

Rheumatology

Introduction

Rheumatology is the service that specialises in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions that affect bones, joints and muscles. Autoimmune (inflammatory) conditions affecting joints and soft tissue, and other non-inflammatory conditions such as osteoporosis are part of the scope of the specialty. CUH provides local and specialised regional services including Rare Bone disease, Vasculitis, CRPS (Chronic regional pain syndrome) and Connective Tissue disease. A number of clinics are set up fully integrated with MDT and cross specialty e.g. with Nephrology for vasculitis.

The service is predominantly an outpatient based service consisting of rheumatology consultants, senior registrars / fellows, nurse specialists, pharmacists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists

You may see just one or all of them depending on your condition and stage of treatment.

Guidance for Patients

Most patients will be waiting for an outpatient clinic appointment for assessment, diagnosis and treatment or ongoing monitoring of a rheumatological condition.

Information and support can be sought from the following recognised charities / forums:

[Versus Arthritis](#)

[NHS Health A-Z](#)

[LUPUS UK](#)

What should I do if my health is deteriorating?

If you are waiting for your first outpatient appointment, please speak to your GP who can contact us and alert us to bring forward your appointment or your GP can contact the Rheumatology registrar for advice if your condition is very urgent

If you are an existing patient, please contact your consultant's secretary, specialist nurse or via the advice line / mychart messaging as detailed in your previous clinic letters. .

Contact Us

First outpatient appointments: 01223 216403

Follow up appointments: 01223 274900