

Study Results: Contributions of Social Determinants of Health on Treatment Responses in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients

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Using data from OBRI, this study looked at the impact of social and economic factors on the achievement of remission in RA. Factors explored included age, sex, social and economic status, health behaviors, social support, and living conditions. The association between these factors and remission was evaluated using logistic regression analyses, and controlling for clinical factors such as RA duration, RA medications, disease activity and functional ability. At 6 months, higher neighbourhood income and private insurance were associated with disease remission. At 1-year follow up, living with someone, living in a rural community, and smoking were associated with remission. Socioeconomic factors appear to have an effect on remission at 6 months. Health behavior and living environment appear to be associated with remission at 12 months. Different social determinants may affect treatment response and disease outcome at different time points and this study highlights the complexity in studying social determinants of health.