

2019-2020

Rheumatology Fellowship Program

Our mission:

To serve. To heal.
To educate.



Rheumatology Fellowship Program



Cooper University Health Care is the leading tertiary-level provider serving the southern New Jersey region. Consumers and physicians recognize the system as being South Jersey's leading medical center. In annual surveys assessing the region's medical care, Cooper's physicians are frequently recognized as "Top Doctors" in their fields. These world-class physicians are the teachers with whom you will interact during your educational experience.

The Cooper University Health Sciences Campus is the clinical site of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), which graduated its first class of medical students in 2016.

The Rheumatology Fellowship at Cooper University Health Care offers a breadth and depth of clinical rheumatology experience, nationally recognized instruction in musculoskeletal ultrasound, and multidisciplinary didactic and practical instruction in a wide array of allied fields. This two-year fellowship program accepts one candidate per year. Inpatient consultations are performed at the main campus of Cooper University Hospital in Camden. Outpatient experience is gained in Voorhees, NJ.

The fellowship program is structured to ensure that each fellow has the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, clinical skills, professional attributes, and experience required to become an outstanding practicing rheumatologist. During the first year, emphasis is on instruction in clinical rheumatology. Fellows hone their skills of rheumatologic history taking, physical examination, differential diagnosis, understanding treatment options, and management of complications of disease and treatment. Fellows learn arthrocentesis, joint and soft tissue injection techniques, and how to perform synovial fluid analysis. The Division of Rheumatology provides all bone densitometry reports for Cooper University Health Care and fellows become well versed in DEXA interpretation.

Outpatient Practice Schedule

Day	Time	Practice
Monday	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Continuity Clinic (Voorhees)
Tuesday	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Continuity Clinic (Voorhees)
Wednesday	8 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Conferences
Friday	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Ultrasound Clinic (Voorhees)

CooperHealth.edu

Educational Activities



Residents are immersed in this rich environment, and have ample opportunity to interact with faculty and peers through formal and informal teaching sessions.

Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Education

From the start of the first year, the fellow begins instruction in the use of musculoskeletal ultrasound to help guide real-time diagnosis, monitoring, and treatment of arthritis and musculoskeletal disorders. One-on-one clinical instructional sessions occur weekly in Voorhees. Additionally, monthly lectures are provided to enhance the training and review normal ultrasonographic imaging along with pathologic ultrasonographic imaging. Opportunities are also available to attend musculoskeletal ultrasound courses locally and nationally. Fellows have the opportunity to apply to the Ultrasound School of North American Rheumatologists (USSONAR) course for fellows. This national network of musculoskeletal ultrasound educators includes Cooper faculty. USSONAR provides numerous resources including online video instruction, articles specific to the usefulness of ultrasound in rheumatic diseases, and the evaluation and feedback of uploaded images that the fellows have obtained and directly submitted to the USSONAR website for review. In conjunction with the training provided at Cooper University Health Care, USSONAR helps to provide competency in ultrasound image acquisition, interpretation, and reporting. Fellows create a portfolio, or log, of musculoskeletal ultrasound procedures which can help demonstrate their proficiency, and can ultimately be utilized to apply for hospital privileges, and for musculoskeletal ultrasound certification.

Pediatric Rheumatology Experience

The pediatric rheumatology rotation takes place at Nemours Alfred I DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, DE, where children ranging in age from newborn to 18 years old are referred. This month-long experience is designed to produce proficiency in the diagnosis and management of childhood rheumatic disorders and an enhanced understanding of interactions with pediatric patients and their families. Because of the highly specialized nature of this elective, and the need for a solid grounding in adult rheumatology, this rotation is reserved for second-year fellows. Fellows participate in outpatient clinic and inpatient rounds under the supervision of the attending pediatric rheumatologist, Carlos D. Rose, MD.

serve

Educational Activities



Additional Rotations

Fellows in the second year participate in two weeks of orthopaedic outpatient practice and two weeks of sports medicine outpatient practice supervised by faculty in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Cooper Bone and Joint Institute within the Voorhees outpatient practice. Fellows review the principles of physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physical medicine and rehabilitation in collaboration with the physical and occupational therapists and faculty in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, also at the Voorhees facility, during a two-week rotation in the second year. In addition, second-year fellows participate in a two week rotation with the Chief of Musculoskeletal Radiology at Cooper University Health Care. During this rotation, rheumatology fellows gain added sophistication in the interpretation of musculoskeletal radiology, including MRIs and other specialized studies. The opportunity exists to craft special interest electives in dermatology and other disciplines.



