

REGISTRATION BROCHURE



2016

4th Annual Meeting August 26 - 28, 2016

The Westin New Orleans Canal Place
New Orleans, Louisiana

Register before 8/10/2016 to receive
early registration, discounted pricing!

Obtain detailed meeting information and/or register
quickly and easily online at <http://tiny.cc/ral2016>

Earn up to **7.00** AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.
See inside for details.



President's Message



Dear Rheumatology Colleagues,

The RAL Board and I would like to invite you to attend our 4th Annual Meeting to be held on August 26 - 28, 2016, at the Westin Hotel on Canal Street in downtown New Orleans. We have gathered an outstanding group of speakers along with a wonderful location to come together to learn, collaborate and socialize.

Dr. Leonard Calabrese will update us on the advances in the treatment of systemic vasculitis. Dr. Ed Keystone will review and update the emerging novel therapies in R.A. and then discuss decisions on reducing cost and dose reduction and withdrawal of biologics. Dr. Sergio Schwartzman will tell us how the microbiome relates to rheumatic diseases. Sunday morning, Dr. Ken Saag and Dr. Vin Tangpricha will lead a mini-symposium on osteoporosis and vitamin D. During our breakfasts and lunch satellite symposia, there will be presentations on Inflammatory Pathways: Pre-Rheumatoid Arthritis and Transition to Rheumatoid Arthritis, an Educational Discussion on Current Trends in Rheumatology, and JAK-STAT Signaling in Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) – see our highlighted speakers listing at the end of this brochure.

On Saturday afternoon, we will hold a practice symposium with topics including the MACRA system, quality payment models, Medicare Part B projects, and a CSRO update. Dr. William Harvey from the ACR and Dr. Madelaine Feldman, Vice President of CSRO, will present the topics. An open group discussion with state and regional leaders and attendees will follow – your input is essential.

Best of all, there will be plenty of opportunities to mingle with old friends, meet new rheumatologists and APPs in the region, and expand your network with industry and non-profit groups. Our meeting festivities begin Friday Night with the RAL Welcome Reception, followed by two days of scientific sessions ending early enough that everyone can go out and enjoy the flavors of New Orleans - from the music to the food! We hope you will join us for an outstanding learning experience and a chance to form stronger bonds with your state and regional colleagues. Together we can hope to shape a better future for our patients and our specialty.

Stephen M. Lindsey, MD, FACR
President
Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana

2015 – 2016

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RAL
2016

Educational Needs

The therapeutic landscape has substantially changed with the introduction of biologics and small molecules selectively targeting pathogenic elements in the synovium of RA patients. The introduction of these novel molecules has come about as a consequence of an improved understanding of the

pathogenic processes in RA in concert with advances in biotechnology. The critical pathogenic processes include cellular interactions, i.e. T cell, B cell and T cell/Macrophage, which generate antibody and cytokine production in particular TNF α , IL-6 and GM-CSF. A novel strategy of signal transduction inhibition of the JAK/stat pathway leads to a reduction of multiple cytokines, an earlier therapeutic response, and possible use of monotherapy. All of these novel agents are further improving the outcomes of RA patients.

While biologics have changed the therapeutic paradigm in RA, they have dramatically increased the health care costs with fewer patients generating a larger share of health expenditures. A number of strategies have been put in place to reduce the costs of these therapies without compromising on health care. The more aggressive and early use of combination conventional DMARDs, particularly with SC high dose Methotrexate, have improved outcomes enough to reduce the need for biologics in many cases. As well, recent studies demonstrating the withdrawal of biologics in early RA or dose reduction in more established RA will contribute to reduced health care costs. Moreover, the introduction of biosimilars has already had a substantial effect on reducing biologic costs. Improved therapeutic algorithms will reduce the time wasted with ineffective therapy. Taken together, the early therapeutic strategies with conventional DMARDs, biologic dose reduction, and improved therapeutic algorithms with biologics will have a significant influence on cost reduction of biologics.

