

From: [LAFP | Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians](#)
To: [LAFP; Ragan LeBlanc](#)
Subject: New Submission #811: 2026 Faculty CME Proposal Application
Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 2:55:30 PM

First Name:: Chad
Last Name:: Hille
Designations (MD, DO, MPH, etc):: MD
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Are you a member of the LAFP/AAFP?: No
AAFP ID#::
Will you have co-faculty?: No

If yes, please indicate names and designation. (MD, DO, PhD, PharmD, etc):

Preferred Date and Time: (select all dates and times available): July 25, 2026 - 9:00 am - 10:00 am, July 25, 2026 - 10:45 am - 11:45 am, July 25, 2026 - 11:45 am - 12:45 pm, July 25, 2026 - 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm, July 25, 2026 - 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, July 25, 2026 - 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Provide a title for your proposal that is no more than 80 characters including spaces.:

Rheumatology Essentials for the Family Physician: Optimizing Diagnosis & Management

Describe the problem, or gap in practice or knowledge you are addressing; and what the learner can expect to take away from this education.: Family physicians frequently encounter patients with musculoskeletal symptoms, unexplained joint pain, swelling or systemic features such as fatigue and stiffness, yet many feel uncertain about when to suspect a rheumatic disease, how to proceed with initial work-up and when to refer to rheumatology. This knowledge/practice gap can lead to delays in diagnosis (e.g., early rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, psoriatic arthritis), sub-optimal management, and missed opportunities for timely intervention, which ultimately affects patient outcomes. Learners will leave the session better equipped to recognize common rheumatic conditions, initiate appropriate screening/diagnostic testing, manage early therapy where feasible, and coordinate care with rheumatology.

Provide a description regarding how this education has a direct bearing on patient care, or how it supports the physician's role in patient care, or how it has a direct bearing on a physician's ability to deliver patient care.: None

Select all that apply.: Screening, Initial Diagnosis, Treatment/Management, Care Coordination

Objective 1:: By the end of this session, participants will identify at least three red-flag signs or lab findings that warrant rheumatology referral in patients presenting with joint pain.

Objective 2:: Participants will select and interpret appropriate initial laboratory and imaging studies (e.g., RF/anti-CCP, ANA, ESR/CRP, joint ultrasound) for common suspected rheumatic conditions in primary care.

Objective 3:: Participants will implement a care-coordination plan that includes referral

criteria, initial management steps and monitoring parameters for patients with early rheumatoid arthritis or lupus in a primary care setting

Objective 4::

Objective 5::

Practice Change 1: None

Practice Change 2: None

Practice Change 3: None

Please select all that apply with respect to your proposal.: Medical knowledge, Patient Care, Practice-based learning and improvement

Does your proposal include osteopathic medicine principles?: No

Please select format.: Didactic Presentation - 60 min

If you marked other, please provide details.:

Maximum audience size.: No preference

Do you have prior teaching experience? : Yes

If you marked yes, please provide details. Please list one to three previous presentations that are relevant to this topic. Include dates, events, type and size of the audience, and evaluation score (converted to a 0-5 scale where 0 is low and 5 is high).: Have lectured multiple times to Rheumatology Nurses Society annual conference (no evaluations) which is a large conference with probably about 100 people in the audience. Have also lectured multiple times to Franciscan University PA program (about 30 students).

Do you require an honorarium?: Yes

If you marked yes, what is the requested amount?: 2500

Do you require reimbursement for travel expenses?: Yes

If you marked yes, please indicate what is requested: (please note that LAFP's Travel Policy will apply): Waived Registration Fee, Hotel accommodations, Airfare/Mileage, Meals
CME Disclosure Form:

[5edd6ffef9d865d6_4689abbd8bedd2f9_cme_disclosure.pdf](#)

Bio: Document should contain 1,200 characters or less. :

[c698d3d9eb8a5af6_aaa8cb49d0dda550_Chad_Hille_Bio.docx](#)

CV:

[add85d6f1a701cee_c10502b905bd966f_Chad_Hille_CV_-_November_2025.pdf](#)

Professional Photo: Headshot should be at least 400px wide by 600px tall in jpeg, tiff, or pdf format :

[6f7afe916516c967_a7fc5a465a4ac5e9_Headshot.jpg](#)

Recording Acknowledgement : 1

Content Permission Acknowledgement: 1

Please select if there are any uses which you are NOT granting permission.: N/A

Author Acknowledgement1: 1

Author Acknowledgement2: 1

Author Acknowledgement3: 1

List authors of materials that may be provided during the presentation. If none, please put N/A in the box.: N/A

In the past 24 months (36 months for LAFP authors, journal editors and editorial board members) : I have NOT had a financial relationship with an ineligible company.

Disclosure Acknowledgement: 1

Please indicate your interest in being considered for additional teaching opportunities.:
Yes I am interested