INNOVATIVE CLINICAL LUPUS RESEARCH/TRIALS
AT UMASS CHAN LUPUS CENTER

The Lupus Center at UMass Chan prioritizes the physical and mental well-being of patients who live with the diagnosis of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), a chronic disease characterized by a broad range of symptoms and presentations. Through close collaborations with lupus-oriented specialties across UMass Chan we aim to provide compassionate, high-quality, and evidence-based care tailored to the needs of each of our patients.

Collaborators

Dermatology
Mehdi Rashighi, MD
Assistant Professor of Dermatology
Director, Connective Tissue Disease Clinic & Research Center

Nephrology
Jahan Montague, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Pathology
Vijay K. Vangury, MD
Associate Professor and Vice Chair
Director of Renal Pathology
Chief of Anatomic Pathology

LupUS Support Group
Ruth Wilson

Scientists Conducting Lupus Research at UMass

Division of Rheumatology
Ann Marshak-Rothstein, PhD
Kerstin Nundel, PhD
Roberto Caricchio, MD

Division of Innate Immunity
Stefania Gallucci, MD
Kate Fitzgerald, PhD

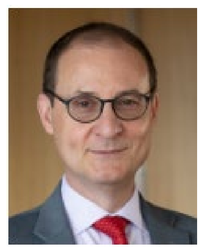
Division of Infectious Diseases and Immunology
Zaida G. Ramirez-Ortiz, PhD

Department of Dermatology
John Harris, MD, PhD
Mehdi Rashighi, MD
Jillian Richmond, PhD
Manuel Garber, PhD

Research Coordinators

Mohan Pahari
Chelsea Boateng
Tanimul Islam

Our team of physicians includes specialists from Rheumatology, Dermatology, and Nephrology that work closely together with the patient to formulate a plan of care that is evidence-based and tailored to the patient's life goals.



Roberto Caricchio, MD
Director
Chief, Division of Rheumatolog
Myles J. McDonough Chair in Rheumatology
Professor of Medicine

Elena Gkrouzman, MD, MS, RhMSUS
Co-Director
Assistant Professor of Medicine
APS-ACTION Member

LUPUS CENTER

UMass Chan MEDICAL SCHOOL | Advancing together

The Lupus Center at UMass Chan offers the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research and clinical trials.

The UMass Chan Lupus Center is a LuCIN (Lupus Clinical Investigators Network) site

LuCIN is an academic-based clinical trials network comprised of some of the most prestigious medical research centers and experienced lupus physician-scientists throughout North America.

The Lupus Center has been selected to be one of the few sites in the US to participate in the largest assembled biorepository that will provide future generations of lupus investigators with the most comprehensive datasets and specimens, that will accelerate the rate of discovery in lupus.

Located at the largest academic center in central Massachusetts, **the Lupus Center** focuses on cutting-edge basic science, translational, and clinical research to better understand and provide better treatments for lupus patients in our clinic and beyond.

LIST OF ONGOING INNOVATIVE LUPUS RELATED CLINICAL TRIALS & RESEARCH STUDIES AT UMASS LUPUS CENTER

BASIC RESEARCH/BIO-REPOSITORY STUDY

LUPUS NEXUS LANDMARK STUDY

This is a multicenter lupus registry & biorepository conducted in the United States & Canada.

The purpose of the registry and biorepository is:

- To provide a mechanism to store clinical data
- Linked biospecimens and molecular data to support the conduct of future research on SLE, including lupus nephritis

Study Duration: This registry and biorepository will follow individual participants for an indefinite period, dependent on participant interest and funding availability

Current Enrollment at our Site: 10

BACTERIAL-CURLI UMASS BIO-REPOSITORY STUDY

Bacterial Curli and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Cohort Study

The goal of this project is:

- To start from the basic research in microbiology that discovered the curli/DNA complexes
- Test the old but still unanswered question whether infections trigger autoimmunity and flares
- Study the cellular and molecular mediators of the effects of infections and translate these discoveries in SLE patients.

Study Duration: Participants will be enrolled for up to 7 years. The study is anticipated to be completed by 2026.

Current Enrollment at our Site: 81

MILD TO MODERATE LUPUS CLINICAL TRIALS

TOPAZ SLE-2

A Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of BIIB059 (Litifilimab) in Adult Participants With Active Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Receiving Background Nonbiologic Lupus Standard of Care (TOPAZ-1)

This is a Phase 3 study in adult patients with active SLE with joint and skin involvement, who are receiving nonbiologic standard of care treatments for lupus.

Study Duration:

A double-blind, placebo-controlled treatment period of 52 weeks.
There is an optional 180-week open-label long-term-extension (LTE) period.

Current Enrollment at our Site: 1

40 Weeks follow up

POETYK SLE-2

A Study to Evaluate Effectiveness and Safety of Deucravacitinib Compared With Placebo in Participants With Active Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (POETYK SLE-2)

This is a Phase 3 study of adult patients with SLE on standard of care treatments.

Study Duration:

A double-blind, placebo-controlled treatment period of 52 weeks.

There is an optional 180-week open-label long-term-extension (LTE) period.

Current Enrollment at our Site: 0

SEVERE/OR NON-RESPONDING LUPUS TRIALS

CAR T Cell

CAR T cell treatment in Lupus Nephritis (in collaboration with Divisions of Hematology and Nephrology)

CAR T cell treatment is a cellular therapy that alters one's T cells (a type of white blood cell) in a way that they attack and remove B cells (another type of white blood cell that drives inflammation and disease activity in lupus) that are responsible for lupus nephritis

Study Duration: An individual subject is considered to have completed the study upon completion of the 24-month visit. The overall study completion is defined as 2 years after the last subject has been treated.

Current Enrollment at our Site: 1

UMass Chan is **ONE OF THE FIRST** Academic institutes in the US to successfully enroll a patient in this study, currently on week 8 post-infusion follow up.

For more information about the studies, please contact **Study coordinators:**

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Contact information for **Study investigators**

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