Physicians are lacking confidence in the management of AAV especially in the chronic maintenance phase. While rituximab has been approved for AAV (antibody-associated vasculitis) for induction and utilized for remission, the literature varies on dose, timing and the use of biomarkers. This presentation will critically appraise this data and provide a practical approach to manage such patients.

New insights from DNA sequence-based analyses of gut microbial communities and a renewed interest in mucosal immunology suggest that the microbiome represents an important environmental factor that can influence autoimmune disease manifestation. Rheumatologists need to be aware of a possible role for the microbiota in the pathogenesis of RA with new technologies that might provide scientific breakthroughs.

Rheumatologists need to be aware of federal and Louisiana state legislation and regulation related to medication access, practice management, private payer reform, and administrative simplification and its impact to the success of their practice and quality of patient care. This discussion should help providers understand new ways to contend with reduced Medicare reimbursement rates, medical claims process errors and inefficiency, and legislative and regulatory changes.

Rheumatologists are quick to diagnose and treat OP, but the guidelines are less clear on when to stop treatment or interrupt treatment cycles. Likewise, during these holidays, what should we be telling our patients to do to maintain their results? The latest studies will be reviewed to help answer these issues.

It is generally accepted that there are effects of vitamin D on the immune system and other physiologic functions. We will analyze relevant clinical trials that can improve our understanding and improve our clinical decision regarding vitamin D in our patients.

Educational Objectives

1. Describe the current therapeutic targets in the pathogenesis of RA.
2. Explain the rationale for current strategies to inhibit cytokines in RA.
3. Recognize the effectiveness of novel monoclonal antibody and small molecule strategies in the treatment of RA.
4. Explain the strategies in both methotrexate-naïve and inadequate responders to withdraw biologics.
5. Review the data supporting dose reduction of biologics.
6. Explain the development of biosimilars and recent data supporting their approval and concerns for the clinician.
7. Describe the current standards of care of the treatment of various forms of systemic vasculitis especially AAV.
8. Appraise the data on induction and maintenance regimes with biologic and non-biologic therapies.
9. Manage patients with varying presentations of systemic vasculitis including acute and chronic, mild and fulminant presentations.
10. Identify the role of the microbiome in the development of chronic autoimmune disease.

11. Identify legislative trends regarding practice management, private payer reform, and medication access of impact to rheumatologists and the medical community at both the state and federal level, specifically looking at Louisiana and its relationship as part of CSRO.
12. Formulate a more thorough understanding of practice management and administrative simplification measures, including uniform prior authorization forms and insurance transparency, and how they will impact management and patient care.
13. Identify methods that may be utilized by rheumatologists and the medical community to advocate for political action, such as collaborating with provider and patient advocacy organizations and other stakeholders.
14. Formulate a more thorough understanding of Medicare Access & CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) reform Medicare payment.
15. Identify approaches that may be utilized by Quality Payment Program: Delivery System Reform, Medicare Payment Reform, & MACRA.
16. Identify methods that may be utilized by The Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) & Alternative Payment Models (APMs).
17. Explain the efficacy and safety of long-term bisphosphonate use.
18. Describe indications for bisphosphonate drug holidays and new ASBMR guidelines.
19. Review evidence on alternate bone treatment approaches during bisphosphonate drug holidays.
20. Describe vitamin D deficiency for optimal health.
21. Evaluate the importance of vitamin D in skeletal and extra-skeletal conditions.
22. Appraise the currently conducted randomized controlled trials on vitamin D.
23. Review four cases assessing and diagnosing unusual presentations of ordinary rheumatologic conditions, and rheumatologic look alike diseases.

Accreditation

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION

Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the American College of Surgeons and the Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana. The American College of Surgeons is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

The American College of Surgeons designates this live activity for a maximum of **7.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



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Nurses and other healthcare professionals will receive a Certificate of Attendance. For information on the applicability and acceptance of Certificates of Attendance for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by the ACCME, please consult your professional licensing board.

