Hospital for Special Surgery

Historical Perspective

Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) has a proud 138-year history of commitment to treating patients with and finding the causes and cures for musculoskeletal and autoimmune disorders. HSS is regarded as the world’s leading institution and center of excellence for rheumatology and orthopedic care. At HSS, excellence in care has always gone hand in hand with world-class research and education. As an academic institution, we employ a multidisciplinary approach to define the clinical issues that affect our patients, determine reasons for individual diagnoses and, ultimately, identify a cure.

A World-Class Academic Environment

The Rheumatology Fellowship Program at the Cornell University Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College is based at HSS and includes clinical and research resources at our surrounding sister institutions, the New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and the Rockefeller University. Active links with a variety of disciplines in the Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University (WGSMSCU) are an integral part of the program, which is designed for training physicians interested in developing academic and clinical careers in rheumatology. The 4.5 acres surrounding HSS defines one of the largest concentrations of biomedical research and care anywhere in the world. A quad-institutional immunology program focuses internationally recognized scientists on solving the immunological puzzles that lead to autoimmunity and musculoskeletal disorders.

The Faculty

The faculty is comprised of 30 full-time members of the Division of Adult Rheumatology and two members in the Division of Pediatric Rheumatology. Half of the adult rheumatology faculty are world-class basic researchers and fifteen are full-time clinical rheumatologists who are involved in clinical investigation. The rheumatology program is a component of the Research Division at HSS, which coordinates a broad program of research in musculoskeletal diseases with additional faculty from the basic sciences, orthopaedics, biomechanics and biomaterials, tissue engineering, gene therapy, pathology and anesthesiology. The rheumatology program is complemented by the WGSMSCU program in immunology, which has 28 faculty, including six based at HSS in rheumatology and 12 based at the WGSMSCU program in clinical epidemiology and health services. Fifty-five world-class orthopedic surgeons are directly involved in the training of rheumatology fellows. Unique and strong relationships exist between the Division of Rheumatology and the Department of Orthopedic Surgery in the clinical and research arenas.

The Rheumatology Training Program

The training program combines a broad-based and in-depth clinical and research experience supporting our division’s mission of delivering the highest quality academic training for rheumatology professionals. The clinical experience is focused on outpatient clinics in adult and pediatric rheumatology and orthopedic subspecialty clinics, the inpatient consultation service at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, The Clinical Center at the Rockefeller University and the inpatient Rheumatic Disease Unit at HSS. Didactic sessions include introductory rheumatology, an immunology and clinical epidemiology and health services research lecture series, as well as a weekly journal club, consult rounds, professor’s rounds, rheumatology grand rounds, and clinical-pathology-radiology conferences.
The research projects relate to ongoing research activities within the broad scope of the Program. Suitable projects include investigations into the biological mechanisms of autoimmune, inflammatory and musculoskeletal disease and issues pertinent to clinical epidemiology and health services delivery in the rheumatic diseases. Each fellow’s research experience is coordinated by a faculty mentor and includes a weekly journal club and research-in-progress conferences. For fellows pursuing studies of immunologic mechanisms of disease, the Graduate Program in Immunology sponsors weekly research seminars, weekly guest seminars and a formal course in immunology. For fellows pursuing a project in health services research and initial intensive eight-week curriculum is complemented by ongoing weekly conferences. All fellows are expected to present the results of their research at regional and national meetings. A National Institutes of Health (NIH) research training grant contributes financial support to the second and third years of the fellowship with specific provision for obtaining a superb basic immunology research experience or a masters degree in clinical epidemiology and health services research.

An Integrated Approach to Clinical and Research Training

HSS and the Medical Center enhance a rich environment for learning and for the development of an academic career. In addition to the core clinical experience in adult and pediatric rheumatology, clinics in office-based orthopaedics (sports medicine, hand, shoulder, spine, hip, knee, and foot) and other musculoskeletal areas (osteoarthritis, nerve/muscle, osteogenesis imperfecta, and rehabilitation) are available. Didactic conferences in radiology, pathology and metabolic bone disease are regularly scheduled. Defining characteristics of our institution include a close working relationship between orthopaedists, rheumatologists, and other health care professionals, as well as a multidisciplinary approach to clinical care.

