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**Optimizing Care of Patients
with Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Focus on Diagnosis,
Combination Therapy, and Outcomes-Based Care**

Premiere Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011

LIVE Broadcast: 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. ET (11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. CT, 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. MT, 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m. PT)

"After the Show" live Q&A webcast: 1:02 p.m. ET

Taped Re-Air: 4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. ET (3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. CT, 2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. MT, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. PT)

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STATEMENT OF NEED

New and emerging strategies for diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis (RA) are continually being explored in research, and many show promising and effective application for real-world clinical practice. To facilitate diagnosis and therefore early treatment of the disease, clinicians should be aware of validated assessment tools, which can be effectively applied in real-world practice settings. Further, monitoring of disease activity and progression using an outcome measure is a valuable and important practice in the optimization of treatment for patients with RA. Current guidelines advocate for the early and sustained use of DMARD therapy in RA. However, clinicians require a more thorough understanding of different strategies in selecting appropriate combination DMARD therapy for each patient, which will ultimately increase chances of remission.¹

In this CME Outfitters Live and On Demand activity, expert faculty will comprehensively analyze and discuss strategies for early diagnosis, early and sustained DMARD therapy, and measurement-based care that will help clinicians improve care of their patients with RA.

¹ Dale J, Alcorn N, Capell H, Madhok R. Combination Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis: Methotrexate and Sulfasalazine Together or With Other DMARDs. *Nat Clin Pract Rheumatol* CME 2007;3:450-458. <http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/560135> Accessed March 11, 2011.

ACTIVITY GOAL

Use of diagnostic strategies and measurement-based care tools and principles to optimize management and improve quality of life for patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

- Apply new and emerging diagnostic strategies for rheumatoid arthritis to facilitate early diagnosis of the disease.
- Utilize validated outcome measures to monitor disease activity and progression and ultimately optimize therapy for individual patients with RA.
- Integrate guidelines and strategies for combination DMARD therapy to facilitate more appropriate DMARD selections for patient therapy.

The following learning objectives pertain only to those requesting CNE credit:

- Identify the purpose and uses of new and emerging diagnostic strategies for rheumatoid arthritis.
- Name disease outcome measures used to monitor disease activity and progression in patients with rheumatoid arthritis.
- Recognize guidelines and distinguish among currently available strategies for combination DMARD therapy.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, and other health care professionals with an interest in rheumatoid arthritis.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Supported by educational grants from Pfizer Inc. and Abbott Laboratories.
Additional support has been provided by CME Outfitters, LLC.

FAX completed form to 614.929.3600

YES! Register me for this LIVE evidence-based CMEOutfitters activity on August 10, 2011.

Site Name: _____ # Participants: _____

Individual Name: _____ Degree: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Practice Setting: Clinic Hospital Office Managed Care Other: _____

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Universal Activity Number: 0376-9999-11-009-L01-P (live presentation)
0376-9999-11-009-H01-P (recorded programs)

Activity Type: knowledge-based

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