

Curriculum Vitae

Henrik Christian Bidstrup Leffers, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Consultant Rheumatologist (Board-certified Specialist)
Center for Rheumatology and Spine Diseases
Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark

Personal Information

Date of birth: 3 November 1983
Nationality: Danish

Education and Academic Qualifications

2012 – Master's Degree in Medicine, University of Copenhagen
2021 – PhD
Thesis: Impact of smoking and genetic risk factors on phenotype differentiation in systemic lupus erythematosus
2023 – Specialty License in Rheumatology
2022 – SLEuro Advanced Workshop on SLE, Coimbra, Portugal

Current Position

2023–present – Consultant Rheumatologist (Board-certified Specialist)
Center for Rheumatology and Spine Diseases, Rigshospitalet

Research Profile

Systemic lupus erythematosus (clinical phenotyping, biomarkers, genetics)
Rheumatoid arthritis and sarcoidosis
Clinical epidemiology and registry-based research

Management Experience

Vice Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee of the Danish Rheuma Biobank (DRB) and member of the DANBIO Steering Committee. Scientific development and expansion of the national Danish SLE database based on established clinical and research infrastructure, including harmonization of clinical data and linkage with biological material. Coordination of nationwide biological sampling and clinical data integration in close collaboration with DANBIO, the Danish RheumaBiobank, and the Danish Blood Donor Study (DBDS)

Teaching and Education

Associate Professor and lecturer in Master's programmes at the University of Copenhagen.
Co-author, EULAR Online Course on Rheumatic Diseases.
Contributor to European textbooks and national clinical guidelines.

Publication List

I. ORIGINAL SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED)

1. **Leffers HC**, Østergaard M, Glintborg B, Krogh NS, Foged H, Tarp U, Lorenzen T, Hansen A, Hansen MS, Jacobsen MS, Dreyer L, Hetland ML. Efficacy of Abatacept and Tocilizumab in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients treated in Clinical Practice. Results from the Nationwide Danish DANBIO Registry. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2011 Jul;70(7):1216–1222.
2. **Henrik Christian Leffers** & Doris Østergaard. Aims, educational and competence-based evaluation methods in the theoretical courses in the Danish medical specialist education. *Ugeskr Læger*. 2012;174(25):1728–1730.
3. **Leffers HCB**, Hermansen ML, Sandholt B, Fuchs A, Sillesen H, Køber L, Kofoed KF, Faurschou M, Jacobsen S. Plasma levels of β 2-microglobulin are associated with atherosclerosis in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: a cross-sectional cohort study. *Lupus*. 2018;27(9).
4. **Leffers HCB**, Troldborg A, Voss A, Kristensen S, Lindhardsen J, Kumar P, Linauskas A, Juul L, Krogh NS, Deleuran B, Dreyer L, Jacobsen S. Smoking associates with distinct clinical phenotypes in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: a nationwide Danish cross-sectional study. *Lupus Science & Medicine*. 2021;8(1).
5. Zinglersen AH, Iversen KK, **Leffers HCB**, Laugesen E, Fleischer J, Jacobsen S. Characteristics of cardiovascular autonomic dysfunction and association with quality of life in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. *Lupus Science & Medicine*. 2021;8(1).
6. Uhrenholt L, Høstgaard S, Pedersen JF, Christensen R, Dreyer L, **Leffers HCB**, Taylor PC, Strand V, Jacobsen S, Voss A, Gregersen JW, Kristensen S. Patient-reported outcome measures in systemic lupus erythematosus by a web-based application: a randomized, crossover, agreement study. *Lupus*. 2021;30(13):2124–2134.
7. Andersen M, Stockmarr A, **Leffers HCB**, Troldborg A, Voss A, Kristensen S, Deleuran B, Dreyer L, Johnsen L, Colic A, Jacobsen S. Absolute risk estimation of new-onset proteinuria in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: a Danish nationwide cohort study. *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology*. 2023;41(11):2264–2268.
8. **Leffers HCB**, Baslund B, Lindhardsen J, Krintel SB, Graudal N. Abatacept and tofacitinib in refractory sarcoidosis: drug survival, safety, and treatment response. *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology*. 2024.
9. Siddiqi KZ, Baandrup L, Diederichsen L, Hertzum-Larsen R, **Leffers HCB**, Jacobsen S, Kjær SK. Risk of HPV-associated precancer and cancer in women with systemic lupus erythematosus. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2025;84(5):760–766.
10. Massarenti L, **Leffers HCB**, Brodersen T, Hansen PR, Damgaard C, Pedersen OB, Jacobsen S, Nielsen CH. Antibodies to periodontal bacteria are associated with systemic

lupus erythematosus and autoantibody positivity. International Journal of Molecular Sciences. 2025;26(21):10719.