The energy and resources of all of the institutions enrich the scientific environment. The programs in immunology, molecular biology, cell biology, and structural biochemistry sponsor daily conferences and seminars. Active scientific collaborations are encouraged and ongoing. Inter-institutional training programs are feasible when appropriate.

The Clinical Base

The clinical experience at HSS is extraordinary in its breadth and attending physician availability. HSS has around 7,000 admissions per year of which 320 are admitted to the HSS rheumatology in-patient service. Over 10,000 new rheumatology patients are seen in an ambulatory setting per year with 35,000 revisits. The Division of Rheumatology has its own ambulatory Infusion Care Unit that treated over 1,700 patients in the year 2000 with a variety of biologic agents and anti-inflammatory treatments. A broad range of rheumatology problems are assessed at HSS. The patient base includes 4,600 patients with rheumatoid arthritis and 1,500 patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. Registries that are employed in patient care and clinical and basic research include 400,000 total patients with specific registries involving 667 SLE, 650 RA, 160 anti-phospholipid syndrome and 150 pediatric lupus patients. Functional outcomes are defined in these patients and their cells, sera and DNA are stored for research activities. Over 14,000 orthopedic surgical procedures are performed at HSS, with 50 percent occurring on an outpatient basis. Peri-operative management of these patients as part of a multi-disciplinary team is a cornerstone of care at HSS. Staff rheumatologists perform needle arthroscopy.
The Research Base

This rheumatology program is dedicated to advancing knowledge in the areas of basic and clinical research. The research interests of our staff are well-defined in the accompanying faculty description. The research program is strongly supported by multiple federal and non-federal grants. Over $20M in such grants and a $70M research institute building program define the commitment of our scientists and Board of Trustees to the highest quality of basic and clinical investigation. An NIH T32 research training grant supports our fellowship research program. The program is also supported by on-site research core facilities including flow cytometry/cell sorting, molecular biology, analytic microscopy, research methodology and statistics, an outcomes research unit and confocal microscopy. Cores found in our surrounding sister institutions support transgenic models, protein sequencing and gene therapy.

Eligibility and Conditions

Physicians who will have completed an ACGME-accredited internal medicine residency may apply to the program. HSS is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate with regard to sex, color, creed, religion, sexual preference or disability.

The program, designed for three fellows each year, is flexible to allow for individual interests and needs. While the first year program is predominantly clinical, fellows are strongly encouraged to explore investigative opportunities. The length of fellowship training is three years for most candidates and results in eligibility for subspecialty board certification in rheumatology. Opportunities for additional research training may also be arranged on an individual basis. Options for formal work leading to advanced degrees in immunology and health services research are available through the WGS MCU and the Rockefeller University.

Support for the program is derived from a NIH Training Grant, grants from voluntary agencies and other sources. First year stipends are $45,000, increasing by $500 annually. Fellows are eligible for university- and hospital-owned housing, but such placements cannot be guaranteed.

Application Process

Applications to the program are considered on a revolving basis. A complete application portfolio consists of a curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, a personal statement and the application form. The Rheumatology Fellowship Program Committee reviews all applications packets and schedules the applicants for interviews with members of the rheumatology faculty.
Rheumatic Disease Fellowship Application

HOSPITAL FOR SPECIAL SURGERY
WEILL MEDICAL COLLEGE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY
535 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021

General:
Note: Please type or print entries

Date: ________________

Name: ___________________________________________

Last Name                                         First Name                                                    Middle Name

Permanent Address: ________________________________
No. and Street                     City                          State                     Zip Code               Tel.#

Present Address: _________________________________
No. and Street                     City                          State                     Zip Code               Tel.#

Until: ______________

Citizenship: USA ____________________ Other Nationality: __________________________________

SSN _____________________________ECFMG# _____________________ Type of Visa: ________________

Education:
Please indicate institutions, inclusive dates of attendance and degrees received; a Curriculum Vitae is desired.

