



Orange County Location

We are pleased to host our conference at The **Westin South Coast Plaza**, Costa Mesa, a premier destination in the heart of Orange County. The hotel offers a modern, professional setting just steps from the renowned South Coast Plaza and near the Segerstrom Center for the Arts. With spacious meeting facilities, comfortable guest accommodations, on-site dining, and convenient access to John Wayne Airport, The Westin provides an ideal environment for learning, collaboration, and networking. Attendees will enjoy a seamless blend of productivity, comfort, and access to world-class shopping, dining, and cultural attractions.

What's in store for 2026?

- Elite Faculty Line-Up:** Learn from the brightest minds in rheumatology as they share cutting-edge insights and advancements.
- Hands-On Ultrasound Course:** Elevate your clinical expertise with immersive, hands-on training led by top practitioners.
- Fellows Poster Session:** Celebrate the next generation of rheumatology leaders! Fellows will showcase their groundbreaking research, case presentations, and scholarly work, offering a platform to share innovative ideas and gain recognition from peers and mentors.



Southern California Rheumatology Society 2026 Annual Conference

In Collaboration with the California
Rheumatology Alliance

22nd Annual Meeting & 4th Annual APP Meeting

February 28 - March 1, 2026
The Westin South Coast Plaza, Costa Mesa
686 Anton Blvd, Costa Mesa, CA, 92626

SCRS & CRA Joint Meeting

February 28 - March 1, 2026
The Westin South Coast Plaza, Costa Mesa
686 Anton Blvd, Costa Mesa, CA, 92626

For more information:
socalrheumatology.com
Or scan the QR code to register



After the tremendous success of the 2025 joint meeting, the **Southern California Rheumatology Society (SCRS)** is proud to once again team up with the **California Rheumatology Alliance (CRA)** for a landmark 2026 event.

This second year of collaboration promises to be even more dynamic — bringing together academic leaders, private practice innovators, fellows, and advanced practice providers for a weekend of cutting-edge education, professional growth, and community building.

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| 7:00 AM | Registration & Exhibits |
| 7:45 AM | Opening Remarks |
| 8:00 AM | Rheumatology Diagnostics 2.0: Interpreting Labs & Imaging Like a Pro Priyanka Iyer, MD |
| | GLP-1 & SGLT2: Obesity Impact on Patient with Lupus, Rheumatoid Arthritis, & Psoriatic Arthritis Catherine Bakewell, MD |
| 9:00 AM | Breakfast Product Theater |
| 10:00 AM | Exhibits Networking Posters |
| 10:30 AM | RA and Seronegative Inflammatory Arthropathies Amir Razmjou, MD, MS |
| | Gastrointestinal Manifestations of Connective Tissue Diseases: From Microbiome to New Therapeutics Elizabeth Volkmann, MD, MS |
| 11:30 AM | Spondyloarthritis Spectrum: From Early Diagnosis to Targeted Therapy Stratos Christianakis, MD |
| | The Silent GCA in PMR: The Challenging Clinical Cases of Giant Cell Arthritis Tanaz Kermani, MD |
| 12:30 PM | Skin, Joints, and Beyond: Dermatologic Clues to Systemic Disease Binh Ngo, MD |
| | Sjogren Guideline: Tackling the Burning Question of Peripheral Neuropathies in Sjögren's Disease Rachael Gordon, MD |
| 1:30 PM | Exhibits Networking Posters |
| 1:45 PM | Lunch Product Theater A |
| | Lunch Product Theater B |
| 2:45 PM | Exhibits Networking Posters |
| 3:00 PM | Sjogren's Corner's (Limit to 30 people, \$100 Extra Registration fee applies) Sjogren's Diagnosis 101: Hands on practice of Schirmer's and Unstimulated Saliva Flow Jennifer King, MD, PhD |
| | Salivary Gland Ultrasound Howard Yang, MD, RhMSUS |
| | Private Practice Workshop Panel Discussion: How to Improve Performance in Practice Karleen Su, MD, FACP; Nehad Solomon, MD, FACP; Moderated by Samy Metyas, MD |
| 3:45 PM | Private Practice Workshop MID in Office Dispensing with Medicare Cap; Nehad Solomon, MD, FACP |
| 4:30 PM | Private Practice Workshop MIPS for Rheumatology is Challenging; Stefani Hendrixon, MBA, RN |
| 4:35 PM | Fellows Corner– Panel Discussion on Life outside of Academia - Building a Research Career in Private Practice o Vipul Vineet, MBA, o Christina Chen, DO |
| | - Exploring Innovative and Non-Traditional Career Models o Micah Yu, MD, MHA, MS, ABOIM, DipABLM |
| | - Inside the Industry World: A Career in Pharma o Eric Zollars, MD, PhD |
| 4:35 PM | Private Practice Workshop AI in Rheumatology Mark Allen, MD |
| 6:15 PM | Dinner Reception Product Theater: Medicare Update |
| 7:15 PM | Social Game Night: Networking, Games, & Entertainment Hours |

