



# Arthritis Foundation Memo

DATE: January 2010

TO: Families and care providers of children with rheumatic diseases

FROM: Dawn Hafeli, Manager, Juvenile Arthritis Programs

SUBJECT: **ACCESS TO PEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY SERVICES**

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Parents, family members, and care providers often call the Arthritis Foundation seeking information about access to pediatric specialty care for their child with arthritis or other rheumatic diseases. In Michigan, there are now six health system sites that have on staff a **pediatric rheumatologist**, that is, someone who is trained in pediatrics and the subspecialty of pediatric rheumatology. Board certification for this subspecialty of pediatric rheumatology has been offered only since 1992. In Michigan, the sites where one or more pediatric rheumatologists provide team management for the child with arthritis are:

- ❖ **University of Michigan Health System  
C.S. Mott Children's Hospital**  
Division of Pediatric Rheumatology  
Ann Arbor  
(734) 764-2224  
Barbara S. Adams, MD  
Hilary M. Haftel, MD
- ❖ **Children's Hospital of Michigan**  
Division of Immunology, Allergy and  
Rheumatology - Detroit  
(313) 745-4450  
Ellen C. Moore, MD  
Matthew D. Adams, MD  
Basil Fathalla, MD
- ❖ **Munson Medical Center- Traverse City**  
Pediatric Rheumatology  
(734) 764-2224  
Barbara S. Adams MD
- ❖ **DeVos Children's Hospital-Grand Rapids**  
(616) 391-1495 [or]  
❖ **Arthritis Education & Treatment Center**  
(616) 459-8088  
James Birmingham, MD
- ❖ **MSU / Kalamazoo Center for Medical  
Studies - Pediatric Rheumatology Clinic**  
Kalamazoo  
(269) 337-6400  
Mary D. Moore, MD
- ❖ **Arthritis Institute of Michigan / Brighton**  
(810) 225-7553  
James E. Dowd, MD (*Private Practice*)

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Childhood rheumatic diseases (including juvenile rheumatoid arthritis) are identified as chronic conditions that qualify for medical financial assistance through:

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
1-800-359-3722**

There **are** income guidelines which may determine a co-payment. Any medical financial assistance will be based on family income compared to real medical expenses. These guidelines are more generous than Medicaid.