General Disclaimer

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Special Assistance

We encourage participation by all individuals. If you have a disability, advance notification of any special needs will help us better serve you. Call (847) 517-7225 if you require special assistance to fully participate in the meeting.

RAL 4th
Annual
Meeting

Program Schedule/Scientific Program

All sessions will be located in Azalea II unless otherwise noted

Speakers and times are subject to change

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting <i>Location: Azalea I</i>	6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception <i>Location: Magnolia Ballroom</i>
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Industry Roundtable <i>Location: Azalea I</i>	7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Dinner <i>Location: Off Site TBD</i>
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Registration/Information Desk Open <i>Location: Magnolia Foyer</i>		

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2016

7:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Registration/Information Desk Open <i>Location: Magnolia Foyer</i>	10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Advances in the Treatment of Systemic Vasculitis Leonard Calabrese, DO Cleveland Clinic
7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Industry Satellite Symposium Breakfast <i>Location: Azalea I</i>	11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting
7:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open <i>Location: Magnolia Ballroom</i>	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Industry Satellite Symposium Lunch <i>Location: Azalea I</i>
GENERAL SESSION		1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Microbiome Update Sergio Schwartzman, MD Weill Cornell Medical College
8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Welcome RAL President: Stephen M. Lindsey, MD	1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Break and Networking in Exhibit Hall <i>Location: Magnolia Ballroom</i>
8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Emerging Novel Therapies in Rheumatoid Arthritis Edward C. Keystone, MD, FRCP(C) Mount Sinai Hospital	2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Practice/Advocacy Update Symposia: Updates on Medicare Part B Practice Models; MACRA and MIPPS Updates; and Federal Updates from CSRO
9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Reducing the Cost of Biologics: Dose Reduction, Withdrawal, and Biosimilars Edward C. Keystone, MD, FRCP(C) Mount Sinai Hospital	Presenters: 2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Madelaine T. Feldman, MD The Rheumatology Group CSRO, Vice President
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Break and Networking in Exhibit Hall <i>Location: Magnolia Ballroom</i>	2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	William F. Harvey, MD, MSc, FACR Tufts Medical Center ACR, Government Affairs Committee Chair
		3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Q & A Panel Discussion

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2016

8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Registration/Information Desk Open <i>Location: Magnolia Foyer</i>	9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Vitamin D for the Skeleton and Beyond: An Update on Clinical Trials Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD Emory Healthcare
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Industry Satellite Symposium Breakfast <i>Location: Azalea I</i>		
GENERAL SESSION		10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Coffee Break
9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Update in Osteoporosis - To Stop or Not to Stop (Bisphosphonates) Kenneth Saag, MD, MSc University of Alabama at Birmingham	10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Thieves Market Resident / Fellows Competition <i>Moderator: Joseph P. Nesheiwat, MD</i> <i>Rheumatology Associates</i>

Disclaimer Statement

Statements, opinions and results of studies contained in the program are those of the presenters/authors and do not reflect the policy or position of the Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana nor does the RAL provide any warranty as to their accuracy or reliability.



Registration Form

RAL 4th Annual Meeting
August 26 - 28, 2016

The deadline for discounted early registration is **August 10, 2016**

After August 10, 2016 regular registration fees will apply to
online and onsite registration.

Online registration will be open through **August 15, 2016**.

After this date, onsite registration will be available.

Registration Fees are subject to change. To lock in these rates, register now!

Please select the category that best describes your status:

- ☐ Rheumatologist ☐ Researcher ☐ Resident ☐ Non Physician Provider ☐ Other Medical Professional ☐ Industry Employee
☐ Physician ☐ Fellow ☐ Student/Trainee ☐ Full Time Administrator ☐ Other

INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES ONLY

Industry Employee whose company is already supporting RAL OR Industry Medical Science Liaison
(Proof of MSL Title may be required before confirmation of registration)

☐ \$175

Industry Employee whose company is NOT already supporting RAL

☐ \$1250

Your submission will need to be approved prior to confirmation of your registration. Approval may be based on current Industry support. To find out if your company is currently supporting RAL, please contact Brittany Kallman in the Registration Department at (847) 264-5963 or by email at brittany@wjweiser.com.

