

DIVISION OF

RHEUMATOLOGY

MARINA MAGREY, MD | DIVISION CHIEF

The Division of Rheumatology continues to grow in reputation in Northeast Ohio and nationally. Our faculty, staff, and trainees had an outstanding year advancing our clinical, research, and teaching missions.

The division's clinical activity remains highly productive, providing integrated care to patients with complex rheumatic diseases. We have expanded the development of our clinical programs to the east and west sides of Cleveland with 5,858 new patient visits and 26,638 follow-up visits in the last year. We developed a virtual consult program for patients admitted to Ahuja Hospital.

The research programs of the division continue to grow. We are collaborating with Johns Hopkins University in a clinical trial funded by the National Institute of Health's Helping to End Addiction Long-term Initiative—the Sequenced Strategy for Improving Outcomes in People with Knee Osteoarthritis Pain (SKOAP) study. We have started new trials in systemic lupus erythematosus and are collaborating with our international partners, ASAS and GRAPPA, for axial spondyloarthritis trials. The 21st annual Spondyloarthritis Treatment and Research Network (SPARTAN) meeting, which took place in Cleveland, was planned and chaired by Dr. Magrey. The conference celebrated the 50th anniversary of the HLA-B27 gene discovery and its pivotal connection to hereditary factors in spondyloarthritis. Approximately

200 rheumatologists from around the world converged both in person and virtually to discuss the remarkable evolution of the field of spondyloarthritis over the past five decades. Patients with axial spondyloarthritis from University Hospitals also participated in the meeting.

Our faculty remains very active in teaching and participating in Block 5 rheumatology lectures at the medical school and supervising MD and MD-PhD students in the Clinics. We have made significant progress in the scholarly activities of our trainees, who presented 11 abstracts at the American College of Rheumatology Convergence meeting in San Diego and had multiple papers published in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Mattar joined the American College of Rheumatology Workforce project to develop virtual Grand Rounds for Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Pediatric Resident Programs. Our faculty remain engaged in various committees at CWRU.

We continue to provide state-of-the-art care to our patients, expand our research of developing new biomarkers and reducing co-morbidities in patients with rheumatic diseases, and provide high-quality education to our trainees.