



Dr. Joe Ramsdell, Distinguished Professor of Clinical Medicine

Dr. Joe Ramsdell is a clinician, clinical investigator and educator who is nationally and internationally recognized for his research in general medicine, geriatrics and pulmonary disease. He received his Medical Degree from Indiana University in 1971, is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Pulmonary Disease. He joined the UCSD faculty in 1975 and is currently Distinguished Professor of Clinical Medicine.

Dr. Ramsdell sees patients three times week with a full panel of patients. His Press Ganey satisfaction surveys continually show his excellence and he has been awarded “Top Doctor,” by San Diego Magazine 8 times in the past decade. He has been recognized regionally and with honorary lectures and awards including the Margaret Pfrommer Award of the American College of Chest Physicians in 2002.

Dr. Ramsdell is an active educator. In addition to clinical teaching he founded and has been the Co-Director of the School of Medicine’s innovative year-long longitudinal core course, the Primary Care Core Clerkship (PC401). Since 2007, Dr. Ramsdell has been the Director for CREST (Clinical Research Enhancement through Supplemental Training) “Data Management and Informatics” module. On average, he has been an ISP Chair for over 30 students annually.

In 1985, Dr. Ramsdell created and remains Director of the UCSD Clinical Trials Center/Airways Research Center to investigate pulmonary physiology, pulmonary disease mechanisms and treatments. He has been PI and/or Co-PI on multiple successful NIH/NJHLBI grants for almost thirty years. His CV currently lists 228 peer-reviewed original articles, many in high tier journals such as The New England Journal of Medicine, CHEST and Lancet.

In 1990, Dr. Ramsdell became Division Chief of General Internal Medicine (GIM). Since that time the Division has grown to over 85 faculty members. In addition, Dr. Ramsdell oversaw the creation an initial recruitments for the Owen Clinic Program, Division of Geriatrics and Division of Hospital Medicine. These units were created within GIM and later become their own self-sustaining entities.

Dr. Ramsdell has served on various NIH study sections and FDA committees, University committees including a recent three-year service to UCSD’s Committee on Appointment and Promotions (CAP). He is a sitting member of UCSD’s Medical Group Board of Governors and the Department of Medicine Executive Committee. Outside of UCSD, Dr. Ramsdell has served in leadership roles in professional organizations including President of the American Academy of Home Care Physicians from 2007-2009. He also is member and Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the program committee of the Board for the Alliance Healthcare Foundation which distributes grants to healthcare organizations focusing on underserved populations in San Diego and Imperial Counties.