



Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance  
2015 Annual Meeting  
June 5 – 7, 2015  
The Enchantment Resort  
Sedona, Arizona

# PROGRAM BOOK

## President's Message

June 5, 2015



Welcome to the Arizona Statewide Rheumatology Meeting! We hope you will enjoy this opportunity to attend programming which benefits your rheumatology practice and offers the opportunity to socialize with professional colleagues.

This year's program features important advocacy issues vital to rheumatology, as well as clinical sessions by pioneers in the field of innovative rheumatology. We are excited for you to learn from this list of speakers who will share with us their expertise. Among them:

Dr. Timothy Behrens is the senior director of immunology tissue growth and repair in human genetics at Genentech in San Francisco. On Saturday, Dr. Behrens will share his knowledge with us at a presentation on the Genetics of Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Dr. Edward Dominguez will join us from Methodist Dallas Medical Center in Texas for his Sunday presentation. As an infectious disease physician, Dr. Dominguez's topic of discussion will be Infections in the Immunomodulated Patient and Rheumatology Screening.

Dr. Eric Lancaster, an assistant professor of neurology from Penn Medicine, will discuss the neuronal autoantigens related to Autoimmune Neuromuscular Disorders and Autoimmune Encephalitis in his Saturday talks.

Dr. Michelle Petri from the Lupus Center at Johns Hopkins will discuss Management of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

Dr. Andreas Reiff will be joining us from Children's Hospital Los Angeles where he is the head of the division of rheumatology. Dr. Reiff's presentation on Sunday will pertain to Recognition and Emerging Therapies for Autoinflammatory and Autoimmune Disease.

Dr. James Rosenbaum will join us from Oregon Health and Science Institute to discuss whether the microbiome causes ankylosing spondylitis.

Bring spouses and guests to the Friday evening Welcome Reception. And don't miss our Saturday evening dinner reception with musical entertainment and stargazing!

Thank you for joining us at this year's meeting, which promises to be one of our best ever. Welcome to The Enchantment Resort and to Sedona!

Sincerely,

Warren Rizzo, MD  
President, Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance

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Warren Rizzo, MD

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**Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance  
2015 Arizona Statewide Rheumatology Meeting  
June 5 – 7, 2015**

Welcome from the President .....1

2014 – 2015 Board of Directors.....1

Disclaimer and Filming/Photography Statement .....2

Promotional Partners and Exhibitors .....3

Industry Sponsored Events.....4

Educational Needs & Objectives .....5

CME Accreditation Statements.....6

Faculty Speaker Disclosure .....7

General Meeting Information .....9

Map of Hotel Facilities .....10

Program Schedule .....11

Speaker Biographies .....13

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**Filming/Photography Statement**

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**Thank You to Our 2015 Promotional Partners  
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RDL Reference Laboratory  
TLC Rx  
UCB  
United Rheumatology/MDI

**PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTEND OUR INDUSTRY SPONSORED SYMPOSIA****SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2015****12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.****Industry Sponsored Lunch Symposium\****Sponsored by Pfizer**Location: Village Terrace***“A Review of the Safety and Efficacy Profile of an Oral Treatment Option for Rheumatoid Arthritis”****Speaker: Peng Fan, MD**

Clinical Professor of Medicine

UCLA School of Medicine

Los Angeles, CA

*\*This symposium is not connected with the official program of the AURA and does not confer any CME credit. \*Not CME Accredited***SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2015****7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.****Industry Sponsored Breakfast Symposium\****Sponsored by McKesson**Location: Village Terrace***“Solutions to Empower Community Rheumatology”****Speakers: Rick Morales**

Director of Business Development

**Bridgett Weidner**

Business Development Executive

McKesson Specialty Health

Houston, TX

*\*This symposium is not connected with the official program of the AURA and does not confer any CME credit. \*Not CME Accredited*

**Educational Needs**

The field of rheumatology is rapidly expanding as more information becomes available regarding the genetic predisposition of patients with autoimmune diseases, the role of the environment and specifically the microbiome on disease activation and the concept of remission in autoimmune and autoinflammatory diseases. There is currently a great debate concerning the role of live vaccines in patients on immunosuppressive therapy, particularly biologic agents. The pace of information change crucial to the best practice of rheumatology requires constant updates: who is susceptible to developing rheumatic disease, what are avoidable triggers, which vaccines are necessary, when should they be given, should biologic therapies be suspended during vaccination? Local conferences are vital to provide up-to-date knowledge of these issues in a setting where an acknowledged expert in the material educates and is then available to answer questions and clarify complex concepts.

