

For Immediate Release

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Frederick Arthritis Researcher Presents Findings at National Meeting

The national meeting of the American College of Rheumatology was held in Boston from November 6 through November 11, 2007. This is a venue where breakthroughs in diagnosis and treatment of the more than 100 varieties of arthritis are presented. More than 11,000 physicians and other healthcare personnel from around the world were in attendance.

This was also a showcase for four presentations of collaborative information by Frederick arthritis researcher, Dr. Nathan Wei. Presentations included:

- **Lymphoid architecture in the rheumatoid synovium is protective of auto-antibody production: Results from ARISE.**
- **Local treatment for inflammatory arthritis: A phase ½ clinical study of intra-articular administration of a recombinant adeno-associated vector containing a TNF- α antagonist**
- **Study comparing mRNA expression of selected genes in cartilage and synovium in age and gender matched subjects with and without knee osteoarthritis.**
- **Characterization of synovial tissue and plasma biomarkers and their relationship to rheumatoid arthritis disease activity.**

Dr. Wei states, “The buzz is how can we better make earlier diagnoses and start more aggressive treatment. This can be done by finding those tissue markers that allow us to profile a patient and tailor individualized therapy.” He adds, “Soon, we’ll be able to identify which treatments will work best for the individual patient immediately and put arthritis into remission... maybe even cure it.”

Dr. Wei is a board-certified rheumatologist, Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, consultant to the National Institutes of Health, and Clinical Director of the Arthritis and Osteoporosis Center of Maryland located in Frederick, Maryland.

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