. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of the following?
	1. Aging influences on musculoskeletal function and responses to prescribed therapies for rheumatic diseases
	2. Appropriate employment of principles of physical medicine and rehabilitation in the care of patients with rheumatic disorders
	3. Essential components of quality experimental design, clinical trial design, data analysis, and interpretation of results, as well as the importance of adherence to ethical standards of experimentation
	4. Indications for surgical and orthopaedic consultation, including indications for arthroscopy and joint replacement/arthroplasty

Describe how knowledge is evaluated in three of the four areas listed. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate knowledge of application of technology appropriate for the clinical context, including evolving technologies? (Limit 300 words)

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**Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**

* + - 1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate their ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning?. (Limit 300 words)

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**Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, patients’ families, and health professionals? (Limit 300 words)

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**Systems-Based Practice**

1. How do graduating fellows demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care? (Limit 300 words)

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**Regularly Scheduled Educational Activities**

1. Complete Appendix A., Formal Didactic Sessions by Academic Year, and attach to submission.
2. Do fellows have the following?
3. Opportunity to review all knowledge content from conferences they cannot attend [ ] YES [ ] NO
4. Educational activities that allow for fellow-to-fellow interaction [ ] YES [ ] NO
5. Educational activities that allow for fellow-to-faculty member interaction [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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**Clinical Experiences**

* + - 1. How does the program ensure that rotations are structured to:
1. allow fellows to function as part of an effective interprofessional team;
2. minimize conflicting inpatient and outpatient responsibilities;
3. minimize the frequency of transitions;
4. provide continuity of patient care;
5. provide ongoing supervision of fellows; and,
6. provide meaningful assessment and feedback?

Describe how this is achieved. (Limit 300 words)

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1. Do fellows have the following?
	* + - 1. Educational experiences in team-based care with other health care professionals [ ] YES [ ] NO
				2. Elective experiences relevant to their future practice [ ] YES [ ] NO
				3. Experience in the role of rheumatology consultant in both an inpatient and outpatient setting [ ] YES [ ] NO
				4. Training using simulation [ ] YES [ ] NO
				5. A structured continuity ambulatory clinic experience for the duration of the program that exposes them to the breadth and depth of rheumatology? [ ] YES [ ] NO

 Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure each fellow has a minimum of 12 months devoted to clinical experiences during the educational program? (Limit 300 words)

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1. Do fellows have an average of one half-day a week in the continuity ambulatory clinic throughout the educational program? [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain if ‘NO’. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Is fellows’ continuing patient care experience interrupted by more than one month, excluding vacation?

 [ ] YES [ ] NO

Explain if ‘YES.’ (Limit 250 words)

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**Scholarly Activity**

**Fellows’s Scholarly Activity**

How does the program ensure that all fellows engage in scholarly activity? (Limit 300 words)

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**The Learning and Working Environment**

**Duty Hour and Work Limitations**

How does the program ensure direct supervision of procedures performed by each fellow occurs until competence has been acquired and documented by the program director? (Limit 300 words)

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**Appendix A. Formal Didactic Sessions by Academic Year**

For each year of the fellowship, attach (Label: Appendix A.) a list of all scheduled didactic courses (including discussion groups, seminars and conferences, grand rounds, basic science, skills labs, and journal club) at all participating sites to which fellows rotate, using the format below. If attended by fellows from multiple years, list in each year but provide a full description *only the first time a site is listed*.

Number sessions **consecutively** from the first year through the final year so that the scheduled didactic sessions can be easily referenced throughout the application. **Be brief and use the outline that follows**.

Year in the Program:

Number: Title:

a) Type of Format (e.g., seminar, conference, discussion groups)

b) Required or elective

c) Brief description (three or four sentences)

d) Frequency, length of session, and total number of sessions

**Example:**

|  |
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| Y-101. Introduction to Rheumatololgya) Seminarb) Required Y-1c) Survey of contemporary methods and styles of care, including approaches to clinical work with minority populationsd) Weekly, for 8 sessions02. Departmental Grand Roundsa) Discussion groupsb) Required, Y-1, Y-2, Y-3; Elective c) Clinical case presentations, sponsored by each departmental division, followed by discussion and review of contemporary state of knowledge. Format includes fellow presentations and discussions with additional faculty discussant.d) Twice monthly, 24 sessions |

If fellow attendance is monitored, explain how this is accomplished and how feedback is given regarding non-attendance. (Limit 250 words)

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