American College of Surgeons (ACS)

- Are you a member of the American College of Surgeons?
☐ Yes ☐ No
- If you are an ACS member, please enter your member ID below to expedite your CME processing:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Degree(s): _____ Badge First Name: _____
Address: _____ ☐ Home ☐ Office
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of RAL today for **\$50** and receive a discount on your meeting registration. Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, or Physician Assistants residing or practicing in Louisiana qualify for membership in RAL. Residents and Fellows receive free membership.

☐ Physician, Nurse Practitioners or Physician Assistants - **\$50** = \$ _____

Practice Name: _____

Practice Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

☐ Fellow or ☐ Resident - **FREE**

Institution Name: _____

Institution Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Expected Graduation Date: ____/____/____

MEETING REGISTRATION

Registration Categories

	Early Discounted (through 8/10/16)	Regular Fees (after 8/10/16)	Total Cost
☐ Physician-Member	\$75	\$100	=\$ _____
☐ Non-Physician Provider- Member	\$50	\$75	=\$ _____
☐ Physician- Non-Member	\$125	\$150	=\$ _____
☐ Non-Physician Provider Non-Member	\$100	\$125	=\$ _____
☐ Student exp. grad year _____	Complimentary	Complimentary	=\$ _____
☐ Fellow exp. grad year _____	Complimentary	Complimentary	=\$ _____
☐ Resident exp. grad year _____	Complimentary	Complimentary	=\$ _____
Total Registration Fee			=\$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

The RAL requires full payment for registration fees and optional activities by check or credit card.

☐ Check (payable to RAL) ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVV#: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Billing Address: _____

Signature: _____

The issuer of the card identified on this item is authorized to pay the amount shown as TOTAL upon proper presentation. I promise to pay such TOTAL (together with any other charges due thereon) subject to and in accordance with the agreement governing the use of such card.

PHONE REGISTRATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. Acceptable registration methods include:

- By Fax: (847) 517-7229
- By Mail: RAL, Two Woodfield Lake, 1100 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 350, Schaumburg, IL 60173
- Online: <http://tiny.cc/ral2016>

If paying by check, please forward payment to:

Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana (payable to the WJ Weiser Meetings)

Attn: Registration

Two Woodfield Lake | 1100 E Woodfield Road, Suite 350 | Schaumburg, IL 60173-5116

Phone: (847) 517-7225 | Fax: (847) 517-7229

Email: ral@wjweiser.com | Website: <http://tiny.cc/ral2016>



Registration Information

The Executive Office of the RAL manages registration for the 4th Annual Meeting. Please call the RAL office at (847) 517-7225 if you have any questions.

Registration Fee Includes:

- Entrance to all sessions
- Program Materials
- One ticket to the Welcome Reception
- Breakfasts/Breaks/Lunch

Early Registration Deadline

Meeting registration forms must be received by the RAL Executive Office by **August 10, 2016**, to receive the discounted early registration rate. All forms received after this deadline will be assessed the regular registration fee.

Registration Cancellation and Refund Policy

Registration refund requests must be submitted in writing to the RAL Executive Office no later than **8/10/2016**. All refund requests will be subject to a \$10 processing fee. No refunds will be made after **8/10/2016**.

Special Needs

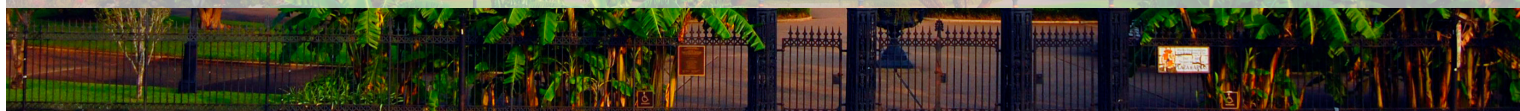
For accommodations on the basis of disability or special dietary needs, please call (847) 517-7225.