Research Experience

Fellows engage in scholarly activities throughout fellowship. First-year fellows are invited to begin considering research projects that may be initiated in the first year, and will become the focus of their second year, shortly after joining the program. These include participation in investigator-initiated projects and multicenter clinical trials headed by faculty from within the Division of Rheumatology, as well as by faculty throughout Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, Cooper Research Institute, and the Coriell Institute of Medical Research. Fellows present their research findings each year during Cooper Research Week and are encouraged to submit abstracts to local, regional, and national meetings, including those of the New Jersey Rheumatism Association, the Philadelphia Rheumatism Society, and the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Rheumatology.

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Conferences

Conference Schedule

Wednesday 8 a.m.–10 a.m.

Research (monthly)

Basic Science

Journal Club (monthly)

Case Management (weekly)

Core Curriculum Didactics

Fellows Only Meeting with
Program Director (bi-monthly)

Fellows participate in a rich and varied conference schedule. At the start of the first year, the first year fellow joins other fellows from throughout the Northeast at the Regional First Year Rheumatology Fellows Conference held on the University of Pennsylvania campus in July. This three-day program introduces fellows to critical topics in rheumatology and provides practical instruction in examination and injection techniques. In addition, it introduces fellows to their regional colleagues entering the field, as well as a broad array of faculty from area rheumatology divisions.

The Calendar of Conferences Throughout the Year

Research conference provides a forum for all faculty and fellows to vet new projects and review ongoing protocols within the division of rheumatology, as well as invited guests from other divisions and departments.

Basic Science conference covers topics in immunology and other fields with relevance to pathophysiology and treatment of rheumatic diseases.

Journal Club features a systematic review of the latest contributions to the scientific and clinical rheumatology literature.

Case Management conference offers a weekly discussion of cases seen in the inpatient and outpatient setting, from “bread and butter” rheumatology to the most challenging.

The Core Curriculum Didactics series covers the broad range of subjects from disease-specific reviews to current issues in health care delivery.

The Fellows Only Meeting is bi-monthly among the fellows, program director, associate program director, and program coordinator for review of policies and procedures, scheduling, career counseling, and problem solving.

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How to Apply



Contact Information

Director:

Hala M. Eid, MD

Contact:

Nicole Sempsey, Coordinator

Phone:

856-342-2000 x1009639

Email:

sempsey-nicole@cooperhealth.edu

Website:

cooperhealth.edu/fellowships/
rheumatology

Address:

Cooper University Hospital
Division of Rheumatology
401 Haddon Avenue
E&R Building, Suite 266
Camden, NJ 08103

The Rheumatology Fellowship Program at Cooper University Health Care participates in the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS). Information regarding the ERAS application process is available on the websites listed below.

Association of American Medical Colleges

www.aamc.org/eras

ERAS Fellowship Document Office

aamc.org/students/medstudents/eras/fellowship_applicants

ERAS applications must contain the following information in order for your application

to be considered:

- Common application form
- Curriculum vitae
- Medical school transcript
- Three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from your current or most recent training director
- Personal statement describing your training goals and future career plans
- ECFMG certification (IMG only)
- USMLE reports (1, 2 and 3)

The program director and faculty members will review applicant files. Invitation for interview will be based upon their recommendations.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility for the Rheumatology Fellowship Program requires completion of an ACGME internal medicine residency. At the time trainees begin their rheumatology fellowship, they must be ABIM board-certified or board-eligible in internal medicine. Individuals accepted for a position in the fellowship program must be a U.S. citizen, classified as a resident alien, or hold a J-1 visa.

The application deadline for the 2019-2020 academic year is August 31, 2018.

The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area



The expansion project at Cooper is a direct reflection of the growth in services that Cooper has experienced over the past several years.



It is extraordinary to have such a high concentration of leadership at one institution, but then, Cooper is an extraordinary health care system.

