Dr. Melanie WARD

Director of Neurology Rural Outreach
WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute

Age: 39

Dr. Melanie Ward is a highly dedicated neurologist and esteemed faculty member at the WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute. With a strong commitment to patient care, research, and education, Dr. Ward's contributions significantly enhance the field of neurology.

She graduated from WVU's School of Medicine and returned in 2019 as an assistant professor and division chief of multiple sclerosis and clinical neuroimmunology. She also serves as the director of the Department of Neurology Rural Outreach Clinic in Glenville, WV.

Dr. Ward's dedication to excellence in education and patient care exemplifies the values of the RNI, making her an invaluable asset to the Institute and the broader scientific community. She has played a pivotal role in expanding the RNI's Memory Health program, providing world-class treatments to patients regionally and nationally. As a member of the WVU Neurology Executive Leadership Team, Dr. Ward is committed to improving access to care for individuals with multiple sclerosis and other neurologic conditions in West Virginia.

In addition to her clinical and research excellence, Dr. Ward has a profound passion for medical education. She has delivered numerous lectures and presentations on neurology, MS and autoimmune disorders and actively mentors medical students, residents and fellows. Her achievements have earned her recognition and accolades throughout her career, including selection in January 2023 for the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Women Leading in Neurology leadership development cohort, underscoring her commitment to advancing leadership for women in neurology.

Active in professional societies and committees, including the American Academy of Neurology and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Dr. Ward has contributed to peer-reviewed publications and presented her research at national and international conferences, solidifying her status as a leader in neurology. ■