# 2107 Pediatric Rheumatology

**Course:** Pediatric Rheumatology  
**Course Number:** PED 2107

**Department:** Pediatrics  
**Faculty Coordinator:** Tracey Wright, MD  
**Assistant Faculty Coordinators:** N/A

**UTSW Education Coordinator Contact:** Anthony Lee ([Anthony.Lee@UTSouthwestern.edu](mailto:Anthony.Lee@UTSouthwestern.edu))

**Hospital:** (Location of rotation)  
Children’s Medical Center / Scottish Rite Hospital

**Periods Offered:** 1-12  
**Length:** 4 weeks  
**Max # of Students:** 2 (Post Clerkship Students)

**First Day Contact:** Sharon Moore ([Sharon.Moore@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:Sharon.Moore@utsouthwestern.edu))  
**First Contact Time:** 8:00am  
**First Day Location:** Texas Scottish Rite Hospital (Physician’s Touchdown)

**Prerequisites:** PED 1801 Pediatric Core Clerkship

## I. Course Description

The student will be taught how to examine and evaluate pediatric patients with collagen vascular disease. The focus will be on the importance of detailed history and musculoskeletal examination in the diagnosis of connective tissue diseases. The elective will demonstrate the importance of continuity of care and a multidisciplinary approach in the case of chronic patients and enhance students’ ability to logically perform differential diagnosis. The student will be exposed to the physical findings in all major collagen vascular diseases including juvenile arthritis, lupus, dermatomyositis and scleroderma.

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<th>Goals</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
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| **Patient Care:**  Students, together with supervising faculty, must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. | • Gather essential and accurate information about their patient’s history.  
• Perform physical examination being able to recognize signs of joint swelling, limitation of range of motion, muscle weakness and abnormal skin findings including heliotrope, Gottron’s papules, morphea, malar rash and discoid lesions.  
• Interpret standard laboratory testing including CBC, CRP, ESR and albumin to recognize and assess the severity and chronicity of | • Quality of Medical Records entries  
• Skills evaluation from direct observation. |
systemic inflammation.

- Interpret the significance (or lack thereof) of commonly obtained autoantibody tests, ANA, RF, anti CCP, ds DNA antibodies and anticardiolipin antibodies.
- The resident/student should develop an approach including a differential diagnosis and plan for further evaluation, if necessary to the patient with:
  - Joint swelling
  - Joint pain
  - Unexplained fever
  - Muscle pain/weakness
  - Positive ANA
  - Morning stiffness
  - Rash
- Synthesize and present the above information to the attending in an oral presentation for dictation by the attending physician.

**Medical Knowledge:**

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established biomedical and clinical sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.

- Be able to diagnose (clinically) and understand the pathophysiology, natural history, prognosis and current management concepts of common rheumatology problems in children, including:
  - Oligoarticular juvenile arthritis
  - Polyarticular juvenile arthritis
  - Systemic juvenile arthritis
  - Psoriatic juvenile arthritis
  - Enthesitis related juvenile arthritis
  - Systemic lupus erythematosus
  - Juvenile Dermatomyositis
  - Localized scleroderma
  - Systemic scleroderma
  - Vasculitis
  - Periodic fever syndromes
- Demonstrate critical thinking in correlating rheumatologic pathophysiology with patient’s physical and laboratory findings.

**Interpersonal and Communication Skills:**

Students must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange with healthcare professionals and families.

- Give case presentations in a clear, concise, organized and relevant manner.
- Communicate appropriate information to the family (and patient) concerning management.
- Be an integral member of the team.

- Each student is required to create a case presentation and to present it to the faculty and fellows during the rotation. It is recommended that students present an interesting case they encountered during their rotation. However, they are also permitted to present on a topic of interest that relates to pediatric course topic.
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<th>Medical care team and exchange information effectively with other health care professionals.</th>
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| **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:**  
Students must be able to assimilate scientific evidence and improve their patient care practices.  
| • Read about the rheumatologic conditions and treatments of these conditions affecting their patients.  
• Demonstrate appropriate use of educational resources for self-education, including medical literature and online medical information.  
| • Each student is required to create a case presentation and to present it to the faculty and fellows during the rotation. It is recommended that students present an interesting case they encountered during their rotation. However, they are also permitted to present on a topic of interest that relates to pediatric course topic.  
• Critical review of a relevant article.  
| **Professionalism:**  
Students must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.  
| • Accurate representation of data  
• Ethically sound decisions  
• Professional appearance  
• Attendance at clinics and conferences on time  
• Respect for patients' confidentiality  
• Mature behavior  
• Sensitivity to culture, genders and disabilities  
| • Observations of faculty and staff.  

### II. Methods of Instruction

**Didactic:** *(Schedule, Topic and Faculty)*

Attendance at the weekly Rheumatology Grand Rounds is encouraged. These meetings include journal clubs, guest speakers and presentations by rheumatology attendings/fellows on topics pertinent to the field.

**Clinical:** *(Schedule, Faculty Teaching and House-Staff Teaching)*

Students attend all day Arthritis Clinics at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital or Children's Medical Center on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Fridays. An additional clinic for adult patients is held at Parkland Hospital on Tuesdays from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm and is optional.

### III. Overview of Student Responsibilities

- Evaluate new inpatients, present to attending and follow until discharge.  
- In clinics, see new patients and present patient information to attending.  
- Independent Learning  
  - A notebook of pediatric rheumatology curriculum is provided for each student. This notebook includes recent review articles on all major collagen vascular diseases as well as information on the differential diagnosis of arthritis in children and physical examination of collagen vascular disease patients. This curriculum is evaluated and revised on an annual basis.

### IV. Method of Evaluation of Students and Requirements
Pass-fail grades; there are no examinations. Evaluations of the student by the faculty will be based on achievement of the stated objectives of the course. This will be assessed by the student’s preparation, fund of knowledge, participation in clinic, and participation in didactic sessions.