

Online CME Medical Simulation Series on Rheumatoid Arthritis: REGISTER TODAY!

Case Series in Rheumatoid Arthritis, Parts 1-4

Participate online anytime at:

www.cmeoutfitters.com/CMW476 (Part 1–Partial Response to a Biologic)

www.cmeoutfitters.com/CMW477 (Part 2–3-Month Follow-Up After Switch to Another Biologic)

www.cmeoutfitters.com/CMW478 (Part 3–Identification of Early Rheumatoid Arthritis)

www.cmeoutfitters.com/CMW479 (Part 4–3-Month Follow-Up After Start on Biologic)

Release Date: April 28, 2010
Credit Expiration Date: April 28, 2011
Archive Offered Until: April 28, 2011

These activities offer CE credit for Physicians (CME).

All other clinicians will either receive a CME Attendance Certificate or may choose any of the types of CE credit being offered.

Earn up to 3.0 CME credits by completing all 4 parts!
Questions? Call CME Outfitters at **877.CME.PROS**.

STATEMENT OF NEED

Regularly scheduled, standardized, quantitative measurement of disease status is widely recognized as essential to improving chronic disease management and outcomes. Optimal therapeutic decisions depend on and are driven by such measurement.¹ The management of inflammatory arthritis is a complex matrix of managing symptoms with risk not only associated with disease progression, but also with complications that arise from drug therapy and various comorbidities. Patients can present with hypertension, diabetes, osteoporosis, cancer, and an increased susceptibility for infection. The epidemiology and natural history of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) support early, aggressive treatment to reduce joint damage and functional decline.² However, early treatment of RA requires timely referrals and improved communication between rheumatology and primary care. Patient education has become an integral part of the therapeutic approach to helping patients with RA to self-manage their arthritis. A variety of evidence indicates that educational attainment is associated with better disease outcomes in RA.³ In this series of case vignettes, the faculty will address the issues facing rheumatologists and their patients in achieving improved outcomes in the management of RA.

1. Harrington JT. *Curr Opin Rheumatol* 2008;20:153-158; 2. Walker D, Adebajo A, Heslop P, et al. *Rheumatology* 2007;46:1593-1596; 3. O'Dell JR. *Arthritis Rheum* 2002;46:283-285.

SERIES GOAL

To increase awareness and recognition of gaps in knowledge related to the diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis, the development of treatment strategies, and the integration of patient education to improve patient outcomes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this CE activity, participants should be able to:

Part 1: Identify key indications for the use of biologics; Utilize performance measures and assessment tools to assess disease status in patients undergoing anti-TNF therapy.

Part 2: Consider tactics for optimization of drug therapy and implications for susceptibility to infection; Recognize the importance of consistent patient follow-up, disease measurement, knowledge of appropriate vaccination schedules, and vigilance with regard to toxicities associated with biologic therapy of RA.

Part 3: Ascertain an accurate diagnosis of early rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and recognize the impact of inadequate treatment of RA; Compare and contrast treatment options and discern the need for aggressive DMARD and biologic use.

Part 4: Recognize potential adverse events associated with pharmacologic therapy of RA, and complications attributed to common comorbidities; Consider rationale for changes in therapy and value of consultation with other specialties for enhanced treatment management.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

This activity is supported by an educational donation provided by Amgen and by an independent educational grant from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

FAX completed form to **240.243.1033**

YES! Register me for these online CME Outfitters activities. (Participation details will be sent to you via email)

Part 1 Part 2 Part 3 Part 4 All 4 Parts

Site Name: _____ # Participants: _____

Individual Name: _____ Degree: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Practice Setting: Primary Care Private Practice Other: _____ Phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

This continuing medical education series is provided by



FACULTY INFORMATION

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(Parts 3 and 4)

Professor of Medicine
Department of Internal Medicine
University of North Texas Health Science
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TARGET AUDIENCE

Rheumatologists, pain specialists, primary care physicians, and any clinical healthcare professional interested in the management of rheumatoid arthritis.

CREDIT INFORMATION (for each part)

CME Credit (Physicians): CME Outfitters, LLC, is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CME Outfitters, LLC, designates this educational activity for a maximum of 0.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Note to Physician Assistants: AAPA accepts Category I credit from AOACCME, Prescribed credit from AAFP, and AMA Category I CME credit for the PRA from organizations accredited by ACCME.

Post-tests, credit request forms, and activity evaluations can be completed online at www.cmeoutfitters.com/test (requires free account activation), and participants can print their certificate immediately (80% pass rate required). This website supports all browsers except Internet Explorer for Mac. CE credit expires on April 28, 2011.

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