Given the changes in the health care system over the last year, including the Affordable Care Act, as well as the changes in private insurance with patients having higher deductibles and more responsibility for the cost of their treatment, rheumatologists need to become more involved with these processes. Barriers to care exist on many levels and rheumatologists need to understand these barriers. Many rheumatologists do not understand the need for advocacy in these areas. An overview of how advocacy can help their patients obtain access to the treatments that they need and also understand how the changes in the health care system affect that access.

The concept of genetic predisposition to Rheumatoid arthritis has undergone a dramatic reevaluation after the publication of the Genome Wide Association Studies failed to adequately explain susceptibility to the development of the illness. Epigenetic research has helped to clarify the balance of epigenes, genes and the environment with the development of disease. This field represents the next great development in the understanding of the disease, its pathogenesis and as a potential target to not only the treatment of the disease but also to the prevention of its onset.

There are many new medications being developed with various mechanisms of action for rheumatic diseases, not only for rheumatoid arthritis, but also for the seronegative inflammatory arthritides. It is important for rheumatologists in practice to be aware of these new therapies and their mechanism of action so they can better understand not only the role of the agent, but to also be knowledgeable about what pharmaceutical agents will best suit the patient type and be able to recognize toxicities and adverse effects.

**Educational Objectives**

At the conclusion of the Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance 2015 Annual Meeting, participants will improve their competence and performance by being able to:

1. Explain external changes in the healthcare environment and their impact on the current practice of rheumatology.
2. Identify the rheumatologist's role in leading collaborative musculoskeletal care delivery.
3. Describe the rheumatology practice of the future.
4. Identify the role of the microbiome in the development of chronic autoimmune disease.
5. Recognize the importance of bacterial gut populations in homeostasis and the role of bacterial disequilibrium in disease states as varied as Crohn's disease, ankylosing spondylitis and rheumatoid arthritis.
6. Review the clinical presentation and evaluation of patients with autoimmune brain disorders.
7. Identify the relationship of autoimmune brain disorders to specific tumors and the appropriate cancer screening.
8. Identify and explain legislative trends regarding practice management, private payer reform and access to treatment of impact to rheumatologists and the medical community at both the state and federal level.
9. Recognize the importance of appropriate vaccinations in patients with autoimmune disease.
10. Identify the different types of immunizations especially those which are live viruses.
11. Describe the effect of different classes of immunomodulatory medications on vaccine efficacy and safety.
12. Describe screening parameters for various chronic infectious disease states in patients who are potential candidates for biologic response modifier therapy.
13. Describe how genetic variation predisposing to rheumatoid arthritis is identified.
14. Explain how genetic findings in a complex disease such as rheumatoid arthritis are being used to develop new therapies.
15. Recognize the differences between innate and adaptive immunity.
16. Recognize the common pattern of disease manifestations in autoinflammatory syndromes.
17. Explain how to diagnose autoinflammatory diseases.
18. Describe the treatment options in autoinflammatory disease.
19. Distinguish inflammasome driven vs. IL-1 independent disease states.

**Accreditation Statement**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance. The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of **6.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses and other healthcare professionals will receive a Certificate of Attendance. For information on the applicability and acceptance of Certificates of Attendance for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* from organizations accredited by the ACCME, please consult your professional licensing board.

**Conflict Resolution Statement**

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Office of Continuing Professional Development has reviewed this activity's speaker and planner disclosures and resolved all identified conflicts of interest, if applicable.

**Equal Opportunity Statement**

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. [www.ou.edu/eoo](http://www.ou.edu/eoo)

**Accommodation Statement**

Accommodations on the basis of disability are available by contacting the Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance at (847) 517-7225 as soon as possible.

