TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR MISSION 2

2019: WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED 3

EXPANDING OUR REACH 4

MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH 8

MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS 11

PHILANTHROPIC EFFORTS 15

COMMUNITY OUTREACH 17

LOOKING AHEAD 20
OUR MISSION

The AHN Autoimmunity Institute (AI) is focused on advancing the diagnosis, treatment, prevention and cure of all autoimmune diseases through collaborative multi-specialty care, cutting-edge research, advocacy and education.

We strive to treat the disease and care for the patient.
Dear Colleagues, Patients, Families and Friends,

The AHN Autoimmunity Institute enjoyed its first full year of operation in 2019. This annual review demonstrates it was an exceptional 12 months by all accounts. Please enjoy revisiting our many advances and successes in patient care, research, advocacy, education and philanthropy.

As you will read, our unprecedented model of integrated multidisciplinary care and multispecialty research has been enthusiastically embraced by health care providers, national disease foundations, media, and most importantly, by our patients. However, we are just getting started. We welcome you to join us in our vision, in our mission, in our race to conquer autoimmunity.

Joseph Ahearn, MD  
Chair

Jennifer Ferri  
Regional Practice Manager

Linda Santelices, MS  
Director of Research
The Autoimmunity Institute brings together a world-class team of thought leaders and caregivers focused on the entire spectrum of autoimmunity. These diseases (>100) range from the common (e.g. rheumatoid arthritis) to the ultra-rare (e.g. relapsing polychondritis).

Our holistic approach embraces attention to not only primary autoimmune disease manifestations, but also to the secondary health issues that accompany them—such as diet, anxiety, depression, fatigue, and juggling myriad medications. In 2019, the number of specialties recruited to the Autoimmunity Institute reached 17.
OUR SPECIALTIES include

Asthma, Allergy & Clinical Immunology
Cardiology
Dermatology
Endocrinology
Gastroenterology
Genetics
Integrated Medicine: Massage & Acupuncture
Nephrology
Neurology
Orthopedics
Psychiatry
Psychology
Rheumatology
One of the most exciting advances in the Autoimmunity Institute during 2019 was the creation and recruitment of our Autoimmunity Care Transformation Team. The goal of this unique endeavor is to deliver holistic, personalized care and coaching to our patients who are so often overwhelmed and confused by myriad medications, depression, anxiety, financial challenges and dietary choices.

Recruitment of the team, led by Jen Ferri, AHN AI Practice and Project Manager, was highly successful as we were able to attract the best of the best candidates: Nancy Campbell, RN, Nurse Navigator; Kristy Rosenberry, RN, Nurse Navigator; Chelsea Rourke, RD, LDN, Registered Dietician; Cassie Dolecki, Pharm D; Jenna Boswell, MA, LPC, Behavioral Health Specialist and Maria Doody, BA, Social Services Specialist.
DESTINATION: AI

Our Autoimmunity Institute model has been enthusiastically received by physicians, disease foundations, patients, and families. Our holistic team has now cared for patients from 33 different states ranging geographically from New York to Hawaii and Alaska to Florida. We cared for patients during more than 18,000 visits in 2019. We also achieved international attention, including requests from patients in China, Nepal, and Lebanon.

THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

DIANE - ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Diane struggled without a diagnosis for several years. Then she called the AHN Autoimmunity Institute. Now she recounts how from that moment on, everyone she encountered was friendly and engaging. “You just don’t receive care like that anymore,” she marveled. Having flown to the Autoimmunity Institute all the way from Alaska, she was relieved to find people listening to her struggles and clearly explaining her symptoms—and to leave the Institute on track to a long-sought after diagnosis. Diane raved about Laura’s warm greeting, Dawn and Stephanie’s excellent customer service, and Jen’s personal touch in guiding her through multiple appointments. And of course, she was thrilled with Drs. Manzi, Abdul-Baki and Santamaria for their time, patience, and dedication, along with their listening ears, thorough explanations, and excellent care. Above all, Diane appreciated being physically escorted every step of the way during her visit.

