



Recommendations for Rheumatology Fellowship Interview Season

1. Technical Preparation:

- Ensure you have a **strong internet connection**, a well-illuminated area, and clear **audio**.
- Keep your **phone charged** and nearby in case of any technical issues during the interview.

2. Research and Preparation:

- Start preparing early by researching the **faculty** you'll be meeting. Use tools like **PubMed, Google Scholar, LinkedIn, and X (formerly Twitter)** to learn about their work, recent publications, and professional background.
- **Know your CV** inside and out, especially if you've been involved in multiple projects. The rheumatology community is small, and some of your past collaborators may be connected to those interviewing you.
- If possible, **practice** with a mentor or a peer through a mock interview to refine your responses and receive feedback.

3. Personal Narrative:

- Be ready to clearly articulate your **journey to rheumatology**—why you chose this specialty and how your experiences have shaped your career goals.
- Be prepared to explain **why you're interested in the specific program** you're interviewing with, how it aligns with your career ambitions, and whether you have any connections to the program or the city.

4. Career Goals:

- Have a solid understanding of your **short-term** and **long-term goals** in rheumatology. Be prepared to discuss how the program will help you achieve them.

5. Integrity and Authenticity:

- Always be **honest** and transparent about your experiences—never exaggerate during the interview.

6. Engagement and Curiosity:

- Come prepared with thoughtful **questions** for the faculty, fellows, and staff. This shows genuine interest and helps you assess if the program is a good fit.
- Don't hesitate to ask fellows about their experiences—this is a great opportunity to gain valuable insight into the program without fear of being judged.

7. Professional Etiquette:

- When addressing interviewers, always use their professional title, e.g., **Dr. Last Name** or **Professor Last Name**, to maintain formality and respect.

- After every interview you have during the interview season, sending personalized thank-you notes is a thoughtful way to leave a lasting impression. Take a moment to reflect on something meaningful—whether it was a distinctive feature of the program, a conversation with the interviewer, or an approach that resonated with you—and express your appreciation in a thank-you email.