**Acknowledgement of Commercial and In-Kind Support**

**Commercial support** is financial, or in-kind, contributions given by a commercial interest, which is used to pay all or part of the costs of a CME activity. A **commercial interest** is any entity producing, marketing, re-selling or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients.

**This activity has received no commercial or in-kind support.**

**Policy on Faculty, Presenters and Joint Provider Disclosure**

It is the policy of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine that the faculty, presenters and joint provider disclose real or apparent conflicts of interest relating to the topics of this educational activity, and also disclose discussions of unlabeled/unapproved uses of drugs or devices during their presentation(s).

**Disclaimer Statement**

Statements, opinions and results of studies contained in the program are those of the presenters, authors and joint provider and do not reflect the policy or position of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma ("OU") nor does OU provide any warranty as to their accuracy or reliability.

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**Faculty Disclosure Report**

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and the Irwin H. Brown Office of Continuing Professional Development must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all its activities. We have implemented a process where everyone who is in a position to control the content of an education activity has disclosed to us all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. In addition, should it be determined that a conflict of interest exists as a result of a financial relationship one may have, this will be resolved prior to the activity. This policy is designed to provide the target audience with an opportunity to review any affiliations between the CME organizers/ presenters and supporting organizations for the purpose of determining the potential presence of bias or influence over educational content. A complete disclosure report is included in this Program Book provided at registration.

**Faculty Speaker Disclosure  
Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance  
2015 Arizona Statewide Rheumatology Meeting**

06/05/2015 - 06/07/2015  
Sedona, AZ

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and the Irwin H. Brown Office of Continuing Professional Development must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all its activities. We have implemented a process where everyone who is in a position to control the content of an education activity has disclosed to us all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. In addition, should it be determined that a conflict of interest exists as a result of a financial relationship one may have, this will be resolved prior to the activity. This policy is designed to provide the target audience with an opportunity to review any affiliations between the CME organizers/ presenters and supporting organizations for the purpose of determining the potential presence of bias or influence over educational content.

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Behrens, MD, Timothy W.**  
**Tel: (650) 467-4319**

I, or my spouse/partner presently (within the past 12 months) have relevant financial relationships with a commercial interest(s) as identified below:

<i><b>Who's Involved</b></i>	<i><b>Company</b></i>	<i><b>Relationship Involvement</b></i>	
Self	Genentech	Employee of a commercial interest organization	<b>X With Financial Interest</b>

**CME Moderator**

**Chesley, JD, Amanda**  
**Tel: (847) 517-7225**

<i><b>Who's Involved</b></i>	<i><b>Company</b></i>	<i><b>Relationship Involvement</b></i>
Self	None	NONE

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Dominguez, MD, Edward**  
**Tel:**

I, or my spouse/partner presently (within the past 12 months) have relevant financial relationships with a commercial interest(s) as identified below:

<i><b>Who's Involved</b></i>	<i><b>Company</b></i>	<i><b>Relationship Involvement</b></i>	
Self	Amgen	Honorarium	<b>X With Financial Interest</b>
Self	Pfizer	Consultant	<b>X With Financial Interest</b>

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Jenkins, PhD MPH, James A.**  
**Tel: (310) 297-9221**

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**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Lancaster, MD, Eric**

**Tel:**

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Self	Medimmune Inc.	Consultant	<b>X</b> With Financial Interest

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Reiff, MD, Andreas O.**

**Tel:**

<i><b>Who's Involved</b></i>	<i><b>Company</b></i>	<i><b>Relationship Involvement</b></i>
Self	None	NONE

**CME Organizer, Moderator, Speaker**

**Rizzo, MD, Warren**

**Tel: (480) 451-3222**

<i><b>Who's Involved</b></i>	<i><b>Company</b></i>	<i><b>Relationship Involvement</b></i>
Self	None	NONE

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Rosenbaum, MD, James T.**

**Tel: (503) 494-5023**

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Self	Auventx	Grants/ Research Support	<b>X</b> With Financial Interest
Self	Genentech, UCB, AbbVie, Eyevensys, Allergan, Portage, Stem Cells Inc.	Consultant	<b>X</b> With Financial Interest

