

**Johns Hopkins Rheumatology at Good Samaritan Hospital**  
**Russell Morgan Building, Room 508**  
**5601 Loch Raven Boulevard**  
**Baltimore, MD 21239**

**Phone: 443-444-4646**  
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## **Welcome to Johns Hopkins Rheumatology at Good Samaritan Hospital**

We are located at the **Good Samaritan Hospital in the Russell Morgan Building on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.** **Parking is available across from the Russell Morgan building** (*Directions are included with this letter*).

- **Please plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment time to allow enough time to complete registration forms.**

### **What Should You Bring with You:**

- ✓ **Health Questionnaires:** We have included several health forms with this letter. These forms help us to review your health history in depth and will reduce the overall length of your visit. **It is important to complete these forms before coming to the clinic.** Most people can complete the forms in 30-60 minutes.
- ✓ **Medical Records/X-rays/MRIs:** During your evaluation, we will need to review copies of your past medical records and X-rays. You should contact your other doctors right away and ask them to send copies of your records and X-rays to us. (You can also bring copies of your records and X-Rays with you to your visit, if you prefer).
- ✓ **A list of all present medications** (include name and dosage).
- ✓ **Insurance Information / Referrals: Payment:** Please bring a copy of your referral and insurance cards. **You are responsible for obtaining any necessary referrals or authorizations from your insurance company and/or primary care physician.** Failure to do so may result in your insurer denying coverage for your visit, leaving you responsible for all costs. Most primary care offices will not and cannot generate referrals for past visits.

**Payment:** We will bill your insurance company for your visit. However, you will be responsible for your co-pay (if you have one) and any amount not covered by your insurance. If you do not have insurance, payment is expected at the time of the visit. The fee for the initial visit is \$576.00 and any laboratory tests or X-rays will be an additional cost. Please note that co-pays and time-of-service payments must be paid by check or cash only.

### **Rescheduling Appointments and Cancellations:**

Our clinic is very busy and unfortunately patients often have to wait several months for an appointment. **If you need to reschedule, please call us at 443-444-4646 as soon as possible. This will allow us to schedule another patient who is waiting to be seen.**

### **Cancellation Policy:**

If you miss your appointment without giving us at least 24 hours notice, you will be charged \$75. (This fee will not be covered by your health insurance plan.)

## **What Will Happen during Your Initial Visit**

We will ask you to complete questionnaires regarding your health before your visit and possibly on the day of your visit. During your visit, you will be seen by one or more members of our rheumatology team. Johns Hopkins is a teaching institution, thus there may be Residents, Fellows, and Physicians-in-training involved in your evaluation. All patients will also be seen by an Attending Board-certified Rheumatologist.

We will carefully review your medical history, medical records, X-rays and MRI scans that you bring with you. We also will conduct a physical exam including examination of the joints, and may also recommend specialized blood or urine tests or additional X-rays.

Because of the comprehensive nature of this evaluation, you should plan to be in the clinic for at least 2 hours.

## **Opportunities to Participate in Research**

The research mission of the Johns Hopkins Rheumatology is to investigate and discover the causes, treatments, and hopefully cures for different types of arthritis and autoimmune diseases. In addition to caring for patients, we also teach physicians in training and conduct research. We have large clinical databases that allow us to better understand the clinical presentation and outcomes of patients. We work closely with other faculty members who are engaged in bench research to better understand the causes of disease. We also conduct studies of new treatments for arthritis. **You may be asked if you are interested in participating in a research study.** Participation in research studies is always completely voluntary. If you decide not to participate, be assured that this will not affect your medical care at Johns Hopkins in any way.

## **What Will Happen at the End of Your Visit?**

After carefully reviewing your history, physical examination, and prior medical records, recommendations for further evaluation and/or treatments will be discussed with you. Depending of the nature of these recommendations, you may be referred back to your primary care physician for further management, referred for care outside of the Rheumatology Clinic, or asked to return for ongoing care here.

We will provide a copy of the dictated medical record to the referring physician and to other care providers that you designate that will summarize the findings and recommendations made at your visit. Please bring with you the names and addresses of the physicians to whom you wish this record to be provided.

This summary is carefully planned and reviewed, and may take days to weeks to be generated. At your visit, you will be provided with information on how to get back in touch with our staff and any additional instructions for your continued care. Johns Hopkins Rheumatologists will be available to answer additional questions that may arise after your visit is over.

**We look forward to seeing you at your appointment at Johns Hopkins Rheumatology at Good Samaritan Hospital.**