UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Rheumatology

2223-3-H4102D057-H4102D072M

Aims

- To learn the epidemiology of the main rheumatological diseases.
- To recognize the main signs and symptoms of rheumatological diseases.
- To interpret and critically evaluate the results of laboratory and imaging tests for diagnosis and monitoring.
- To acquire notions on the prognosis and on the measurement of the disease outcomes.
- To apply the knowledge acquired in the differential diagnostic reasoning of the principal rheumatological clinical presentations.
- To acquire notions on the pathogenetic basis of the therapy.

Contents

RHEUMATOLOGY

- Classification of rheumatic diseases.
- Elements of semeiotics (joint physical examination, laboratory tests, imaging).
- Inflammatory arthropathies, connective tissue diseases, vasculitis: epidemiology, clinical pictures, laboratory and instrumental investigations, diagnostic/ classification criteria, prognosis and pathophysiological basis of therapy.

Detailed program

RHEUMATOLOGY

- Introduction to rheumatology and classification of rheumatic diseases

- Semeiotics of rheumatological diseases
- Laboratory tests: autoantibodies.
- Imaging in rheumatology.

PRIMARY INFLAMMATORY ARTHRITIDES

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Axial and peripheral spondyloarthritis
- Differential diagnosis with osteoarthritis

INFECTIOUS ARTHRITIS

- Viral arthritis
- Bacterial and mycobacterial arthritis

CRYSTAL ARTHROPATHIES

- Gout
- Calcium Pyrophosphate Crystal Arthropathy (CPPD)

CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISEASES

- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Systemic Sclerosis
- Dermatomyositis, Polymyositis and other inflammatory myopathies
- Undifferentiated connective tissue disease, mixed connective tissue disease and overlap syndromes
- Sjogren's syndrome
- Anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome

SYSTEMIC VASCULITIDES

- Classification of vasculitis
- Giant cell vasculitis (Horton's arteritis / polymylagia rheumatica and Takayasu's arteritis)
- Polyarteritis nodosa
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Wegener's granulomatosis)
- Microscopic polyangiitis
- Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Churg-Strauss syndrome)
- Henoch-Schonlein Syndrome (IgA Vasculitis)
- Mixed cryoglobulinemia
- Behcet's disease

AUTOINFLAMMATORY AND MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

- Familial Mediterranean fever and other autoinflammatory diseases
- IgG4 disease
- Relapsing polychondritis

EXTRA-ARTICULAR RHEUMATISM

- Fibromyalgia

Gender differences in prevalence, clinical manifestations, outcome, treatment response of rheumatic diseases will be specifically addressed.

Prerequisites

Have passed the exams indicated in the regulation with regard to the preparatory procedures.

Teaching form

Frontal lessons with interactive presentation software, clinical cases discussion.
Lessons will also be recorded and the video lectures will be available on demand.

Textbook and teaching resource

- Montecucco, C. et Al. (2021). Reumatologia per studenti e medici di medicina generale. Idelson-Gnocchi
- Firestein, G. S., Budd, R. C., Gabriel, S. E., McInnes, I. B., & O'Dell, J. R. (2020). Firestein & Kelley's Textbook of Rheumatology-E-Book. Elsevier Health Sciences.

Semester

First semester

Assessment method

The assessment of achieved objectives will be verified with written tests and oral exam.

The written test has the purpose of ascertaining important specific knowledge on a wide spectrum of rheumatological diseases.

The evaluation criteria of the oral exam will privilege the skills of differential diagnosis.

Office hours

Contact the Professor by e-mail

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY