APLAR - Center of Excellence
Application Form

Please note that the information on this form and its attachments are collected to make recommendations to the Committee for APLAR Center of Excellence certification. The information may be passed to third parties for assessment purposes.

Please complete this form and together with the national society’s endorsement letter (if you are not able to receive the endorsement of your national society, you may approach Past Presidents), return to APLAR Office, Ms Coralie Deguerville by:

- emailing the PDF form to info@aplar.org, AND
- posting your hard copy application to:
  
  APLAR
  Ms Coralie Deguerville
c/o Kenes Asia,
PICO Creative Center, 2nd floor, 20 Kallang Avenue,
Singapore 339411

Applications for the 2016 APLAR Center of Excellence certification close on Monday, 25 July 2016.
Introduction

The Asia Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology (APLAR) is pleased to invite the region’s top level centers in rheumatology to be part of its network of Centers of Excellence. APLAR applies a rigorous selection process and will award selected centers/institutions in the region that demonstrate high standards in clinical, educational and research skills. Each institution may achieve this goal through various approaches, based on the context and the needs of the community that it serves. As not all institutions focus on all three areas, application for specific certification (e.g. Center of Excellence for Research) is also encouraged.

Through this certification programme, APLAR hopes to develop a network of ‘Best in class’ reference centers among regional institutions to support and train rheumatology physicians in implementing the best research into clinical practice, in order to improve care for a vast number of patients.

Benefits of being an APLAR-certified Center of Excellence:

- Recognition of being among the best in class for rheumatology clinical practice, research and patient care.
- Support local physicians in their understanding of the best research and clinical practices in rheumatology.
- Share best practices on medical and strategic approaches to diagnose, treat and manage rheumatic diseases.
- Share perspectives on clinical and clinical trial management at the institutional level and integrate and implement at other institutions.
- Provide training to young rheumatologists, scientists, rheumatology nurse specialists/clinical nurses or allied health professionals within the region.
- Foster collaborations and partnerships.

Roles and responsibilities of an APLAR Center of Excellence:

- Be a reference Center for APLAR Guidelines.
- Welcome fellows of the APLAR Fellowship programme.
- Establish strong network with other centers to:
  - Provide training in order to raise standards of clinical practice, research, and training capabilities.
  - Support dissemination of best practice guidelines to these centers.

APLAR will review the submissions and select 3 – 5 Centers to have the designation of “Center of Excellence”, to be published on the APLAR website and announced at the annual APLAR Conference. Centers of Excellence can hold the title for 3 years, after which application can be resubmitted for renewal.
### Evaluation Committee for APLAR Center of Excellence certification

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position in APLAR</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Dr. Chi-Chiu Mok</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Prof. Anselm Mak</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Prof. Tatsuya Atsumi</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Prof. Stephen Hall</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Dr. Ved Chaturvedi</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Dr. Md. Nazrul Islam</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Dr. Rong Mu</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Dr. Nan Shen</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Dr. Lisa Stamp</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Dr. Wen-Chan Tsai</td>
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<td>Dr. Zhang Xuan</td>
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<td>Dr. Temy Mo Yin Mok</td>
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<td>Dr. Ramnath Misra</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Dr. Wan-Uk Kim</td>
<td>Scientific Committee Member</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Prof. Zhanguo Li</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Prof. Rohini Handa</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Prof. Ho-Youn Kim</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Prof. CS Lau</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>Prof. Kusuki Nishioka</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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I certify that—
I have read, understood and complied with the APLAR-certified Center of Excellence criteria and to the best of my knowledge all details provided in this Application form and in any supporting documentation are true and complete in accordance with these Certification Rules. I will notify the APLAR if there are any changes after the submission of this Application.

________________________________________________________

Director/Vice-Chancellor or equivalent in the Administering Organisation
Is the Center applying for certification in all three areas? Yes/No
If no, choose the area of focus: Research, Training and Education / Patient Care, Training and Education

Part A - Administrative Summary

A1. Center Details

Name of Center ____________________________________________

Country ____________________________________________

Contact details (we will use these details for all communications)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contact details (we will use these details for all communications)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Main address:</td>
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<td>Tel no:</td>
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<td>Website:</td>
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Head of Center (please enclose curriculum vitae with this form)

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<td>Job title:</td>
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A2. Vision and purpose statement of the Center

(Provide a summary of no more than 100 words focusing on the vision, purpose, and aims of the Center)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

(Provide a summary of no more than 100 words focusing on the benefits and significance of the Center to the patients, payers, employers, participating physicians and institution)

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
(Provide a summary of no more than 100 words focusing on the short term actions needed to achieve the purpose of the Center)