**CME Presenter and/or Author**

**Tanner, Starla**

**Tel: (404) 633-3777**

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Self	None	NONE

**Registration/Information Desk Hours***Location: Anasazi Foyer*

Friday, June 5, 2015                    5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, June 6, 2015                6:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Sunday, June 7, 2015                 7:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**Exhibit Hall Hours***Location: Anasazi II and III*

Friday, June 5, 2015                    6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, June 6, 2015                6:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday, June 7, 2015                 7:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

**Registration Fee Includes:**

- Entrance to All Sessions
- Breakfasts
- Evening Events

## Evening Events

**Welcome Reception****Date:** Friday, June 5, 2015**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**Location:** Anasazi II and III**Attire:** Casual

AURA welcomes its attendees to the 2015 Annual Meeting. Attendees can connect with fellow rheumatologists and mingle with exhibitors while enjoying appetizers and drinks.

**Annual Dinner****Date:** Saturday, June 6, 2015**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**Location:** Anasazi I**Attire:** Casual

Join your colleagues at the Annual Dinner! Enjoy an evening of food and conversation with your fellow attendees and their families. This event is limited to physicians, non-physician providers and their families. Please see the registration desk for more information.

**Band****Date:** Saturday, June 6, 2015**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**Location:** Anasazi I**Attire:** Casual

Enjoy an evening of live music with your fellow attendees! Come hear the wonderfully distinctive music of Sugahbeat, featuring a bold fusion of musical genres from around the world, performed by veteran Arizona musicians. Relax on the terrace and drink in the sound while you enjoy the beauty of the Arizona desert.

**Stargazing****Date:** Saturday, June 6, 2015**Time:** 9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.**Location:** Anasazi Terrace**Attire:** Casual

Take a tour of the sky with us, guided by professional astronomers with decades of experience. Join your fellow rheumatologists for an evening gazing into the stars of the beautiful Sedona desert. With some of the best stargazing conditions in the country and state-of-the-art telescopes, you'll see the stars at their most breathtaking.



## 2015 Arizona Statewide Rheumatology Meeting

June 05 - 07, 2015

Enchantment Resort

525 Boynton Canyon Road

Sedona, AZ 86336

All sessions will be located in Anasazi I unless otherwise noted

Speakers and times are subject to change

Program Moderator: Warren Rizzo, MD

## FRIDAY, JUNE 05, 2015

**OVERVIEW**

- 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **Registration/Information Desk Open**  
*Location: Anasazi Foyer*
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **Welcome Reception**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*

## SATURDAY, JUNE 06, 2015

**OVERVIEW**

- 6:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Registration/Information Desk Open**  
*Location: Anasazi Foyer*
- 6:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Exhibit Hall Open**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*
- 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*
- 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Annual Dinner**  
*Location: Anasazi I*
- 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **Band and Stargazing**  
*Location: Anasazi I and Terrace*

**GENERAL SESSION**

- 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **The Future of Rheumatology Practice**  
Speaker: James A. Jenkins, PhD, MPH  
rheumRx, Inc.
- 8:00 a.m. - 8:05 a.m. **Welcome**  
Introducer: Warren Rizzo, MD
- 8:05 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. **Genetics of Rheumatoid Arthritis**  
Speaker: Timothy W. Behrens, MD  
Genentech Inc
- 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. **\*Autoimmune Neuromuscular Disorders**  
Speaker: Eric Lancaster, MD  
University of Pennsylvania  
*\*Not CME Accredited*
- 9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. **Break**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*
- 10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Autoimmune Encephalitis**  
Speaker: Eric Lancaster, MD  
University of Pennsylvania

**11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Advocacy Panel**  
 Moderator: Amanda Chesley, JD  
 WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc.  
 Speaker: Starla Tanner  
 American College of Rheumatology

**12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m. AURA Business Meeting**  
 Speaker: Warren Rizzo, MD

**12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Industry Sponsored Lunch**  
*Location: Village Terrace*  
*See page 4 for full details*

