

Rheumatology

What Is Rheumatology?

Rheumatology is the branch of medicine concerned with diseases that affect the joints, muscles, bones and immune system.

Conditions Rheumatology Treats

Pediatric rheumatology evaluates and treats children and teens who have a wide variety of complex rheumatic and inflammatory conditions.

Some of the most common conditions rheumatology treats include:

- **Juvenile dermatomyositis.**
- **Juvenile idiopathic arthritis.**
- Lupus (systemic lupus erythematosus).
- Mixed connective tissue disease.
- Sjogren's Syndrome.
- Scleroderma.
- Spondyloarthropathy.
- Vasculitis.

Tests and Treatments

Some of the tests and treatments that might help your child include:

- Comprehensive laboratory tests, such as **radiology and imaging** studies.
- Orthopedic tests by **orthopedists**, to improve body mechanics.
- Immune-suppressive and anti-inflammatory medicines, including medicines administered via infusion therapy and joint injections.
- Custom **braces (called orthoses)** to improve joint function.
- **Physical therapy.**
- **Occupational therapy.**
- **Nutrition and feeding** services.

Integrated Care

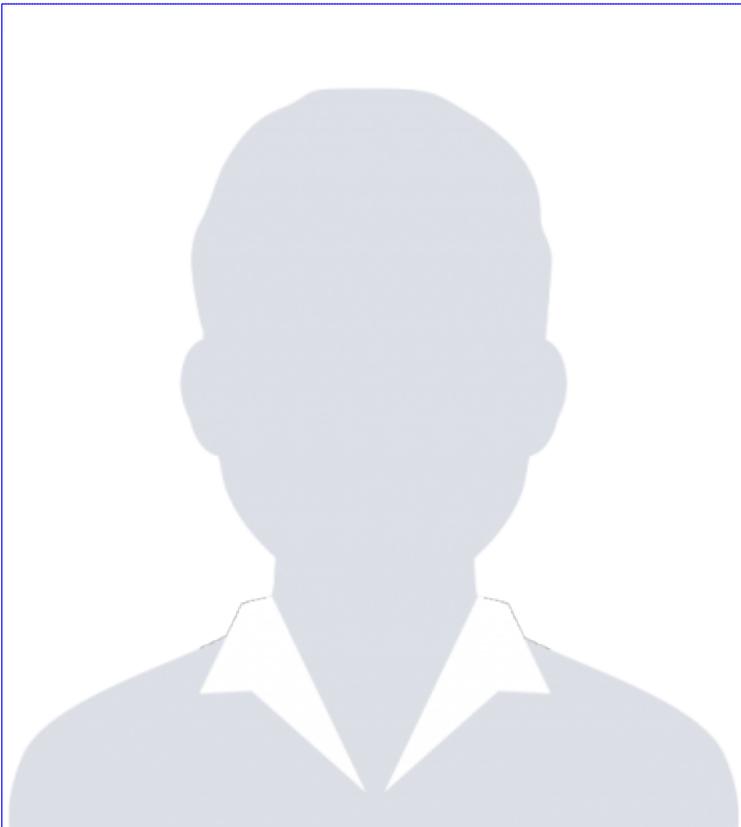
As leaders in providing rheumatology care for children and teens, specialists at Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare use the best available methods to diagnose and treat symptoms of inflammatory conditions. You and your child will work with a rheumatology team of pediatric experts at Gillette who specialize in complex rheumatic and inflammatory conditions, including [juvenile idiopathic arthritis](#), lupus (systemic lupus erythematosus) and juvenile dermatomyositis.

Care Team

Children who have rheumatic or inflammatory conditions often have many needs in addition to rheumatology care. We organize our services around the treatment of the complex conditions that can accompany rheumatic conditions, to serve your child in a way that's both comprehensive and convenient.

Our rheumatologists often collaborate with providers in the following specialties:

- [Assistive technology](#).
- [Nutrition and feeding](#).
- [Orthopedics](#). ??????
- [Rehabilitation therapies](#).



[Evren Akin, MD](#)

[Pediatric Rheumatologist](#)

Locations



[St. Paul Campus](#)



[Burnsville Clinic](#)



[Phalen Clinic](#)

[Make An Appointment 651-290-8707](#)

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at [651-229-3890](#).