

Resource

Diagnosis

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Symptoms of RA include painful, stiff, swollen joints. The stiffness is usually worst in the morning and after periods of inactivity. The stiffness in the morning can last for a long time and the joints affected are usually symmetrical (meaning they are the same joints, on either side of the body). If you suspect you may have these symptoms, the first step is to speak to your GP, who will perform an initial examination and may do some blood tests if they think you could have RA.

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Newly diagnosed pack

Includes New2RA, Fatigue Matters and Medicines and RA

New2RA – A self-help guide for people with newly diagnosed rheumatoid arthritis

Fatigue Matters – A self-help guide for people living with rheumatoid arthritis

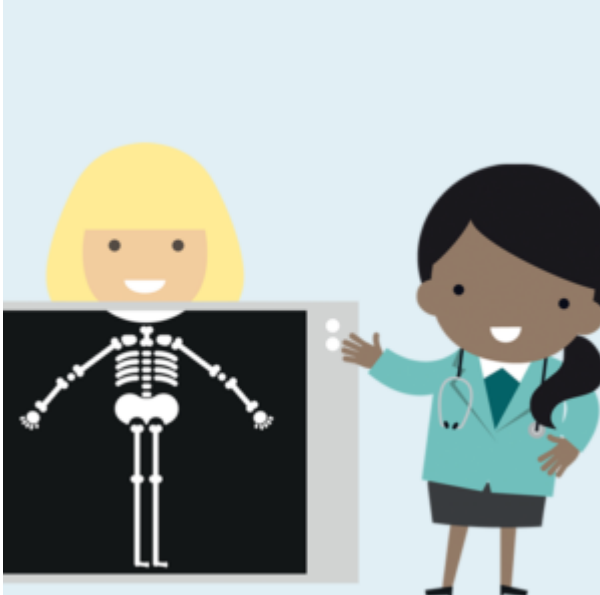
Medicines and RA – We believe it is essential that people living with RA understand why certain medicines are used, when they are used and how they work to manage the condition.



Article

Getting the most from your initial consultation with your GP

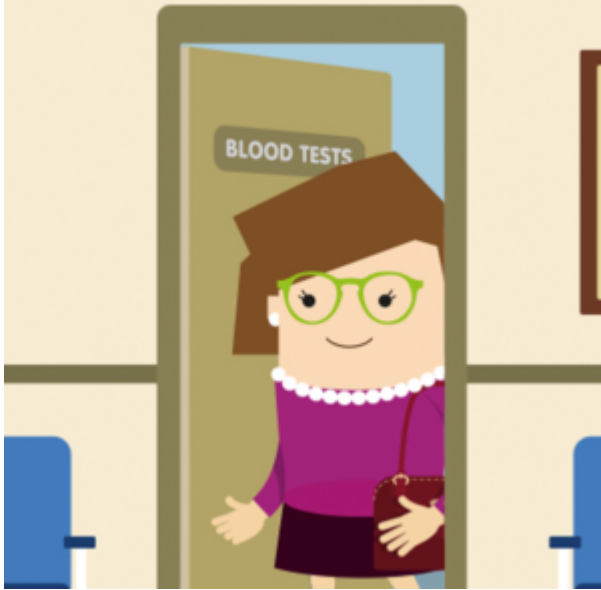
Early treatment has been shown to provide improved disease outcomes in RA. It is recommended that newly diagnosed RA get the most out of initial consultations with their GP, diagnosis and treatment.



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[Making a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis](#)

Diagnosis of RA is not straight forward as [there is no individual test for RA. A diagnosis tends to be the basis of tests, examination and ruling out other possible](#)



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[Understanding your RA blood tests](#)



[the diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis \(RA\) but also to assess drugs that are used to treat RA.?](#)

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Seropositive and seronegative

Seropositive or seronegative is a term used to describe whether you have rheumatoid factor (RF) and anti-CCP?(or ACPA) in your blood; two proteins more commonly found in people with RA

Article

Imaging in RA

There are a number of different imaging techniques that are used in the diagnosis and monitoring of rheumatoid arthritis, including X-ray, ultrasound and MRI.

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