“Extraordinary care from the entire team, check in to check out.”
In the rapidly-developing field of autoimmune diseases, the Autoimmunity Institute is pursuing research advances that will pioneer care. Our integrated model allows us to accelerate scientific breakthroughs by going from bedside to bench—then back to bedside. We are particularly focused on discovering new therapies, identifying biomarkers for diagnosis, monitoring, and prognosis, and determining the “cost” of autoimmunity.
CURRENT RESEARCH FOCUS

ANCA Vasculitis
Ankylosing Spondylitis
Asthma
COPD
Crohn’s Disease
Glomerulonephritis
Gout
IgA Nephropathy
Psoriatic Arthritis
Rheumatoid Arthritis
Sarcoidosis
Spondyloarthropathy
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
Type I Diabetes
Type II Diabetes
Susan Manzi, MD, MPH, received the 2019 American College of Rheumatology Distinguished Clinical Investigator Award during their annual November meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. This honor recognizes her major contribution to advancing our understanding, diagnosis and treatment of lupus and related autoimmune diseases. Dr. Manzi has authored more than 200 publications and is inventor on more than a dozen national and international patents. Her pioneering research has garnered millions of dollars of support from the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the Lupus Foundation of America, and numerous other federal, foundation and industry sources. “In addition to being a compassionate physician, Dr. Manzi is a brilliant clinical scientist whose contributions have led to significant advancements in quality, innovation and best practices in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with autoimmune diseases,” attests Mary Chester Wasko, MD, MSc, Director, AHN Division of Rheumatology and AHN AI Rheumatoid Arthritis Center of Excellence. Dr. Manzi is currently Chair of the Board, Lupus Foundation of American, Chair, AHN Medicine Institute and Director, AHN AI Lupus Center of Excellence.

A NEW PATENT

On February 19, 2019, AHN was issued its 6th patent related to novel biomarkers for diagnosis, monitoring and prognosis of autoimmune diseases. Drs. Liu, Ahearn and Manzi are inventors of this intellectual property focused on the cell-bound complement activation (CB-CAP) technology platform, the basis for the AviseTest commercialized by Exagen (CA). Major efforts in the Autoimmunity Institute continue to focus on refining these advances and bringing them to patients and physicians globally. More than a dozen additional national and international patents are pending.
Working in the field of autoimmunity, one of the most important roles we play is that of patient advocate. At the Autoimmunity Institute, we are committed to increasing awareness not only of our existence, but also of autoimmune conditions at large—driving rare, heterogeneous, and difficult-to-diagnose diseases into the public conversation. Our marketing efforts have delivered rapid and significant impact, bringing attention to our Institute model, our diseases, and our patients.
AI ON THE WEB
In 2019, we enhanced our website, ahn.org/medicine/autoimmunity-institute, and boosted our global reach with more than 18,000 page views across all subpages.

CELIAC ON CBS
A special segment featuring Susan Manzi, MD, MPH aired on CBS, beating out Entertainment Tonight.

PITTSBURGH TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (PTC) ACTIVATION
This year, the Autoimmunity Institute partnered with the Pittsburgh Technology Council (PTC) to expand our reach in the Pittsburgh community and beyond. This activation, featuring Dr. Manzi and Dr. Ahearn, was widely disseminated.

Podcast: Average 300 downloads per week
KDKA Radio Segment: Average 5,000 listeners per night
TEQ Magazine Articles: circulation–6,500; readership–30,000
Digital Content (pghtech.org and pghtechfuse.com): 15,500 unique visitors per month
Direct Email: 22,000 recipients
Social: PTC channels–27,500 combined followers (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn)

LUPUS: LEARNING & LIVING
On June 19, AHN partnered with the Lupus Foundation of America to host a daylong event at the AI. This free program was an opportunity for Lupus patients, families, and friends to learn more about living healthfully with Lupus while managing symptoms. Speakers included AHN physicians, Drs. Arora, Blazek-O’Neill, and Manocha, with presentations that touched on such relevant topics as clinical trials, kidney health, nutrition, and exercise.

ALL OF HER LIFE
We know that autoimmune conditions affect each person differently—and no two patients have the same story to tell. We put considerable time and attention into understanding our patients’ perspective, enhancing our capacity to deliver personalized care. Two such patients were featured by the AHNWomen All of Her Life series, which empowers female patients to share their unique medical journeys. The AI was proud to partner with AHNWomen and to support two of the patients who have put their trust in us. To date, the video has attracted more than 11,000 views.
HIGHLIGHTS

The Autoimmunity Institute is particularly proud of the following features:

**Highmark Health Blog**
- Getting Health Care Right: A Conversation with Joseph Ahearn, MD

**Managed Healthcare Executive**
- Autoimmune Diseases: Advancements in Patient Care and Research
- Four Ways Treatments for Autoimmune Conditions Could Change