College: __________________________________________ Degree & Year ________________
Address: ____________________________________________

Medical School: ____________________________ Degree & Year ______________
Address: ____________________________________________

Internship: __________________________________________
Name of Hospital                                                                 Address

Type                                                From                                      To

Residency: __________________________________________
Name of Hospital                                                                 Address

Type                                                From                                      To

Licensed in state of: __________________________ Year: ______________

N.Y. State License No.: ___________________ Year: __________ N.Y. State Temp. Cert. No. ________________________
Rheumatic Disease Fellowship Application

Fellowship:__________________________________________

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Investigative work in Medicine: *List titles and publication dates of papers*

_________________________________________________________


Previous experience in fields other than Medicine: *(Business, Industry, Teaching, etc.)*. *Field and inclusive dates should be indicted.*

_________________________________________________________


Personal History:

Date and place of birth: ______________________________________

Name and address of nearest relative: __________________________

_________________________________________________________

Single _____ Married _____ Spouse’s Name __________________________ Number of Children ________

References: *Please list the name and address of three persons who have definite knowledge of the applicant’s qualifications and fitness for the position for which application is made. At least two should be physicians under whom the applicant has served.*

1. ______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Date: ___________________ Signature: ______________________

The application and all related communications should be addressed to:

Stephen A. Paget, MD, FACP, FACR
The Hospital for Special Surgery
535 East 70th Street
New York, NY 10021
Rheumatology Faculty At The Hospital for Special Surgery

The faculty is comprised of 29 full time members in the Division of Rheumatology and Department of Medicine at HSS. All faculty members have academic appointments at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University (WMCCU) and Hospital appointments at the East Campus of the New York Presbyterian Hospital. The Rheumatology Program is complemented by the Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University (WGSMSCU) Program in Immunology which has 28 faculty including 6 based at HSS in Rheumatology [1] and the WGSMSCU Program in Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research which has 12 faculty including 9 affiliated with HSS. All physician faculty members are Board Certified in Rheumatology.

The members of the faculty include:

**Stephen A. Paget, M.D.**
Professor of Medicine
Joseph P. Routh Professor of Medicine and Rheumatic Diseases
Physician-in-Chief, HSS, Chairman of the Division of Rheumatology
M.D. – SUNY, Downstate
Internship & Residency – Johns Hopkins Hospital
Fellowship – Arthritis Rheumatism Branch, NIAIM, NIH; Hospital for
Special Surgery
Research Interests: Clinical epidemiology and health services
Research: Vasculitis; Giant cell arthritis and polymyalgia rheumatica; Steroid-induced osteoporosis; Rheumatoid arthritis; SLE; Medical education.

**Mary K. Crow, M.D.**
Professor of Medicine
Director, Immunology Program WGSMSCU
Director of the Mary Kirkland Center For SLE Research
Associate Director of the Division of Rheumatology
Director of Rheumatology Research
M.D. – Cornell University Medical College
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS-Rockefeller
Research interests: Immunology of autoimmune disorders, T-cell interactions; CD 40 ligand and its role in the development of autoimmune disorders, particularly SLE.

**Dalit Ashany, M.D.**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
M.D. – Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Internship & Residency – Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
Fellowship – NYU Medical Center
Clinical interests: Lupus; Vasculitis; Lyme disease; Inflammatory eye disease, Inflammatory arthritis.

**Kristina Belostocki, M.D.**
Instructor in Medicine
M.D.-The New York University School of Medicine
Internship and Residency: The New York Hospital for Special Surgery
Fellowship: HSS
Research Interests: Fc receptor function in autoimmune disorders.

**Nina Bhargava, M.D., Ph.D.**
Associate Professor of Medicine
M.D., Ph.D. – New York University
Internship & Residency – Brigham & Women’s Hospital
Fellowship – HSS-Rockefeller University
Research Interests: Immunology; Dendritic cells; basic and clinical research involving autoimmune disorders, neoplasms and viral infections, such as HIV.

**Nathan Brot, Ph.D.**
Senior Scientist
Ph.D. – UC Berkeley
Postdoctoral Fellowship – NIH
Research interests: Molecular biology; Oxidative tissue damage; Enzyme research.

