

Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)

List of EPAs for Rheumatology

EPA Title	EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit
EPA 1: Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases in the outpatient setting	Level 4
EPA 2: Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases and rheumatological emergencies in the inpatient setting	Level 4
EPA 3: Performing arthrocentesis, joint and soft tissue injections	Level 4
EPA 4: Providing rheumatology consultation to other specialties and providers	Level 4
EPA 5: Leading an interprofessional health care team	Level 4

Entrustment Scale

Entrustment Level	Description
1	Be present and observe, but no permission to enact EPA
2	Practice EPA with direct (pro-active) supervision
3	Practice EPA with indirect (re-active) supervision
4	Unsupervised practice allowed (distant oversight)
5	May provide supervision to junior learners

**Rheumatology EPA 1 - Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases
in the outpatient setting**

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Title	EPA 1: Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases in the outpatient setting
Specifications and limitations	<p>The ability to manage patients who present with acute and chronic rheumatologic disease is a key activity of a rheumatologist.</p> <p>The specific functions which define this EPA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering essential information through history, physical examination and initial laboratory evaluation. • Developing differential diagnosis. • Ordering and performing diagnostic tests. • Assessing severity of illness and being able to manage patients safely in the outpatient setting or carry out follow-up action to treat urgent or life-threatening problems, e.g. admitting the ill patient for further treatment. • Placing the patient at the centre of all management decisions to provide patient and family centred care by engaging in bidirectional communication with patients and families. • Communicating and documenting the therapeutic plan and clinical reasoning in a manner that is transparent to all members of the health care team.
	<p>Limitations: Excludes paediatric patients</p>
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

Rheumatology EPA 2 - Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases and rheumatological emergencies in the inpatient setting

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Title	EPA 2: Managing patients with rheumatologic diseases and rheumatological emergencies in the inpatient setting
Specifications and limitations	<p>The ability to manage patients who present with acute and chronic rheumatologic disease, including rheumatological emergencies is a key activity of a rheumatologist.</p> <p>The specific functions which define this EPA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering essential information through history, physical examination and initial laboratory evaluation. • Developing differential diagnosis. • Ordering and performing diagnostic tests. • Demonstrating ability to manage complex rheumatological diseases and rheumatological emergencies in the inpatient setting, especially in the intensive care unit. • Placing the patient at the centre of all management decisions to provide patient and family centred care by engaging in bidirectional communication with patients and families. • Demonstrate ability to conduct family conferences to discuss prognosis and therapeutic plans. • Communicating and documenting the therapeutic plan and clinical reasoning in a manner that is transparent to all members of the health care team.
	<p>Limitations: Excludes paediatric patients.</p>
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

Rheumatology EPA 3 - Performing arthrocentesis, joint and soft tissue injections

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Title	EPA 3: Performing arthrocentesis, joint and soft tissue injections
Specifications and limitations	<p>The ability to perform joint arthrocentesis and joint/soft tissue injections.</p> <p>The specific functions which define this EPA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the indications and contraindications/risks of the procedures. • Obtaining informed consent from patients. • Demonstrating the ability to perform the procedures. • Ensuring patient safety and comfort. • Monitoring, recognizing and managing complications of the procedure. • Engaging in post-procedure management including aftercare advice. • Documentation of performance of the procedures.
	<p>Limitations:</p> <p>Excludes paediatric patients and imaging-guided procedures.</p>
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

Rheumatology EPA 4 - Providing rheumatology consultation to other specialties and providers

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Title	EPA 4: Providing rheumatology consultation to other specialties and providers
Specifications and limitations	<p>Providing inpatient and outpatient consultation service to other specialties.</p> <p>The specific functions which define this EPA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely review of patients referred. • Assessing the severity of illness and using judgment as to whether immediate or emergency actions, stabilization, or transfer to a higher acute facility are necessary for treatment of urgent or life-threatening problems. • Gathering essential information through history, physical examination and initial laboratory evaluation. • Engaging in sound clinical reasoning that drives the development of an appropriate differential diagnosis to allow the indicated diagnostic tests to be performed. • Knowing or acquiring knowledge of the evidence related to the primary problem and applying the evidence to the patient's care in developing a diagnostic work-up and plans for management and follow-up. • Placing the patient at the centre of all management decisions to provide patient and family centred care by engaging in bidirectional communication with patients and families • Communicating findings and plans with the referring physicians, including co-management of patient. • Documenting the therapeutic plan and clinical reasoning in a manner that is transparent to all members of the health care team. • Arranging timely inpatient review/ outpatient follow up. <p>Limitations: Excludes paediatric patients.</p>
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4

Rheumatology EPA 5 - Leading an interprofessional health care team

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Title	EPA 5: Leading an interprofessional health care team
Specifications and limitations	<p>To lead and participate in an interprofessional health care team in the management of patients with rheumatologic diseases.</p> <p>The specific functions which define this EPA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a shared vision, goals, expectations, and outcome measures. • Engaging other team members in a way that utilizes their specific roles and capabilities, eliciting and valuing the perspective and contributions of others. • Demonstrating situation awareness by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitoring individual team member's performance to enable oversight and management of current and evolving situations. ○ Balancing autonomy and supervision of team members by assigning/delegating unsupervised work to team members that aligns with their knowledge, skills, and attitudes (KSA) and supervising work of team members that is designed to expand their KSA. • Monitoring team's performance and providing feedback. • Recognizing and managing the social cues, emotional responses as well as the personal and professional needs of team members. • Role modelling as the team leader. • Teaching to the needs of the team members, including patients and families. <p>Members of the interprofessional team can include allied health members (occupational therapist, physiotherapist, podiatrist, dietician, speech therapist, medical social worker), nursing staff, medical doctors of various subspecialties, rheumatology nurse clinicians, advanced practice nurses (APN), as well as external resources such as the Integrated Care Services (ICS), the National Arthritis Foundation (Singapore), and disease-specific patient support groups (e.g. Lupus Association (Singapore), and the Ankylosing Spondylitis Club, etc).</p> <p>Limitations: NIL</p>
EPA Entrustment Level to be Attained by Exit	Level 4