



AMPC Team Topics of Interest for ACR Convergence 2025

The following topics are areas of interest to the Annual Meeting Planning Committee (AMPC) team subcommittees, and session submissions are encouraged for these areas. Submissions on other topics are welcome and will be utilized at the discretion of the AMPC as the program is developed.

ARP Subcommittee

Sessions for various health professionals and the latest advances in research.

- Disease-specific sessions (SLE, OA of the shoulder, RA, etc.) that include physicians and health professionals.
- How NPs and OAs are utilized in practice. For example, how they practice in gout clinics, disease management, etc.
- How to incorporate PT and OT into practice.
- Research on innovative approaches for organizing service delivery, given the shortage of rheumatology professionals in some regions, e.g., rural and remote areas, underserved populations.
- Research on strategies to support health professionals to deliver effective care.
- Diet and rheumatic diseases.
- Pain and new management strategies.
- Epidemiology.
- Biomarkers for clinical practice for knee OA.
- Combination sessions with researchers and patients. From the patient perspective, how they see research and how it changes their health and lives.
- Evidence supporting strength training in patients with RA, what are the effective strategies to support community-based health professionals to: 1) prescribe strengthening exercises, 2) motivate patients to start them, 3) help them to make these exercises a habit?
- Sessions for infusion nurses, on infusion suite ethics/infusion complications.
- Patient education.
- Interval training to improve function in patients with OA and RA.
- Behavioral strategies and their impact on adherence.
- Community-based exercise: what's out there and what's the best and safest choice?
- PT vs PT, physical therapist vs physical trainer: what's the difference and who to choose.
- Effective exercise instruction over Zoom or telehealth.
- Self-efficacy specific to arthritis self-management.
- Strategies to address social determinants of health.
- Complementary/alternative medicine in treating rheumatologic conditions.
- Sessions by ARP Masters.
- Canadian multidisciplinary clinics: how did they get started, do they work, and can they work in the U.S.?
- Role of the PA, APN, NP in practice and how do they differ.
- Aging in place: products and programs.



- Mental health and rheumatic conditions.
- Patient support and educational programs in rheumatology.
- The role of social work in rheumatology practice.
- Managing fatigue: a better understanding of its impact, management.
- Teaching patients to be their own best advocate, asking the right questions.
- How to gain research funding for health professional research.
- Health equity, diversity, and Inclusion.
- LGBTQIA+ health.
- Target trial emulation: designing observational studies as similar to clinical trials as possible to reduce bias.
- Prediction models using AI/ML and nuances.
- Using ChatGPT for researchers who are not native English speakers.
- The intersection between aging and rheumatic diseases and the complexities of caring for older adults.
- Placebo and control interventions in nonpharmacological clinical trials.

Basic Science Subcommittee

Sessions that highlight the latest advances in fundamental and applied research in rheumatic diseases.

- The science of aging and senescence.
- Development of disease biomarkers.
- Development and use of biomaterials and novel therapeutic design.
- Fundamental research of bone biology.
- Development and use of CAR-T cells.
- Fundamental research on fibrosis and application to disease.
- The genetics of autoimmunity and rheumatic disease.
- Updates on the latest understanding of the biology of B cells, T cells, macrophages, neutrophils, and stem cells.
- Updates on innate immunity.
- The role of the microbiome in rheumatic diseases.
- Fundamental research on mechanisms of pain.
- Updates on precision medicine and rheumatic disease.
- Fundamental research on diseases of childhood and adolescence.

Business of Rheumatology Subcommittee

Sessions centered around issues of the practice of rheumatology.

- Utilizing ancillary services in practice.
- Various practice models and practice settings.
- Insurance contract negotiation.



- Employment contract negotiations.
- Employed salary and partnership models.
- The blueprint for establishing and managing a private practice.
- Important issues in career transitions.
- Policy and legal updates.
- Insurance updates.
- Non-competes (in light of recent FTC ruling).
- Ways to improve efficiency and decrease burnout.
- Ways to improve work-life balance.
- Incorporating advanced practice providers into a practice.
- Hot topics in Business of Rheumatology (these change frequently).
- Role and importance of physician advocacy, locally and nationally.

Clinical Subcommittee

Sessions focused on the care of patients with rheumatic disease.

- Clinical and therapeutic updates on common rheumatic diseases such as RA, SLE, IIM, scleroderma, vasculitis, myositis, osteoarthritis, etc.
- Update on fibrosing illnesses, especially ILD.
- Bench to bedside topics that help clinicians deepen their understanding of disease.
- New and emerging therapies for rheumatic disease such as CAR-T therapy.
- Updates on comorbidities associated with rheumatologic disease and screening for these comorbidities, including malignancy.
- Updates on systemic illnesses with rheumatologic manifestations.
- Rheumatologic diseases associated with medications, including immune checkpoint inhibitors.
- Updates on use of imaging in rheumatology, especially ultrasound.
- Discussion of infections and prevention of infections in our patients.
- Mimics of rheumatic diseases of importance to the clinician.
- Applied genetics in rheumatic disease.
- Update in biomarkers to diagnose and manage rheumatic illnesses.
- Health care disparity and inequity for rheumatic diseases and potential solutions.
- Updates on less common autoimmune/autoinflammatory rheumatic illnesses, including recently described illness such as VEXAS, ASIA, ADA2, etc.
- Updates on reproductive medicine for the rheumatologist.
- Medical orthopedics and orthopedics issues in patients with rheumatologic disease.

Pediatric Rheumatology Subcommittee

Developing sessions that highlight the latest advances in pediatric rheumatic diseases.

- Advances in juvenile idiopathic arthritis, juvenile myositis, and/or pediatric lupus.



- Advances in rare pediatric rheumatology diseases, including systemic vasculitis, scleroderma, autoinflammatory diseases/disorders of immune dysregulation, and others.
- Updates on cytokine storm syndromes in children.
- Mental health across rheumatic diseases in the pediatric age group.
- Transition to adult from pediatrics.
- Health equity, diversity, and inclusion as they relate to pediatric rheumatology.
- Workforce and training obstacles/updates in pediatric rheumatology.
- Clinical trials of new medications or new uses of old medications in children with rheumatic diseases.
- Advances in precision medicine and translational research in pediatric rheumatology.
- Advances in basic sciences pertinent to the etiology of childhood rheumatic diseases.
- Advances in clinical and outcomes research as it relates to pediatric rheumatology.
- Mimics of pediatric rheumatic diseases.
- Multidisciplinary and other care models of chronic disease as they relate to pediatric rheumatology.
- Drug development in pediatric rheumatic diseases.

Workforce, Education, and Training Subcommittee

Developing programming that appeals to a range of clinicians and educators who deliver patient care and teach across the learning continuum, as well as sessions that showcase active learning methodologies and leverage a diversity of instructional designs, including didactic, discussion, workshop, and networking.

- Creative solutions to workforce shortages.
- Educating learners from Generation Z.
- Teaching in a polarized political climate, e.g., free speech, academic freedom, challenging conversations in the classroom, integration of health equity and justice topics in light of state legislature.
- Artificial intelligence, e.g., ethical use in education, how to leverage for education and clinical applications.
- Teaching innovations and rheumatology education research across the learning continuum.
- Rheumatology education scholarship and career development, e.g., time management, goal setting, career planning.
- The struggling learner.
- Topic and speaker suggestions for a Workforce and Education Debate.