11. Winberg LK, Sarafrazi M, Adamsen ML, Zinglersen AH, **Leffers HCB**, Diederichsen LP, Jacobsen S. Distinct changes in nailfold capillaries are associated with the clinical and serological features of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism. 2025 (In press).
12. **Leffers HCB**, Troldborg A, Andersen M, Sanchez ACG, Jonsdottir I, Diaz-Gallo LM, Saevarsdottir S, Deleuran B, Voss A, Dreyer L, Leonard D, Svennungsson E, Kristensen S, Colic A, Banasik K, Linauskas A, Pedersen OB, Johnsen L, Krogh NS, DBDS Genomic Consortium, Ostrowski SR, Sørensen E, Schwinn M, Erikstrup C, Brunak S, Stefansson K, Jacobsen S. Autoantibody-defined subsets of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus associate with clinical manifestations, NCF2, and HLA DR3-DQ2 genotypes. Translational Research. 2025;284:29–37.
13. **Leffers HCB**, Graudal N, Krintel S, Lindhardsen J, Baslund B. ACE genotypes influence serum ACE levels and their temporal changes in sarcoidosis: a cohort study. Under review in Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology.

II. SCIENTIFIC REVIEWS (PEER REVIEWED)

14. **Leffers HCB**, Lange T, Collins C, Ulff-Møller CJ, Jacobsen S. The study of interactions between genome and exposome in the development of systemic lupus erythematosus. Autoimmunity Reviews. 2019;18(4):382–392.

III. OTHER PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

15. **Leffers HCB**, Westergaard D, Saevarsdottir S, Jonsdottir I, Pedersen OB, DBDS Genomic Consortium, Troldborg A, Voss A, Kristensen S, Lindhardsen J, Kumar P, Linauskas A, Juul L, Krogh NS, Deleuran B, Dreyer L, Schwinn M, Thørner LW, Hindhede L, Erikstrup C, Ullum H, Brunak S, Stefansson K, Banasik K, Jacobsen S. Established risk loci for systemic lupus erythematosus associate with distinct clinical manifestations: a Danish genome-wide association study. Joint Bone Spine. 2022;89(4).
16. Døssing S, Todberg T, Jacobsen S, **Leffers HCB**. Drug-induced systemic lupus erythematosus. Ugeskr Læger. 2025;187:V10240784.

IV. BOOK CHAPTERS AND BOOKS

17. **Leffers HCB**, Jacobsen S, Inês L. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: Pathogenesis and Clinical Features – Module 17. In: EULAR Online Course on Rheumatic Diseases. EULAR; 2020.

V. NON-SCIENTIFIC AND POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

18. Hvad betyder arv og miljø for udviklingen af lupus? Nyt om Gigtforskning, Danish Rheumatism Association. April 2018.

Dear Members of SLEuro,

I hereby submit my application for membership of the SLEuro Executive Committee.

I am an Associate Professor, consultant rheumatologist, and PhD with a focused clinical and academic profile in systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). My work centers on SLE-related clinical care and research, with particular emphasis on disease heterogeneity, clinical phenotyping, and translation of epidemiological and biomarker research into improved patient management.

My research is primarily based on national cohorts and established research infrastructures, integrating clinical data with biobank material and registry-based information to characterize clinically meaningful SLE phenotypes and predictors of disease progression and complications. A central component of my work has been the scientific development and expansion of a national Danish SLE database, building upon existing infrastructure through harmonization of clinical variables, strengthening of data quality, and integration of biological material. Building on this foundation, I am currently exploring opportunities to harmonize data with other Scandinavian SLE cohorts to support future collaborative initiatives.

I have played a central role in coordinating nationwide collections of biological samples and clinical data across multiple centers, providing substantial experience in multicenter collaboration, data governance, and quality assurance. I am actively engaged in international SLE-focused research collaboration, including a recent interdisciplinary study currently under review. In addition, I am involved in exploratory collaborative efforts applying multi-omic approaches to improve disease stratification and support more individualized management of SLE.

Alongside my research activities, I have contributed to education and guideline development within the field of SLE, including EULAR educational material, European textbook chapters, and national clinical guidelines for SLE and Sjögren's syndrome. I regularly teach at university level and supervise master's and PhD students. Through my involvement in national scientific committees, clinical databases, and biobank infrastructures, I have gained experience in academic leadership, consensus-building processes, and representation of the SLE research community.

I would be honored to contribute my clinical expertise, research experience, and collaborative approach to the work of the SLEuro Executive Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Henrik Christian Bidstrup Leffers, MD, PhD

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