**Gina DelGiudice, M.D.**
Assistant Attending Physician, HSS
Assistant Clinical Professor, RWJ
Adjunct Clinical Instructor of Psychiatry, Mt. Sinai Med. Center
M.D. – Mt. Sinai Medical Center
Internship & Residency – Mt. Sinai Medical Center
Fellowship – HSS
Research interests: Autoimmunity of autism and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

**Theodore Fields, M.D.**
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine
Director, Rheumatology Practice Plan; Co-director of the Fellowship Training Program; Coordinator of rheumatology@hss.org
M.D. – SUNY, Downstate
Internship & Residency – Nassau County Medical Center
Fellowship – SUNY, Stony Brook
Clinical interests: Crystal-induced disorders; Managed care and clinical practice coordination; Computers and their use in clinical practice and rheumatologic care.

**Allan Gibofsky, M.D., J.D.**
Professor of Medicine
M.D. – Cornell University Medical College
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS-Rockefeller
Research interests: Genetics of autoimmune and inflammatory disorders; Rheumatic fever; Lyme disease; RA; Legal aspects of the delivery of medical care.

**Susan Goodman, M.D.**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
M.D. – University of Cincinnati School of Medicine
Internship & Residency: Lenox Hill Hospital
Fellowship: Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
Clinical interests: Clinico-pathological-radiology conferences.

**Melanie J. Harrison, M.D., M.S.**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Director, RA Clinical Research Registry
M.D. – Univ. of Connecticut School of Medicine
M.S. – Clinical Epidemiology Well/Cornell Univ. Graduate School of Medical Sciences
Internship & Residency – Winthrop University Hospital
Fellowship: Winthrop University Hospital
Research interests: Clinical outcomes; Clinical research in the areas of cognitive dysfunction in autoimmune diseases, particularly SLE; Fatigue in connective tissue disorders and fibromyalgia; Clinical outcomes after biologic therapy.

**James Hollenberg, M.D.**
Associate Professor of Medicine
Computer coordinator of the HSS Outcomes Unit
M.D. – Columbia Physicians and Surgeons
Internship & Residency – Cornell Medical Center
Fellowship – New England Medical Center
Research and clinical interests: The computer and its role in research and practice; Registries; Informatics; Artificial intelligence.

**Lionel Itzhak, M.D.**
Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, RA Registry and Repository
Fellowship of the Laboratory of Cytokines and Transcription Factors in Autoimmune Disorders
M.D. – Harvard Medical School
Internship & Residency – NYU Medical Center
Fellowship: Brigham & Women’s Hospital
Research interest: Immunology of autoimmune disorders; Cytokines and their role in autoimmune disorders; JAK-STAT transcription pathways in RA; SLE; Cancer.

**Lawrence J. Kagen, M.D.**
Professor of Medicine
Director of Occupational Health
M.D. – NYU School of Medicine
Internship & Residency – Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
Fellowship – Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
Research interests: Myopathies; Inflammatory muscle disorders.

**Philip King, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Ph.D. – University College, London, England
Research interests: Immunology; Adhesion molecules; Signal transduction in T lymphocytes; CTLA-4 and its role in immunity.
Rheumatology Faculty At The Hospital for Special Surgery...Continued

Thomas J.A. Lehanan, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Chief, HSS Division of Pediatric Rheumatology
M.D. – Jefferson Medical College
Internship & Residency – LA Children's Hospital
Fellowship – Arthritis Rheumatism Branch, NIAMS, NIH
Research Interests: Immunology of childhood autoimmune and inflammatory disorders; JRA; Kawasaki's disease; SLE; Pediatric Autoimmune Registry.

Michael Lockshin, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Director, Barbara Volcker Center for Women and Rheumatic Diseases
Director of the Mary Kirkland Center for SLE Research
M.D. – Harvard Medical School
Residency: Cornell Medical Division, Bellevue Hospital
Fellowship: Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
Research interests: The anti-phospholipid syndrome; Pregnancy in patients with SLE; Autoimmune disorders in women; The role of gender in autoimmune disorders.

C. Ronald MacKenzie, M.D.
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine
Director, HSS Institutional Review Board
Director of the Integrative Care and Research Center
M.D. – University of Calgary
Internship & Residency – Calgary General
Fellowship: HSS/CUMC
Research interests: Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research: Osteoporosis and hip fractures; OA; Perioperative Medical care; Integrative medicine; Ethics in medicine.

Steve Magid, M.D.
Coordinator of the Physical Diagnosis Course
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine
M.D. – Cornell Medical College
Internship & Residency – Cornell Medical Center
Fellowship: HSS/CUMC
Clinical interests: SLE; RA; General rheumatology.

