Osteoarthritis is a primary disorder of hyaline cartilage that results in secondary changes in subchondral bone and eventually joint failure.

BRIDGET HODKINSON, MB BCH, FCP (SA), CERT RHEUM
Physician and Rheumatologist, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Bridget Hodkinson’s research interests include early rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. She has recently returned from a 9-month Pfizer Articulum fellowship in the Hand Osteoarthritis Unit of St-Antoine Hospital, Paris. Clinical research during this time included aesthetic damage assessments in hand osteoarthritis, and clinical aspects of erosive osteoarthritis.

MOHAMMED TIKLY, MB BCH, MMED, FRCP, FCP (SA), PHD
Professor and Head, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Mohammed Tikly is based at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, Soweto. He completed his undergraduate training at Wits and trained in rheumatology at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. His special interests are outcomes and genetics of rheumatic diseases in South Africans.

Correspondence to: Bridget Hodkinson (drbridget@gmail.com)

References
Current diagnosis and treatment strategies in rheumatoid arthritis

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease that preferentially targets the synovial lining of the joints but can affect other organ systems including the lungs, heart and blood vessels.

AYANDA GCELU, MB ChB, FCP(SA), Cert Rheum (SA)
Consultant in Rheumatology and Internal Medicine, University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital
Ayanda Gcelu worked as a Community Service Medical Officer at George Hospital, then worked in various hospitals in the UK as a Senior House Officer in Accidents and Emergencies and Pediatrics. He obtained the FCP in 2005 and worked as a Consultant in Medical Emergencies and Internal Medicine at GF Jooste Hospital for 2 years. In 2008 he moved back to Groote Schuur Hospital and worked as a Registrar in Rheumatology and obtained the Certificate in Rheumatology in 2009.

ASGAR ALI KALLA, MB ChB, FCP (SA), MD, FRCP (Lond)
Professor of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town
Asgar Kalla’s research interests include osteoporosis in rheumatic diseases, disease activity and disability assessment in rheumatoid arthritis, monitoring of disease modification in rheumatoid arthritis, toxicity profiles of slow-acting anti-rheumatic drugs, NSAID gastropathy and mechanisms of bone loss in rheumatic diseases.

Correspondence to: Ayanda Gcelu agcelu@yahoo.com

References
Articular syndromes in association with HIV infection

Although articular manifestations as a result of HIV infection, apart from arthralgia, are uncommon, they may result in considerable morbidity.

GIRISH M MODY, MB ChB, FCP (SA), MD, FRCP (Lond)
Aaron Family Professor and Head, Department of Rheumatology, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital, Durban

Girish Mody is a Past-President of the South African Rheumatism and Arthritis Association and the African League of Associations for Rheumatology and served as an Executive Committee member of the International League of Associations for Rheumatology. He serves as Associate Editor for Clinical Rheumatology and is a member of the editorial board for Best Practice and Research in Clinical Rheumatology. His research interests include HIV and arthritis, genetics of rheumatoid arthritis and lupus erythematosus.

NEETA PATEL, MB ChB, FCP (SA)
Principal Specialist and Lecturer, Department of Rheumatology, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital

Neeta Patel is a Consultant in the Department of Rheumatology, involved in teaching undergraduates, postgraduates and allied health professionals. She is a Fellow of the College of Physicians of South Africa, involved in the examination of candidates for the fellowship examinations in the College of Medicine of South Africa. Her research interests include haematological abnormalities in lupus and rheumatological manifestations of HIV infection.

Correspondence to: Girish Mody (modyg@ukzn.ac.za)

References

Clinical evaluation and diagnosis of connective tissue diseases

Connective tissue diseases present in many different ways and their diagnosis can be challenging.

MOHAMED AMIN MAKDA, MB BCh, FCP (SA), Cert Rheum (SA)
Division of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Mohamed Makda is Consultant Physician/Rheumatologist at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, Soweto. He did undergraduate and postgraduate training at the University of the Witwatersrand. His special interests are musculoskeletal ultrasonography and systemic lupus erythematosus.

MOHAMMED TIKLY, MB BCh, MMed, FRCP, FCP (SA), PhD
Professor and Head, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Mohammed Tikly is based at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, Soweto. He completed his undergraduate training at Wits and trained in rheumatology at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. His special interests are outcomes and genetics of rheumatic diseases in South Africans.

Correspondence to: Mohamed Makda (mamakda@telkomsa.net)

References
Essentials of musculoskeletal examination

Many doctors feel uncomfortable when examining the musculoskeletal system.

ASGAR ALI KALLA, MB ChB, FCP (SA), MD, FRCP (Lond)
Professor of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town

Asgar Kalla’s research interests include osteoporosis in rheumatic diseases, disease activity and disability assessment in rheumatoid arthritis, monitoring of disease modification in rheumatoid arthritis, toxicity profiles of slow-acting anti-rheumatic drugs, NSAID gastropathy and mechanisms of bone loss in rheumatic diseases.

Correspondence to: Asgar Kalla (kalla@iafrica.com)

References

**The eye in rheumatoid arthritis**

N DU TOIT, MB ChB, DipOph (SA), FRCS (Edin), FCOph (SA), MMed
Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon/Senior Lecturer, Division of Ophthalmology, Department of Surgery, Groote Schuur Hospital and University of Cape Town

Correspondence to: N Du Toit (ndutoit@mweb.co.za)

References

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**Upper limb pain syndromes**

MAHMOOD MOOSA TAR MAHOMED ALLY, MB BCh, FCP (SA)
Professor and Head, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Pretoria

Correspondence to: M Ally (tar@up.ac.za)

References

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**Fibromyalgia**

NEETA PATEL, MB ChB, FCP (SA)
Principal Specialist and Lecturer, Department of Rheumatology, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital, Durban

GIRISH M MODY, MB ChB, FCP (SA), MD, FRCP (Lond), Fellow of the University of KwaZulu-Natal
Aaron Family Professor and Head of the Department of Rheumatology, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital, Durban

Correspondence to: N Patel (patekn2@ukzn.ac.za)

References
Use of biological agents in rheumatic disease

ELSA VAN DUUREN, BMedSci, MB ChB, MSc (Sports Medicine), MMed (Med Phys)
Rheumatologist, Jacaranda Hospital, Pretoria

Correspondence to: evduuren@mweb.co.za

References


Gout – an overview

B J JANSEN VAN RENSBURG, MB ChB, MMed (INT), FCP (SA)
Subspecialist in Rheumatology and Clinical Head, Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein

Correspondence to: B J Jansen van Rensburg (gninbjvr@ufs.ac.za)

References


Lower limb pain syndromes

MAHMOOD MOOSA TAR MAHOMED ALLY, MB BCh, FCP (SA)
Professor and Head, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Pretoria

FARHANA EBRAHIM SULEMAN, MB BCh, MMed Rad (D)UL, FCRad (D) SA
Senior Specialist, Department of Radiology, School of Medicine, University of Pretoria

Correspondence to: M Ally (tar@up.ac.za)

References

The lungs in the rheumatic diseases

ISMAIL S KALLA, MB BCh, FCP (SA), FCCP (USA), Cert Pulmonology (SA), Cert Critical Care (SA)
Pulmonologist/intensivist, Department of Pulmonology and Critical Care, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Correspondence to: I S Kalla (isk786@telkomsa.net)

References