**Nature**
- Lupus in Crisis: as Failures Pile Up, Clinicians Call for New Tools

**The Boca Raton Observer**
- Taking A Closer Look At Why Autoimmune Diseases Primarily Affect Women

**PRWeb**
- Flying the Checkered Flag for Autoimmune Disease Awareness, Kyle Marcelli Races to Mid-Ohio after Back-to-Back Victories in 2018
- Kyle Marcelli Wins AARDA Champion Award for his Drive to Eradicate Autoimmune Diseases

**LifePulseHealth**
- Pittsburgh’s Allegheny Health Network Centralizes All Care for Autoimmune Disorders

**Business Insider**
- Awareness-Raising on Steroids: Rheumatologists and Researchers in Illinois Help Make a One-in-a-Million Disease, Relapsing Polychondritis, the State’s Top Google Search

**AARDA**
- Primary Care Physicians Now Have Resources to Diagnose a Rare Autoimmune Disease: Relapsing Polychondritis

**Newswise**
- Autoimmune Association Hosts Two Signature Events in Pittsburgh

**TV6 (Marquette, Mich. NBC-affiliate)**
- MU hosts symposium exploring autoimmune diseases

**U.S. News & World Report**
- A Patient’s Guide to Lupus
OVER 500 HEADLINES

In 2019, the AI was featured in over 500 news outlets, including the following headlines:

A Patient's Guide to Lupus
Allegheny Health Network’s Dr. Susan Manzi Elected Board Chair, Lupus Foundation of America
Allegheny Health Network's Dr. Susan Manzi Receives Prestigious Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Rheumatology (21 outlets)
Allegheny Health Network's Dr. Susan Manzi to be Honored at Art Rooney Awards Event for Outstanding Contributions to the Community (18 Outlets)
Autoimmune Association Hosts Two Signature Events in Pittsburgh
Autoimmune Disease Specialists Offer Coordinated Care at Pittsburgh Facility (podcast)
Autoimmune Disease Specialists Offer Coordinated Care at Pittsburgh Facility (podcast) (WorldNews Health)
Autoimmune Diseases: Advancements in Patient Care and Research
Awareness-Raising on Steroids: Rheumatologists and Researchers in Illinois Help Make a One-in-a-Million Disease, Relapsing Polychondritis, the State’s Top Google Search (64 outlets)
Champion Race Car Driver to Receive AARDA Champion Award
Dr. Susan Manzi, MD, MPH with Allegheny Health Network a Globally Recognized Lupus Investigator
Flying the Checkered Flag for Autoimmune Disease Awareness, Kyle Marcelli Races to Mid-Ohio after Back-to-Back Victories in 2018 (59 outlets)
Four Ways Treatments for Autoimmune Conditions Could Change
Free Forum on Autoimmune Diseases
Highmark Inc. Targets Autoimmune Diseases in Latest Innovative Drug Contract for Entyvio (Vedolizumab)
How to Test for Lupus
Integrating Team-Based Care for Autoimmunity
Kyle Marcelli Wins AARDA Champion Award for his Drive to Eradicate Autoimmune Diseases (65 outlets)
Lupus Foundation of America, Allegheny Health Network Autoimmunity Institute to Host Lupus Community Event
Mom Seeks Source of Constant Pain and Exhaustion
NMU Hosts Symposium Exploring Autoimmune Diseases
Nurses Celebrate Alumni
Osteopontin and Disease Activity in Patients with Recent-onset Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: Results from the SLICC Inception Cohort
Pittsburgh's Allegheny Health Network Centralizes All Care for Autoimmune Disorders (18 outlets)
Primary Care Physicians Now Have Resources to Diagnose a Rare Autoimmune Disease: Relapsing Polychondritis (62 outlets)
Promoting Autoimmune Disease Awareness, Ed Jones Will Pilot the Striking No. 63 Ed Carpenter Racing Scuderia Corsa Chevrolet at the 103rd Running of the Indianapolis 500 (68 outlets)
Race for Relapsing Polychondritis’ Drive for Awareness Makes a Stop in Marquette this Week for A Symposium Exploring Autoimmune Diseases (71 outlets)
Racing with KohR Motorsports at Mid-Ohio, Kyle Marcelli Continues His Drive to Win and Eradicate Autoimmune Diseases (76 outlets)
Rheumatic Disease Research in 2019
The War Inside – Taking A Closer Look At Why Autoimmune Diseases Primarily Affect Women
PHILANTHROPIC EFFORTS

The AHN Autoimmunity Institute has enjoyed remarkable generosity from patients, families and friends since its inception.

