

Arthritis Rheumatology

Joint Swelling, Joint Contracture or Limp

Diagnosis commonly associated with arthritis and corresponding symptoms

- **Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis:** Joint pain, swelling, or limited range of motion lasting >6 weeks
- **Systemic JIA:** Rash, prolonged fevers, elevated inflammatory markers, low energy or activity level (Please call on-call provider for expedited recommendations)
- **Lyme Arthritis:** Typically mono arthritis, bulls eye pattern rash, recent travel to Lyme endemic areas
- **Reactive arthritis:** Joint swelling, limp, or limited range of motion following bacterial or viral illness. Symptoms will typically resolve within 6 weeks without long term sequelae.
- **Myositis:** Muscle weakness or pain, fatigue, elevated muscle enzymes
- **Trauma:** History of trauma, point tenderness, erythema, inflammation, instability
- **Septic Joint:** Fever, inability to bear weight, warmth, erythema, or swelling of the joint
- **Oncologic:** (Leukemia, Lymphoma, Bone Cancer) prolonged fever, joint or bone pain, lymphadenopathy, bruising or bleeding, weight loss, fatigue, night sweats

Pre-referral evaluation and work-up

- Rule out infection, trauma, and septic joint
- Imaging
- CBC, CMP, ESR, CRP, ANA titre

When to refer to Rheumatology

- If patient has persistent joint swelling, limp, or contracture not associated with orthopedic abnormality, infection, or oncologic process
- Referral should be based primarily on clinical symptoms. Markers of inflammation are often normal in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

How to refer to Rheumatology



Please call **720-777-6132** to make an appointment

What records can referring providers send?

- Copies of relevant medical records and laboratory studies. If imaging studies have been completed, please send images on disk
- Complete list of all medications and treatments used to treat symptoms as well as a complete list of all medications taken
- Please fax medical records needed for upcoming appointments to **720-777-7341**

