

By the end of the RheumReview program, participants will be able to: apply new approaches to assessment and diagnosis for common rheumatic diseases in clinical practice; optimize novel therapies and therapeutic strategies for patients with common rheumatic diseases in clinical practice; gain awareness of the pipeline for future developments in the management of common rheumatic diseases.

Learning Objectives

Toward a Liquid Biopsy for Lupus Nephritis

Andrea Fava

This session will highlight the shortcomings of current diagnostic and response assessment methods in lupus nephritis and illustrate how novel mechanistic and biomarker-driven strategies may improve precision and outcomes.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Review the limitations of the current diagnostic approach to lupus nephritis
2. Identify novel biomarkers of lupus nephritis
3. Discuss the future clinical applicability of noninvasive biomarkers in lupus nephritis

CanMEDS roles

1. Medical Expert
2. Communicator
3. Leader
4. Scholar

Sjögren's Disease: How Do You Diagnose It? How Do You Treat It?

Arthur Bookman

Sjögren's Disease is not diagnosed from a lip biopsy alone. Many patients do not respond to artificial tears or sips of water. The devil is in the details. It is important to use the ACR-EULAR Classification Criteria as a foundation for diagnosis as well as understand the mechanisms of ocular and oral distress in order to treat them effectively. New immune modulators have arrived for this disease. It is important to become familiar with them and know when to use them.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the steps to diagnose Sjogren's Disease
2. Identify the mechanisms of eye and mouth distress and know how to treat them
3. List the newer biological treatments for Sjogren's Disease and describe where they are used

CanMEDS roles

1. Medical Expert
2. Scholar
3. Professional

Pregnancy in Rheumatic Diseases

Viktoria Pavlova

This session covers management of rheumatic diseases in pregnancy, focusing on the safe use of biologics and immunomodulators. We'll discuss medication planning, treatment adjustments, and updated vaccination guidance. Practical recommendations will support optimal maternal and fetal outcomes.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe recent updates in the management of rheumatic diseases during pregnancy
2. Explain medication safety for women and men before and during pregnancy as well as breastfeeding
3. Identify key screening and monitoring strategies to optimize pregnancy outcomes

CanMEDS roles

1. Medical Expert
2. Collaborator
3. Scholar

Immunity on a Tightrope: Balancing Biologics and Bugs in Inflammatory Arthritis

Donald Vinh

Biologic and targeted therapies have transformed the management of inflammatory arthritis, but their immunomodulatory effects introduce important infectious disease risks. This presentation will review the spectrum of infections seen with major biologic classes, explain the immune mechanisms driving susceptibility, and outline practical mitigation strategies including screening, vaccination, and prophylaxis. Clinicians will gain a mechanism-informed approach to reducing infection risk to optimize safe and effective use of biologic therapies.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Compare and differentiate the infection risks associated with biologic therapies in the management of inflammatory arthritis
2. Identify biologic classes and specific agents that carry elevated risks for viral, bacterial, mycobacterial, and fungal infections, and explain the immunologic mechanisms underlying these risks
3. Apply evidence-based screening, vaccination, and prophylactic strategies to reduce infectious complications in patients receiving biologic and targeted immunomodulatory therapies

CanMEDS roles

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3. Collaborator
4. Leader
5. Health Advocate
6. Scholar
7. Professional

Lighting Up the Arteries: How Imaging and Therapies Are Reshaping Large Vessel Vasculitis

Jean-Paul Makhzoum

A focused overview of how imaging informs the diagnosis and management of LVV today, recent shifts in treatment and monitoring, and the upcoming advances poised to transform practice.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Describe key imaging modalities in LVV and their advantages and limitations
2. Summarize recent treatment updates and clarify the role of imaging in monitoring
3. Identify emerging advances and innovations in LVV management beyond imaging

CanMEDS roles

1. Medical Expert
2. Health Advocate
3. Scholar

Osteoporosis Update

Suzanne Morin

This session will review evidence-based approaches to initiating pharmacotherapy in individuals at risk for fractures, including recommendations on treatment duration, sequencing of therapies, and new considerations regarding the infrequent use of intravenous bisphosphonates.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Evaluate fracture risk and determine treatment initiation thresholds
2. Discuss the approach to pharmacotherapy to reduce fracture risk and the duration of therapy of specific agents
3. Identify infrequent use of intravenous bisphosphonates for fracture prevention

CanMEDS roles

1. Medical Expert
2. Communicator
3. Leader