

INTEGRATING AUTOIMMUNE PATIENTS INTO MEDICAL EDUCATION:

A PATIENT PARTNER EXPERIENCE

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In modern medical education, there is a growing recognition of the importance of patient-centered learning approaches. The patient partner concept is a novel approach that involves integrating patients as active participants in medical education. This concept offers students a unique opportunity to actively learn directly from patients with autoimmune diseases, thereby gaining valuable insights into the clinical manifestations, comorbidities, management and impact of these conditions.

The PATIENT is the BEST TEACHER
Workshop

by
PATIENT PARTNERS® in Rheumatology

7:30-11:30am, Friday, 19 April 2024
Session Hall 308, St. Martin de Porres (Medicine) Bldg.

Up close and personal with actual patients

- Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA)
- Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)
- Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA)
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)

Learn the art of musculoskeletal exam as you listen to inspiring stories of struggles, triumphs and hope

with the participation of medical students, postgraduate trainees in Internal Medicine & Rheumatology, and faculty - consultants

Another Patient Partners Workshop in Rheumatology was conducted last April 19, 2024, spearheaded by USTH Section of Rheumatology head, Prof. Sandra Navarra, in coordination with USTFMS Department of Medicine, with the active participation of Rheumatology consultants and fellows, Internal Medicine residents, post-grad interns, and 3rd and 4th year medical students.

Session hall 308, St. Martin De Porres Bldg. became a busy hub of a unique learning activity focused on 10 patients with various rheumatologic conditions, commencing with a spontaneous hip hop RAP of patient Zeny Estrada to everyone's sheer delight!

Students were then divided into 3 groups, participated with medical residents, postgraduate trainees in internal medicine and clerks, facilitated by the Rheumatology fellows. Each group had the opportunity to learn directly from patients as they rotate to 3 breakout rooms, and discuss about their diverse clinical presentations, musculoskeletal physical examination, co-morbidities and complications, including personal inspiring stories of struggles, triumph and hope.



This unique activity offered a unique and valuable learning experience to all. By engaging directly with patients with long standing rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and systemic lupus erythematosus, students gain a deeper understanding of the clinical manifestations, management strategies, and impact of these conditions in their lives. The patient-partner approach not only enhances students' clinical skills but also fosters empathy, communication skills, and a greater appreciation of each patient's journey.





Before the session ended, each group presented comments, reactions and feedbacks from their recent patient encounters. Indeed, everyone left the hall enriched with a learning experience, a tool that could prepare them to deliver more compassionate and patient-centered care in their future careers as healthcare professionals.



Post-activity TRIBUTE to our SENIOR (Geria) patients by USTFMS students

