

Dafna Gladman



Dr. Gladman is Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto, and Senior Scientist at the Toronto Western Research Institute. She is Deputy Director of the Centre for Prognosis Studies in The Rheumatic Diseases, Director, Psoriatic Arthritis Program, University Health Network, and co-Director of the University of Toronto Lupus Clinic at Toronto Western Hospital.

Dr. Gladman received her MD from the University of Toronto and trained in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology at the same University. She spent some time training in HLA typing with Professor Paul Terasaki in Los Angeles and has directed the HLA research laboratory since 1979.

Dr. Gladman has researched both systemic lupus erythematosus and psoriatic arthritis with emphasis on database development, prognosis studies, genetic and other biomarkers for disease susceptibility and expression, assessment instruments, quality of life measures, and outcome measures. She has also been involved in clinical trials in these conditions, including design and execution of both company initiated and investigator initiated trials.

Dr. Gladman has 450 peer-reviewed publications, 177 chapters and invited publications and 636 published abstracts. Important contributions to psoriatic arthritis include the recognition that the disease was more severe than previously noted. Dr. Gladman and colleagues demonstrated that psoriatic arthritis progressed over time, and was associated with increased mortality. Moreover, her group identified predictors for disease progression and mortality. On the other hand, they also identified patients who achieved remission. They have also identified genetic and other biomarkers which identify patients with psoriasis destined to develop psoriatic arthritis. Important contributions in lupus include description of disease features, recognition of disease subsets such as patients who have serologically active but clinically inactive disease (SACQ), and those who have clinical activity in the face of serological inactivity (CASQ), prognostic factors for mortality in SLE, atherosclerosis disease in SLE, pregnancy studies, the development of the SLE disease activity index (SLEDAI) and its modification, the development of the SLICC/ACR damage index, and more recently the development of a new responder index for SLE, the SRI-50. Dr. Gladman's work has been supported by research grants from the Arthritis Society, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the Krembil Foundation. She received the Distinguished Investigator Award, Canadian Rheumatology Association in 2002 and the Laurentian Conference of Rheumatology, First Jeffrey Shiroky Prize for Major Contributions to Research in Inflammatory Arthritis, in 1998.

Dr. Gladman is Immediate Past-President of the Group for Research and Assessment of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis (GRAPPA), and is currently President of the Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium Canada (SPARCC).

As the Rheumatology Program Director from 1992-2003 he trained over 50 residents, in addition to numerous post graduate fellows.