

Patient Navigator Program

The Rheumatology Division at SUNY Downstate, in partnership with the Brooklyn Free Clinic and the Brooklyn Health Disparities Center, is excited to announce the launch of a Patient Navigator Program.

The Patient Navigator Program is a special track/elective available to six 2nd year medical students at SUNY Downstate. Selected students will be trained to follow patients in the Arthritis Clinic at University Hospital, particularly those who are at risk due to a history of severe disease manifestations, a poor record of appointment keeping, low medication adherence, low education, or health literacy, and/or language difficulties.

Patient Navigators will be responsible for:

- Acting as liaisons between the patients and their medical team
- Checking-in with patients after missed appointments
- Reminding patients to pick up their prescriptions
- Visiting community organizations and affiliated hospitals without rheumatology services to provide educational materials in multiple languages to identify and recruit minority and/or economically disadvantaged patients

Patient Navigators will also have the opportunity to attend Arthritis Clinic, whenever their schedules allow, to gain additional clinical experience.

In addition to the clinical and service opportunities, Patient Navigators will have opportunities for professional development, data analysis, and case presentation. At the beginning of the program, students will meet for training and check-ins on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. By mid-fall, meetings will move to a monthly basis.

All interested 2nd year medical students are welcome to apply, but ***preference will be given to minority and/or international students, particularly those who are proficient in a second language.***

Selected students will be paid a stipend of \$500/month. The program will begin in early September 2021 through July of 2022. Students will be expected to commit 8-10 hours/week.

To apply, students should submit their [application](#) and send a copy of their resume/CV to Dr. Ellen Ginzler, Chief, Rheumatology Division (ellen.ginzler@downstate.edu), and Grace Shadid, Patient Navigator Program Student Manager (grace.shadid@downstate.edu). Any questions can be sent to Dr. Ginzler and Grace as well.

The deadline to apply is Monday, July 26, 2021

Interview invitations will be sent out after the application deadline