



ATTUNE HEALTH

Autoimmune and Inflammation Care and Research

Undiagnosed Arthritis Synovial Biopsy Project

When a patient with
inflammatory arthritis displays:

Atypical features

or

*Fails to respond to numerous
interventions*



Rheumatology Director:
Ami Ben-Artzi, MD, FACR
Cedars Sinai Medical
Center



Pathology Director:
John Jalas, MD, PhD
Providence Saint
John's Health Center



Research Director:
Swamy Venuturupalli,
MD, FACR
Cedars Sinai Medical
Center

Unusual diagnoses are considered:

- Mycobacterial infections
- Sarcoidosis
- Amyloidosis
- Atypical presentation of crystal arthritis
- Whipple's disease
- Low grade lymphoma

While most surgical synovial biopsies are collected in formalin, we collect tissue in a variety of media, to allow for comprehensive testing and improved diagnostic yield.

Technique: Percutaneous ultrasound-guided core-needle technique allows for minimally invasive biopsies of large, medium, and even small joints. The office based procedure is performed using local anesthesia only. No sutures are necessary. The patient can return to normal daily activities the following day.

Credentials: Dr. Ben-Artzi completed his rheumatology fellowship training at NYU/Hospital for Joint Diseases in 2007. In 2008, he joined the clinical faculty at UCLA, where he studied and researched applications of ultrasound in rheumatology. In 2015, as part of a research training grant, he was certified in small joint synovial biopsy technique by the Barts School of Medicine in London, UK. Dr. Jalas completed his pathology residency at UCSF and has special interest in hematologic malignancies, crystal arthropathies and infectious disease. Dr. Venuturupalli is a top rated rheumatologist who has extensive experience overseeing dozens of clinical trials in rheumatology.

Financial Matters: The procedure will be billed through network benefits for patients with Medicare and Blue Cross PPO insurance. Insurance coverage for patients with other types of insurance will vary, depending on out-of-network benefits.