Questions

Contact the RAL Executive Office by:

Phone: (847) 517-7225 | Fax: (847) 517-7229

Email: ral@wjweiser.com



GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Registration/Information Desk Hours

Location: Magnolia / Azalea Ballrooms Foyer

Friday, August 26, 2016 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 27, 2016 7:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Sunday, August 28, 2016 8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Exhibit Hall Hours

Location: Magnolia Ballroom

Friday, August 26, 2016 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 27, 2016 7:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

EVENING FUNCTIONS

One ticket is included in your registration fee.

Welcome Reception

Date: Friday, August 26, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Magnolia Ballroom

Attire: Business Casual

RAL welcomes its members to the 4th Annual Meeting. Attendees can connect with fellow RAL members and mingle with exhibitors while enjoying appetizers and drinks.

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Westin New Orleans Canal Place
100 Rue Iberville
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Main: 504-556-7006
Fax: 504-533-5133
Website: <http://tiny.cc/westinneworleans>

Room Rate: \$159.00

Hotel Deadline: August 10, 2016

Reservations: 888-627-8180

Room Rate

RAL has negotiated a discounted rate of \$159 plus tax (14.75%) and a \$2.00 occupancy fee at the Westin New Orleans Canal Place.

Hotel Deadline

The deadline to receive the RAL group rate is **August 10, 2016**. **RAL encourages you to make your reservation early, as the hotel and discount block may sell out before this date. After this date, reservations will be accepted based on availability and higher rates may apply.**

Reservations

Attendees are responsible for making their reservations by calling the hotel at (888)627-8180. Please reference Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana to receive the discounted rate.

Hotel Deposit and Cancellation Policy

All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with major credit card. If a guest does not cancel a room within 72 hours before 3:00 p.m. of the guest's check-in date, the Hotel may charge the credit card one night's room fee plus any applicable taxes.

TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION

Airport Information

The Louis Armstrong International Airport is approximately 15 miles from the Westin New Orleans Canal Place or 25 minutes by car. The Westin New Orleans Canal Place has a shuttle from the Airport. Advance reservations are required. Please call (504) 522-3500 for reservations. The cost is \$20/one way and \$38/round trip.

Taxi Cab Services

Several taxi companies operate at the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport. Taxi rates for a one-way transfer to the hotel cost approximately \$30.00 - \$35.00.

Rental Car Information

Avis® Rent-A-Car is the official rental car company for the RAL 4th Annual Meeting. For reservations, please call (800) 331-1600, and use the code "J901055" to receive the discounted rates.

Parking

Westin New Orleans Canal Place offers valet parking for \$39.00 per day.

Industry Satellite Symposium Events



Industry Satellite Symposium Breakfast

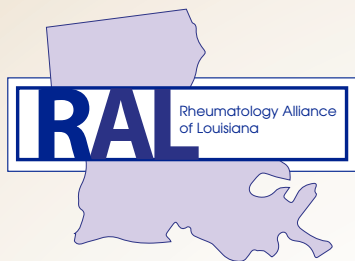
Date: Saturday, August 27, 2016
Time: 7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
Location: Azalea I
Title: "Inflammatory Pathways: Pre-Rheumatoid Arthritis and Transition to Rheumatoid Arthritis"
Speaker: Leonard Calabrese, MD

Industry Satellite Symposium Luncheon

Date: Saturday, August 27, 2016
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Azalea I
Title: "An Educational Discussion on Current Trends in Rheumatology"
Speaker: Sergio Schwartzman, MD

Industry Satellite Symposium Breakfast

Date: Sunday, August 28, 2016
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Location: Azalea I
Title: "JAK-STAT Signaling in Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)"
Speaker: Grace Wright, MD



Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana
Two Woodfield Lake
1100 E Woodfield Road, Suite 350
Schaumburg, IL 60173-5116

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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New Orleans, Louisiana

**Preliminary Program &
Registration Materials Enclosed**

Register quickly and easily online at
<http://tiny.cc/ral2016>

