

Finding solutions for people with recent onset rheumatoid arthritis

When the COVID-19 pandemic happened, Canadians with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) had a lot of worries. They were more likely to get sick, end up in the hospital, and had trouble getting their RA medicines. This study was about understanding how all of this affected people with RA.

Impact on women

We found that before and during the pandemic, most people with RA had similar levels of RA symptoms. Women felt more anxious and sad during the COVID-19 pandemic.

People under 40

Mental health

Younger people with RA under the age of 40 felt more sad and reported lower quality of life during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Older people with RA

Older people with RA, 65 years and older, felt more anxious and had a harder time taking part in things they liked.

References

Bartlett S, Schieir O, Valois MF, Boire G, Hazlewood G, Thorne C, Tin D, Hitchon C, Pope J, Keystone E, Bessette L, Bykerk VP, on behalf of CATCH Investigators. COVID-19 Had Disproportionate Impacts on RA Symptoms and Function by Sex and Age: Results from the Canadian Early Arthritis Cohort (CATCH).

