



## **NAME OF LABORATORY:** The Laboratory for Arthritis Research

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**PI:** Dr. Uri Arad MD, PhD

**Director of Department:** Prof. Ori Elkayam MD

**Research Objectives:** Our research focuses on the pathogenic mechanisms of rheumatologic diseases, both inflammatory/autoimmune diseases and also degenerative joint disease – osteoarthritis.

### **Main Research topics:**

- The role of heparanase in the metabolism of human articular cartilage.
- Inhibition of eNPP1 for the treatment of CPPD.
- Predicting response to biological treatment in RA by analysis of peripheral blood cytokine gene expression.
- The role of TNF $\alpha$ -TNF inhibitor complexes in initiating anti-drug antibody responses.
- Immune responses to vaccination in rheumatologic patients

### **Staff:**

Dr. Uri Arad – laboratory head.

Dr. Gilad Gibor – full time senior researcher.

Ms. Shani Journo – full time laboratory assistant and researcher.

### **Active Grants:**

Israel Ministry of Trade and Industry - KAMIN

### **Collaborations:**

- Prof. Israel Vlodavsky - Technion
- Prof. Bilha Fischer – Bar Ilan University
- Geneferone
- Dr. Mario Lebediker – Hebrew University.

**Contact us:** Dr. Uri Arad: [uria@tlvmc.gov.il](mailto:uria@tlvmc.gov.il)