

Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS)



Fellowship in Clinical Rheumatology (FCRh)

PROSPECTUS
2024/25

Contact us:

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Note:

- Please read the prospectus and instructions carefully before filling the forms.
- The fees will not be refunded for rejected forms.

BACKGROUND

There is acute shortage of rheumatology specialist manpower in Nepal. Most of hospitals in the capital and Nepal are devoid of this specialist manpower. The rheumatology care in Nepalese hospitals is provided by other medical professionals, without specific training in the care of arthritis and connective tissue diseases. Patan Hospital, a teaching hospital of Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS), is the only public hospital in the country that has been providing specialist rheumatology services through its outpatient and inpatient services for more than a decade.

The Rheumatology fellowship program at PAHS is designed to address the acute shortage of rheumatology specialist manpower in the country. It is expected that after completion of the fellowship, the graduates will be able to provide the best possible curative health services so as to improve the care of Nepali patients with serious, treatable rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases and at the same time prevent disability and suffering due to these conditions. The fellowship will enable the graduates to be leaders, both for the practice and teaching of rheumatology across the country.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The goal of rheumatology fellowship program at PAHS is to provide specialist training in rheumatology to produce competent rheumatologists who are accountable and adhere to the principle of medical ethics by respecting and protecting patients' best interests and who will be capable to:

- Provide quality rheumatology services
- Serve as teachers, trainers and leaders in the field of rheumatology
- Recognize the health needs of the community & carry out professional obligations ethically keeping with the objectives of the National Health Policy.

COMPETENCY OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

They represent the areas in which every physician should be competent. Because competence is the habitual performance of key behaviors, assessment of competence is done in part by looking for the key, or sentinel habits in the workplace. Sentinel habits are the essence of a domain of competence. The competencies and sentinel habits are as below:

Competencies	Sentinel habit
Professionalism	Demonstrates respect and responsibility
Patient centered care	Incorporates the patient's experience and context into problem identification and management
Clinical reasoning	Generates relevant hypothesis resulting in a safe and appropriate differential diagnosis Manages with available best practices
Procedural expertise	Follows the key features for doing procedures (consent, indication/contraindications, proper equipment, mental rehearsal, patient comfort, after care
Communication	Uses clear and timely nonverbal, verbal and written communication.
Scholarship	Learns and teaches relevant and achievable objectives.
Leadership	Uses the moral authority derived from personal integrity to define and persist in accomplishing a shared vision.

CLINICAL ROTATIONS

The total duration of the course is **24 months**.

Rotation	Objectives	Number of week
Introductory block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review rheumatological history taking and physical examination Revisit musculoskeletal applied anatomy, applied immunology, and basic pharmacology relevant to rheumatology 	1
Rheumatology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing clinics, wards, rheumatic emergencies, consults On call: Rotating "first call" basis for consultations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend consultations in the wards/ emergency when required for any suspected/ definite rheumatological problem. The fellows will be on call on rotation basis throughout the fellowship period. The fellow will do once a week call in medicine department so as to have a continuous exposure in internal medicine. Dermatology, Nephrology and Physiotherapy exposure relevant to the practice of rheumatology through referral system in outpatient and inpatient departments of Patan Hospital. 	85
Ophthalmology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During ophthalmology rotation, the fellows will learn diagnosis and management of ophthalmological diseases relevant to the practice of rheumatology. 	1
Orthopaedics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orthopedics rotation: During orthopedics rotation, the fellows will learn surgical management aspect of musculoskeletal and rheumatic diseases, joint and soft tissue injections, physiotherapy for common orthopedic problems, and help to develop a referral system between rheumatology and orthopedics team for the mutual benefit of their patients 	2
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Rheumatology (community posting of one week) in PAHS rural teaching sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to see spectrum of cases in the community which would otherwise may not present to the hospital Teach/ supervise undergraduate &/or postgraduate students of PAHS in the communities 	2
Elective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During these exposures, the fellows will have chance to see complex and varied autoimmune rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, learn advanced diagnostics and therapeutics used in the treatment of rheumatic diseases and take part in the academic discussions. 	12
Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summative Exam 	1

EVALUATION

There will be ongoing formative and periodic summative evaluations. Fellow must fulfill all competencies to sit in the exit exam. Formative evaluations will be done with following tools:

- Field notes
- Core content learning review
- Mini CEx, DOPS, CBD, learning log
- Evaluation by Fellowship program committee
- Final summative exam

Repetition of the course

Repeating resident shall pay fees as follows:

1. Tuition Fee: 15% of the total tuition fee
2. All other fees: 100% as mentioned in the prospectus

Leave rules

Leaves will be as per rules of Patan Academy of Health Sciences.

Accommodation

The candidates must manage their own accommodation.

Allowance

Stipend for the Fellows will be paid as per PAHS rules and regulations.

ADMISSIONS

Eligibility Criteria

1. Post graduate degree (MD Internal Medicine) recognized by Nepal Medical Council (NMC).
2. Must have Specialty registration at NMC

Duration of Course

The Clinical Rheumatology Fellowship will be of **24 months**.

Available Seats

- There will be a total of **2 seats**.

Types of Seats

- Institutional sponsored candidates (1seat)
- Open candidates (1seat)

If there are no institutionally sponsored candidates, both the seats will be for open candidates.

Selection Process

Fellowship Candidates will be selected on merit basis based on the scores of written examination consisting of multiple choice questions (MCQs).

Fee Structure

SN	Particulars/Headings	Fees in NPR	Remarks
1	Application Fee	5,000.00	
2	Tuition Fee	2,50,000.00	
3	Other Fees:		
	3.1 PAHS Registration Fee	5,000.00	
	3.2 Security Deposit	20,000.00	Refundable on completion of course
	3.3 Health Insurance	4,000.00	Annual
Total Fee Payable at the Time of Admission		2,79,000.00	
Additional Fees:			
4	Rotational Clinical Placement:		
	4.1 Within the country	7,000.00	Per Week
	4.2 Outside the country	To be borne by candidate	
5	Supplementary Exam	15,000.00	Per attempt

Note: The fees, once paid, shall not be refunded and is subjected to change or reviewed.

How to Apply

Candidates must submit his/her application to PAHS office, Sunday to Friday from 8 am to 3 pm, except Wednesday, Saturday and on government holidays, along with following documents:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Post graduate degree certificate
- NMC Specialty registration
- MBBS certificate
- Citizenship
- Bank Voucher

Candidates can obtain application forms from Academic Administration.