RHEUMATOLOGY PROFILE

GENERAL INFORMATION
(Source: Royal College and Pathway Evaluation Program)

Rheumatology is concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of rheumatic diseases, which may involve many systems, as well as joint, muscle and skeletal disorders. Specialists in this field have an interest in autoimmune diseases that underlie many rheumatologic conditions. Practice in this specialty is primarily office-based with organized community programs relating to rheumatic disease units or regional centres. There are many opportunities for clinical practice, research and teaching.

A rheumatologist must be effective in the assessment, investigation, management, and rehabilitation of patients with: acute and chronic forms of arthritis; soft tissue rheumatic disorders; collagen-vascular diseases and vasculitides; spinal and regional pain problems; and the musculoskeletal manifestations of systemic disease.

Residents in rheumatology may plan a residency program directed to independent private practice in the community or an academic teaching and research career in a university setting. Private practice rheumatologists, and in particular those with university clinical appointments, may also engage in teaching and research activities. Residents wishing to pursue a career in academic rheumatology are encouraged to take additional research training following completion of the core clinical rheumatology program.
Traditionally, pediatric patients (usually under age 18) are attended to by pediatricians with subspecialty training in pediatric rheumatology. Adult patients (usually over age 18) are attended to by internists with subspecialty training in adult rheumatology. Therefore, upon completion of medical school, a resident in rheumatology must first have primary certification in internal medicine or pediatrics. Certification training therefore takes approximately 6 years, including:

- 4 years for certification in either internal medicine or pediatrics;
- a further 2 years of Royal College-approved residency in adult or pediatric rheumatology, a maximum of 1 year of which may be undertaken at the third or fourth year residency level. This period must include: 1 year of Royal College-approved clinical residency at a senior level in adult or pediatric rheumatology and a further residency that may include the following: 6 or 12 months of Royal College-approved clinical residency in rheumatology; and 6 or 12 months of approved clinical or basic research training relevant to rheumatology; or 1 year of Royal College-approved residency or research at a hospital or institution in Canada.

For further training requirements go to:
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

Canadian Rheumatology Association
http://rheum.ca/
# Number of physicians and physicians/100,000 population in Rheumatology in Canada, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Physicians</th>
<th>Phys/100k pop'n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newfoundland/Labrador</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>398</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Physicians/100,000 population in Rheumatology in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Rheumatologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

Gender

- Male: 50%
- Female: 50%

Age Group

- 34 and under: 3%
- 35 - 44: 26%
- 45 - 54: 25%
- 55 - 64: 31%
- 65 and over: 15%

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Rheumatologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Main work setting of Rheumatologists in Canada, 2014

- Private Office/Clinic: 44%
- Academic Health Sciences Centre: 42%
- Nursing home/long term care facility/seniors’ residence: 5%
- Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital: 4%
- Community Hospital: 3%
- Free-standing Lab/Diag Clinic: 2%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Practice organization for Rheumatologists in Canada, 2014

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
## Hours worked per week (excluding on-call) by Rheumatologists in Canada, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours worked per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care without teaching component</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>54.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
On-call duty hours spent per month by Rheumatologists in Canada, 2014

- **60%**: Up to 120 hrs/month
- **28%**: More than 120, up to 180 hrs/month
- **10%**: More than 180, up to 240 hrs/month
- **2%**: More than 240 hrs/month
- **0%**: No response

Time spent on call in direct patient care = 29 hrs./month

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Remuneration for Rheumatologists in Canada

**Primary payment method** in 2013

- 53% 90% + fee-for-service
- 32% 90% + salary
- 9% 90% + other*
- 2% Blended
- 4% NR

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

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Average gross clinical earnings for Int Med & subspecialties in 2013/14 (those earning at least $60,000) = $396,105

Average percent overhead reported by Internal Medicine specialists in 2010 = 22%

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1 National Physician Survey, 2013, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
2 National Physician Database, 2013/14, CIHI
3 National Physician Survey, 2010, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Satisfaction among **Rheumatologists** in Canada, 2013

### Balance of personal & professional commitments

- Very dissatisfied: 4%
- Dissatisfied: 3%
- Neutral: 20%
- Satisfied: 20%
- Very satisfied: 43%
- NR: 11%

### Current professional life

- Very dissatisfied: 4%
- Dissatisfied: 7%
- Neutral: 6%
- Satisfied: 56%
- Very satisfied: 27%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Rheumatologists who are Royal College, CFPC or CMQ certified in Canada, 2014

Note: Subset of those who reported a certification. Physicians could indicate more than one certification body.

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of Rheumatologists who retired in Canada during the THREE year period of 2012 to 2014

Source: CMA Masterfile – year over year comparisons

Note: “Retired” is based on giving up licence and is therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; it includes physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but may return to practice at a later date.
Total and Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees in 2014/15 – Rheumatology*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memorial U N&amp;L</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes Rheumatology (Int Med) and Rheumatology (Ped)

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
PGY-4 and exiting postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Rheumatology

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER

- PGY-4 exits
  - Female: 23
  - Male: 8

- Exits from postgrad
  - Female: 21
  - Male: 7

- Postgrad exits
  - IMG: 7
  - GCMS: 24

IMG – International Medical Graduates
GCMS – Graduates of Canadian Medical Schools
Postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Rheumatology

• Total of 31 PGY-4 Rheumatology trainees representing 54% of all Rheumatology trainees.

• Total of 57 Rheumatology trainees representing 0.5% of all Ministry funded trainees.

• Total of 32 visa trainees in Rheumatology.

• Total of 28 Rheumatology trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Of the 34 exits in 2013, 30 (88%) were known to be practising in Canada

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Stress associated with finding employment at end of residency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>NR/NA</th>
<th>Not stressful</th>
<th>Somewhat stressful</th>
<th>Very stressful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FM resident</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other spec res</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2012 National Physician Survey of residents. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Links to the organizations supplying information for this document

National Physician Survey
http://www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca

Canadian Medical Association
http://www.cma.ca/c3pr

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada
http://www.caper.ca/

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

College of Family Physicians of Canada
http://www.cfpc.ca

Canadian Institute for Health Information
http://www.cihi.ca