



About Global RA Network Fact Sheet

What is the Global RA Network?

The Global RA Network is an international project designed to identify patient perspectives and provide solutions to gaps in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) models of care.

What is the Global RA Network Panel?

The Global RA Network Panel leads the efforts of the Network and consists of patient group leaders (many of whom are living with RA) from 18 countries.

Why is the Global RA Network needed?

It is estimated that one per cent of the world population lives with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and is a leading cause of disability. The current pattern of health care delivery to those living with RA is not prepared to deal with the economic burden of RA that is expected to double within the next generation (30 years), while the number of rheumatologists is already insufficient to provide timely care.

While rheumatologists work together around the world to determine and develop guidelines for standardized models of care, little, if any, work has been done to research into the RA patient experience of their journey through their country's RA model of care, including:

- all aspects of care and support needed by RA patients
- what RA patients should know about their own care and self-care
- the importance of more subjective patient-reported outcome measures of treatment

What has the Global RA Network achieved so far?

- The Global RA Network developed a survey of RA patients from 18 countries that was launched in 2017 called: "Patient experiences of rheumatoid arthritis models of care: An international survey." The Survey aimed to identify how, from the patient experience and perspective, current models of care for rheumatoid arthritis compare between countries. The results of this survey are the first crowd-sourced research of its kind designed by patients, for patients, to better learn what their care experiences are like in their country.
- The Global RA Network Survey results were presented as a poster at the 2017 ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting (November 3 – November 8).