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Annual Dinner**  
*Location: Anasazi I*

**6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Band and Stargazing**  
*Location: Anasazi I and Terrace*

## SUNDAY, JUNE 07, 2015

### OVERVIEW

**7:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Registration/Information Desk Open**  
*Location: Anasazi Foyer*

**7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Exhibit Hall Open**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*

### GENERAL SESSION

**7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Industry Sponsored Breakfast**  
*Location: Village Terrace*  
*See page 4 for full details*

**8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. \*Management of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus**  
 Speaker: Michelle Petri, MD  
 Lupus Center at Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center  
*\*This session is accredited separately by Virginia Commonwealth University; all CME information will be available onsite.*

**9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Infections in the Immunomodulated Patient and Rheumatology Screening**  
 Speaker: Edward Dominguez, MD  
 Methodist Dallas Medical Center

**9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Break**  
*Location: Anasazi II and III*

**10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Does the Microbiome Cause Ankylosing Spondylitis?**  
 Speaker: James T. Rosenbaum, MD  
 Oregon Health and Science Institute

**11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Recognition and Emerging Therapies for Autoinflammatory and Autoimmune Diseases**  
 Speaker: Andreas O. Reiff, MD  
 Children's Hospital Los Angeles

**11:45 a.m. Adjourn**

#### Disclaimer Statement

Statements, opinions and results of studies contained in the program are those of the presenters/authors and do not reflect the policy or position of the AURA nor does the AURA provide any warranty as to their accuracy or reliability.



## Timothy W. Behrens, MD

Dr. Behrens is a senior director of immunology tissue growth and repair (ITGR) at Genentech, Inc, in south San Francisco, California. He earned his bachelor's of science in biology in 1979 from the University of Illinois, Urbana, and his medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in 1982. He went on to do his residency, internship and his fellowship in rheumatology/immunology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Since then, he has worked as an emergency room physician in Brookfield, Wisconsin; as a postdoctoral fellow in the metabolism branch of the National Cancer Institute, NIH, in Bethesda, Maryland; assistant and then associate professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School; and chief of the autoimmunity program at the Center for Immunology, University of Minnesota Medical School, before taking on his current position at Genentech in 2006. He holds several patents in methods for diagnosing, treating and monitoring lupus.



## Amanda Chesley, JD

Ms. Chesley is the executive director, rheumatology division, of WJ Weiser & Associates, Inc (WJ Weiser). In her role she manages all government relations and association management activities for the company's national and state rheumatology organizations, including the Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations (CSRO) and the Arizona United Rheumatology Association (AURA). Ms. Chesley is a licensed attorney possessing 15 years of government affairs and legal experience in the private, public and non-profit sectors.

She earned her Juris Doctorate and a Certificate in International and Comparative Law from DePaul University College of Law in Chicago, Illinois, after she graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in political science and history from Southern University at Edwardsville in Illinois and completed the Illinois Legislative Staff Graduate Internship Program through the University of Illinois at the Illinois state capitol. She is admitted to practice law in the state of Illinois and the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois.



## Edward Dominguez, MD

Dr. Dominguez practices at Vibra Specialty Hospital in Desoto, Texas, and Methodist Health System, in Dallas, Texas. Over the years he has been honored for both media and medical achievements, including appearing in *Best Doctors in America* from 2006-2014, being honored by local broadcasters in 2005 for his service to the community and being named one of the "Texas Super Doctors" by *Texas Monthly* in 2014. Dr. Dominguez earned his BA from Rice University and his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine. He went on to do his residency in internal medicine and his fellowship in infectious diseases at Baylor as well. He has served as assistant, associate and adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska, between 1992 and 2011, as well as practicing at Methodist Health System since 2008 and Vibra Specialty Hospital since 2011.



## James A. Jenkins, PhD, MPH

James A. Jenkins, PhD, MPH is President of rheumRx Inc, a rheumatology-consulting firm based in Los Angeles. He is also interim Chief Operating Officer of Arthritis Associates of Southern California, Vice President of the California Rheumatology Alliance and Chair of Public Policy and Advocacy for the Arthritis Foundation, Pacific Region.