We are extraordinarily grateful for these supporters, who through their efforts are helping us change the future for patients with autoimmune diseases.
SPLASH INTO TIME-OUT

On March 28th, Joyce and Scott Cessar together with the Foundation for the Autoimmunity Institute hosted “Splash into Time-Out” at the Watersource in Pittsburgh. The evening raised nearly twenty thousand dollars to advance autoimmune disease research. Chef demonstrations, live music and exceptional company ensured a successful three hour gathering.

GRAND PRIX

In March, Michael Linn, the Race for RP, the Relapsing Polychondritis Foundation, and the American Autoimmune-Related Diseases Association (AARDA) hosted a weekend celebration of the AHN Autoimmunity Institute at the Firestone Grand Prix in St. Petersburg, Florida. Highlights of the weekend included “celebrity” Pit, Garage, and Paddock Club Access, a yacht party in the Vinoy Marina, and a spectacular vantage to view the race from atop a trackside condo.

A video featuring the weekend’s events garnered more than 21,582 views, a reach of over 70,550, and over 152,000 impressions across social media platforms.

RACECAR DRIVER

Dominik Baumann (left) and Kyle Marcelli celebrate in the Winner’s Circle after their victory for Lexus in the IMSA Continental Tire SportsCar Challenge at the Mid-Ohio course.

PATIENT ADVOCATE

While the connection between the racetrack and the Autoimmunity Institute may not be obvious, it’s a deeply rooted one. Kyle Marcelli is one of today’s most competitive race car drivers, but he’s also a passionate advocate of the autoimmune community.

As one million fans and viewers watched Marcelli race to victory this season, his Lexus featured the logos of the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (AARDA), the Relapsing Polychondritis Foundation and the AHN Autoimmunity Institute.
The AHN Autoimmunity Institute has been rapidly recognized nationwide as a model for the future of autoimmune disease health care, improving outcomes while reducing cost. In 2019, our leadership was invited to describe our vision to other health care organizations, foundations, government officials, patient advocacy groups and academic institutions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The AI team bringing their “Purple Pride” in celebration of World Lupus Day, May 10, 2019.
September 2019

Dear AHN Autoimmunity Institute,

Thank you for investing your time, energy and knowledge to make the Autoimmunity Symposium an unprecedented success...attendance for the symposium topped the 300 person capacity of Reynold’s Recital Hall...Participant feedback was highly complementary regarding the symposium and the articulate and knowledgeable keynote speakers. Several members of the audience requested information regarding Allegheny Health. The physicians and nurses were especially appreciative of the higher-level information regarding interdisciplinary approaches to patient care, new pharmacologic treatment options for autoimmune diseases and the etiology and management of autoimmune diseases, in general. Many attendees commented on the high value of the panel discussion as well.

Thank you again for making the autoimmunity symposium a tremendous success and for helping Race for RP and the RP Foundation achieve its advocacy and educational goals.

David M. Bammert
Director/President
Relapsing Polychondritis Foundation Inc.
AARDA SYMPOSIUM

On Saturday, September 28th, AHN AI in collaboration with the American Autoimmune-Related Diseases Association (AARDA) hosted a Symposium “What Every American Needs to Know About Autoimmune Disease.” The event, held in the West Penn Hospital auditorium and Wintergarden, featured presentations by AI physicians Manzi (Transforming Care for Autoimmune Disease: The AHN Autoimmunity Institute), Abdul-Baki (Team-Based Care: The Celiac Model), Kaplan (Anxiety, Depression and Autoimmune Disease) and Blazek-O’Neill (Nutrition, Exercise and Autoimmune Disease). On the following Sunday morning, AHN AI and AARDA featured a Pittsburgh Autoimmune Walk at Schenley Plaza to raise awareness and financial support for autoimmune diseases.

HEADED TO WASHINGTON

On March 21st, the American Autoimmune Diseases-Related Association (AARDA) in conjunction with the National Coalition of Autoimmune Disease Patient Groups, invited Drs. Manzi and Ahearn to join a four-member panel to present a “Congressional Briefing: The Hidden Epidemic of Autoimmune Disease.” A standing room only audience in the Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., enthusiastically embraced our vision for transforming autoimmune disease patient care.
Our all-encompassing vision and theme for 2020 and beyond will be “Autoimmunity Racing.” In essence, this translates into Go! Go! Go! During our first full year of operation, our model of transformative care for autoimmune diseases has already garnered a national reputation among patients, physicians, colleagues, and disease foundations. We now need to accelerate. We need to accelerate recruitment of talent. We need to accelerate bringing our research discoveries to the patient. We need to accelerate our national and global reach. We need to finish this race. We need to win this race.