A3. Organisational structure of the Center

(Describe the facility and staffing structure of the Center)

(List the financial and other support that will be provided to the Center)

(Describe the Center’s assessment and sustainability processes, e.g. audit process, protocols)

A4. Awards and endorsements

(List awards, endorsements, recognitions, and certifications received by the Center within and outside the country)
Part B - Research Summary

B1. Research

(List one or several key area(s) of research interest)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

(Describe the Center’s policies and emphasis on research on basic science, translational study and/or clinical trials)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

(Describe the Center’s research facility and research staffing structure)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

(State any affiliated research institute, core facility unit, or collaboration network)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

(List local and/or international funding to the Center and/or individual research project in the last 10 years)*

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
List original research, investigator initiated research, industry sponsored research, interdisciplinary research, systematic reviews, surveys, participation in disease registries, etc. in the past 10 years*

Describer the systems to ensure compliance of research with approval by appropriate regulatory bodies

B2. Publications

List of primary research and original research journal articles, abstracts, and conference presentations in the past 10 years*

B3. Research translation

Describe any research that has been translated to clinical practice and the methods for translating these research results to patients' bedsides

*Please include any further research information you think may be relevant to the consideration of this application. Continue on a separate page if necessary

*If you need more space, continue in a separate sheet and enclose it with this application form.
Part C – Patient Care Summary

C1. Disease assessment and treatment approach

(Describe the mission/goals of specialty clinics)

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

(Describe the facility and staffing structure)

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Are multidisciplinary teams available to assess disease and deliver the best care?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Tick (✓) the specialists who are part of the team

Rheumatologist
Rheumatology nurse specialist/clinical nurse
Dermatologist
Physiotherapist
Podiatrist
Psychologist
Occupational therapist
Pharmacist
Dietician
Musculoskeletal radiologist
Others, please list
What is the patient volume in the Center? Describe patients’ phenotypes, genotypes, treatment and special needs.

Which clinical practice guidelines are adopted at the Center? If there are none, are local guidelines being developed?

Do the rheumatologists in the Center treat-to-target for rheumatoid arthritis? If yes, what are the goals?

How are patients’ disease activity monitored/tracked?

What are the system and process in place for reviewing and reporting clinical outcomes?
Is there an Electronic Medical Record system in place or in process?

________________________________________________________________________

How are follow-ups done? Are there any strategies for ongoing chronic disease management?

________________________________________________________________________

Are co-morbidities tracked? If yes, what is the percentage of patients receiving treatment?

________________________________________________________________________

C2. Patient support

Does the Center have a patient-centered care model? If yes, describe this model.

________________________________________________________________________

Are outpatient/day ward facilities provided as an alternative, where appropriate, to inpatient hospital visits?

________________________________________________________________________

(Describe the patient support provided by the Center, e.g. patient education, hotline)

________________________________________________________________________
C3. Quality of care assessment

Are there measurable methods for evaluating approaches to care and improvements intended to improve patient outcomes? If yes, describe these methods and improvements.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Are there measures to assess the impact of disease activity and treatment on a patient’s work and life? If yes, describe these measures.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Are there measures to assess the patient’s perception of the provider/patient interaction to improve the quality of that interaction? If yes, describe these methods.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

(Please include any further patient care information you think may be relevant to the consideration of this application. Continue on a separate page if necessary)

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Part D – Education and Training Summary

(Provide a summary of the Center’s best scope of education and training in one or several disease areas)

_________________________________________________________________________________

What are the current number of trainees, fellows, Master, MPhil, PhD and postdoc in the Center and the respective training areas/research areas?

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

(Describe any established fellowship programme and its content)

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

(Describe any doctoral and postdoctoral programme and research areas; achievement in terms of number of grants received, publication, awards and number of graduates/postdocs in the past 10 years)

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

(Describe the implementation of any education model, e.g. train-the-trainer programme, project-based learning, exchange opportunity, use of interactive education tools and platform)

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________
Is there a multidisciplinary training curriculum, integrating health care professionals?

________________________________________________________________________

Does training include the dissemination of APLAR guidelines?

________________________________________________________________________

Are the staff trained to use primary scientific literature as an information resource?

________________________________________________________________________

Do the programmes include training for clinical fellows on the use of cutting-edge technology and is this training embedded in excellent science?

________________________________________________________________________

Does the Center train other institutions to raise their standard of clinical practice, research, and training capabilities? If yes, please list these institutions.

________________________________________________________________________

(Please include any further education and training information you think may be relevant to the consideration of this application. Continue on a separate page if necessary)