Carol Mancuso, M.D. *
Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, Graduate Program of Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research, WCGS/MCU
M.D. – CUNY/ Mt. Sinai Medical School
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research: Outcomes research in orthopedics, Rheumatology and asthma; Patient satisfaction; Disability in rheumatoid arthritis.

Joseph A. Markenson, M.D.
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Director, Clinical Trials Unit
M.D. – SUNY, Downstate
Internship & Residency – Downstate Medical Center
Fellowship – HSS/Rockefeller University
Research interests: Drug and biologic trials; RA; SLE; OA.

Leonard Meiselas, M.D.
Adjunct Clinical Professor of Medicine
M.D. – New York University School of Medicine
Fellowship – Beth Moses Hospital, Brooklyn
Clinical interests: Medical education; General rheumatology.

Charis F. Meng, M.D.
Instructor of Medicine
HSS Integrative Care Center
M.D. – Brown University School of Medicine
Residency – Mount Sinai Medical Center
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Research interests: Chronic pain in older patients; Back pain; Acupuncture.

Stephen Oliver, M.D.
Assistant Attending Physician
M.D.- University of Michigan
Residency— Georgetown University
Fellowship-UCLA
Research Interests: The role of cellular immunity and TNF in the pathogenesis of scleroderma and sarcoidosis; The therapeutic efficacy of thalidomide.

Karen Oneil, M.D.
Instructor in Pediatrics
M.D. - Cornell University Medical College
Internship & Residency – Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center; Pediatrics
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Research interests: Immunology of autoimmune disorders; Lymphocyte function.

Edward J. Parrish, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Director of the Mechanisms of Disease Course in Rheumatology and the Internal Medicine Residency Rheumatology Training Program
M.D. – Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Internship & Residency – Colombia-Presbyterian
Fellowship – Columbia-Presbyterian
Clinical interests: Musculoskeletal disorders in patients with HIV/AIDS; Viral infections and autoimmune disorders.

Margaret G.E. Peterson, Ph.D.
Associate Scientist, Ph.D. – Durham University
Research interests: Statistics in clinical trials; Rheumatology and orthopedic surgery.

Luminita Pricop, M.D.
Associate Scientist, HSS Research Division
M.D.- University of Timisoara, Rumania
Resident – Colentina Hospital
Research fellowship – University of Pittsburgh, Mount Sinai
Research interests: Immunology of autoimmune disorders; Stimulatory and inhibitory Fc receptor function in autoimmune disorders.

Laura Robbins, D.S.W.
Director, Department of Community Education
D.S.W. – City University of New York
Research interests: Education, Clinical epidemiology and health services research; Musculoskeletal disorders in Latino men and women; Osteoporosis; SLE; Educational programs; Pediatric outreach; Community education.

Linda Russell, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Member, HSS Women’s and Sports Center and the Metabolic Bone Service
M.D. – Tufts University School of Medicine
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Clinical interests: Sports medicine; Osteoporosis; General rheumatology.

Jane E. Salmon, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
F.I. T32 NIH Rheumatology Research Training Grant
Director of the Mary Kirkland Center for SLE Research
M.D. – Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Research interests: Immunology of autoimmune disorders; Fe receptors; Immune complex tissue damage in SLE; The anti-phospholipid syndrome.

Lisa Sammaritano, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Director of the Ehrlich/Pearlman Fibromyalgia Research Center
M.D. – Cornell University Medical College
Internship & Residency – The New York Hospital
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Research interests: The anti-phospholipid syndrome; Pregnancy in SLE and other connective tissue disorders; Fibromyalgia.

Sergio Schwartzman, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Director of the HSS International Center
M.D. – CUNY/Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
Internship & Residency – Mt. Sinai Medical Center
Fellowship – HSS/CUMC
Research interests: Renal disease in SLE; The anti-phospholipid syndrome.

Arthur Yee, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor in Medicine
M.D. – Ph.D. – New York University Medical Center
Residency: The New York Hospital
Fellowship: Hospital for Special Surgery/CUMC
Research interests:Fc receptors and their role in autoimmune disorders and infections; Infection and autoimmune disorders.