Dr. Jenkins has a PhD in Health Services and an Executive MPH in Health Policy and Management from the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA, where he is an occasional guest lecturer. He also has a BS in Biology from Loyola Marymount University. He is an MGMA Certified Medical Practice Executive and has served on numerous committees of the American College of Rheumatology.



## Eric Lancaster, MD, PhD

Dr. Lancaster is an academic neurologist with expertise in antibody-mediated neurological disorders. He earned his bachelor's of science in biomedical engineering from Johns Hopkins University in 1994, his PhD in neuroscience from the University of Maryland in 2002 and his medical degree from the University of Maryland in 2003. He did his internship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and his residency in neurology at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was also a neuromuscular fellow and a neuromuscular research fellow between 2007 and 2010. In 2010, he became an instructor of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania, before taking on his current position as assistant professor of neurology in 2013. His academic research concerns autoimmune disorders characterized by antibodies to

important brain and peripheral nerve proteins, and how they cause disease. His clinical practice is based in the Center for Autoimmune Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania, where they treat patients with these complex autoantibody disorders. He is currently leading a Precision Medicine project to improve autoantibody testing for patients with encephalitis.



### **Michelle Petri, MD, MPH**

Dr. Petri is a professor of medicine in the division of rheumatology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital, where she has worked since 1986. Dr. Petri earned her BA in biology from Harvard-Radcliffe College in 1976 and went on to complete her medical degree at Harvard Medical School in 1980. She did her internship and her residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, and went on to do two fellowships at the University of California, San Francisco. She received her MPH from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health in 1990, following a year of teaching at the University of California, San Francisco and four years of teaching at Johns Hopkins. She is the director of the Hopkins Lupus Center.



### **Andreas O. Reiff, MD**

Dr. Reiff is the division head of the division of rheumatology at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and Miller's Children's Hospital in Long Beach. He attended University Medical School in Freiburg, Germany, completing his medical degree in 1992. He did his internship at Kantonsspital Liestal, department of internal medicine and surgery, in Switzerland and his residency at University Children's Hospital in Freiburg, Germany. He was a research fellow in the division of rheumatology and bone marrow transplantation at the Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and subsequently a fellow in the section of pediatric rheumatology at University Children's Hospital in Freiburg, Germany. He currently serves in a number of academic appointments, including as professor of clinical pediatrics at USC Keck School of Medicine since 2010, as director of the Ambulatory Infusion Center at Children's Hospital Los Angeles since 2008, and as director of pediatric rheumatology at Miller's Children's Hospital since 2002. His work includes bedside teaching medical students and residents, covering approximately 1500 in- and outpatient visits each year.



### **James T. Rosenbaum, MD**

Dr. Rosenbaum has spent more than 30 years studying ocular inflammatory disease including animal models of uveitis. His research interests are complemented by his direction of a clinic devoted to patients with ocular inflammatory diseases including uveitis, scleritis, orbital inflammation, and steroid sensitive optic neuropathy. He has authored more than 350 peer reviewed publications and more than 75 chapters or invited publications. He has been honored by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology and by the International Uveitis Study Group Eye Foundation with their highest awards.



### **Starla H. Tanner**

Ms. Tanner is the senior specialist for state government affairs at the American College of Rheumatology. In her role, she monitors and develops strategies related to state-level legislative and regulatory activity affecting rheumatologists. She also serves as a state-level national point of contact for ACR's grassroots network of providers and coalition partners.

Ms. Tanner previously served as the director of government and community relations for North Carolina Central University, where as a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet, she provided a link for university initiatives on local, state and federal levels. Prior to joining NCCU, She was the director of government relations for the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer. As a senior staff member, she was the department's lobbyist for pension fund investments, retirement and local government financing issues.

Ms. Tanner has over 15 years of experience in government relations which includes senior staff positions in the North Carolina Department of Insurance and the NC Department of Health and Human Services. A native of Greenville, North Carolina, Ms. Tanner is a graduate of North Carolina Central University and currently resides in Marietta, Georgia.



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