Sunday, March 1, 2026

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| 7:00 AM | Registration & Exhibits | Howard H. Yang, MD, RhMSUS, President; Southern California Rheumatology Society; HS Assistant Clinical Professor; David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Los Angeles, CA |
| 7:45 AM | Opening Remarks | Samy K. Metyas, MD, President California Rheumatology Alliance; Private Practice, Covina Arthritis Clinic; Assistant Clinical Professor Keck School of Medicine at USC Covina, CA |
| 8:00 AM | Lupus in 2026: Integrating New Guideline into Everyday Practice; Sheetal Desai, MD | Jennifer King, MD, PhD Assistant Professor of Medicine Founder and Director, UCLA Sjögren's Clinic David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Los Angeles, CA |
| 9:00 AM | Botox, Fillers, and Biologics: Cosmetic Procedures in Rheumatology Patients — What's Safe; Michelle Min, MD | Michelle Min, MD Assistant Clinical Professor, Dermatology Director of Rheumatologic-Dermatology School of Medicine UCI Health Irvine, CA |
| 10:00 AM | Breakfast Product Theater | Binh Ngo, MD Associate Professor of Clinical Dermatology Keck School of Medicine at USC Los Angeles, CA |
| 10:30 AM | Exhibits Networking Posters | Amir Razmjou, MD, MS HS Assistant Clinical Professor David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Los Angeles, CA |
| 11:30 AM | Scleroderma and ILD: Navigating Vascular and Pulmonary Complications; Francesco Boin, MD | Nehad R. Solomon, MD, FACP Rheumatologist, Investigator, Medical Director of Research Arizona Arthritis & Rheumatology Associates Phoenix, AZ |
| 12:30 PM | RA and PsA Update: New Treatments & Approaches; Arthur Kavanaugh, MD | Tien-I Karleen Su, MD, FACP Founder, Rheumatology Private Practice Alliance (RPPA) Co-Founder, Amicus Arthritis & Osteoporosis Center Whittier, CA |
| 1:30 PM | Unraveling Myositis: From Antibodies to Precision Management; Sharon Sangee Bae, MD | Vipul Vineet, MBA Research Director Medvin Clinical Research Cerritos, CA |
| 1:45 PM | From Biologics to the Baby Bump: Managing Rheumatology Patients Through Fertility Treatment and Pregnancy; Leanna Wise, MD | Elizabeth Volkmann, MD Co-Director, CTD-ILD Program Division of Rheumatology David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Los Angeles, CA |
| 2:45 PM | Rheumatology Reality Rounds: Challenging Cases and Clinical Pearls for APPs; Samy Metyas, MD | Leanna Wise, MD Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine Keck School of Medicine at USC Los Angeles, CA |
| 3:00 PM | 2025 ACR Guidelines for the Treatment of Extrarenal Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE); Mariko Ishimori, MD | Micah Yu, MD, MHA, MS, ABOIM, DipABLM, IFMCP Private Practice, Founder, Dr. Lifestyle CEO and Founder, MYAutoimmuneMD Newport Beach, CA |
| 3:45 PM | Exhibits Networking Posters | Eric Zollars, MD, PhD Executive Medical Director Allogene Therapeutics San Francisco, CA |
| 4:45 PM | Lunch Product Theater | Arthur Kavanaugh, MD Professor of Medicine Director, Center for Innovative Therapy University of California, San Diego San Diego, CA |
| 5:45 PM | Awards: Dr. Bevra Hahn Scholarship Winner and Poster Competition Winner Announcement | Tanaz Kermani, MD Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Santa Monica, CA |
| 6:00 PM | CRA Honorary Luncheon Award Presentation | |