Cooper University Hospital is the center of a growing Camden health sciences campus that includes the hospital, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, Sheridan Pavilion at Three Cooper Plaza medical offices, the internationally acclaimed Coriell Institute for Medical Research, and the Ronald McDonald House. Adjacent to the Cooper Plaza/Lanning Square neighborhood, Cooper has a long history of outreach and service efforts to its local community. Some of these initiatives include health and wellness programs for the neighborhood, development of neighborhood parks and playgrounds, and outreach to programs into local schools.

The hospital's 312,000-square-foot, 10-story Roberts Pavilion features an expansive lobby and concourse, a restaurant and coffee shop, business center, gift shop, and chapel. State-of-the-art patient care facilities include private patient rooms, technologically advanced operating room suites with hybrid imaging capabilities, and an advanced laboratory automation facility. The Emergency Department features 25 beds, dedicated isolation suites, and autonomous CT scanning technology. Designated floors serve specific patient populations, including those needing advanced surgical and heart care, along with South Jersey's only dedicated 30-bed inpatient cancer unit.

Also in the Roberts Pavilion is the 25,000-square-foot Dr. Edward D. Viner Intensive Care Unit—featuring 30 private patient rooms equipped with the latest in advanced technology, and allowing 360-degree patient access. Five patient rooms are capable of negative pressure isolation, and five rooms have chambered isolation alcoves. In addition, an enlarged room with operating room caliber lighting is outfitted to perform bedside exploratory laparotomy in patients considered too medically unstable for transport to the operating room.

Cooper University Health Care and MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, partnered in 2013 to create MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper. MD Anderson has consistently been named one of the nation's top two cancer hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

Our partnership is a full clinical integration between the two programs. MD Anderson at Cooper physicians adhere to the same philosophy, processes, and guidelines set by MD Anderson in Houston, and patients receive the same proven practice standards and treatment plans provided at MD Anderson. Today at MD Anderson at Cooper, patients have access to more clinical trials for more types of cancer than ever before, as well as a full range of supportive care services.

The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area, continued



Advanced, comprehensive cancer services are provided at our Camden, Voorhees, and Willingboro campuses. Cooper Digestive Health Institute locations are fully accredited MD Anderson at Cooper locations providing innovative gastrointestinal cancer prevention, detection, and treatment services. Additional cancer clinical services are provided at multiple locations throughout the Philadelphia-South Jersey areas.

CMSRU's Medical Education Building is located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus on South Broadway, between Benson and Washington Streets in Camden. The medical school, which opened in July 2012, was designed to support an innovative curriculum that integrates knowledge of basic science concepts, early clinical experience and patient care, self-directed learning, teamwork, and medical and non-medical activities for the greater community's benefit.

The Cooper Health Sciences Campus is located in the heart of Camden's business district. The academic medical center campus is easily accessible by car or public transportation via the PATCO and bus terminal adjacent to the hospital.

Cooper is a short walk or drive from the exciting Camden waterfront, which includes a magnificent waterfront park and marina; the Adventure Aquarium; and the BB&T Pavilion, which hosts nationally renowned entertainment throughout the year. Nearby are the Sixers Training Complex, L3 Communications complex, Lockheed Martin, Rutgers University Camden Campus, and Camden County College. There are expected to be \$350M in transportation and infrastructure improvements within the next four to five years to handle the influx of thousands of new employees to the area and students at nearby growing academic campuses.

Cooper is conveniently close to Philadelphia. Just a mile-long drive over the Benjamin Franklin Bridge will put you at the doorstep of Philadelphia's cultural, culinary, and historic venues. South Jersey also offers a range of living and entertainment options. Quaint towns such as Haddonfield and Collingswood are just 10 minutes away. The lights and action of Atlantic City and popular beach towns such as Cape May and Ocean City are a one-hour drive from Cooper.

Cooper Camden Campus Map



The most up-to-date directions to Cooper University Hospital are available at:
CooperHealth.org/Locations

campus



World Class Care. Right Here. Right Now.

George E. Norcross III
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Adrienne Kirby, PhD, FACHE
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One Cooper Plaza · Camden, NJ 08103-1489 · CooperHealth.edu

Hospital Main Number: **856-342-2000**

Graduate Medical Education: **856-342-2922**