NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

# NICE indicator guidance

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## Indicator NM55

The practice can produce a register of all patients aged 16 years and over with rheumatoid arthritis.

## Indicator type

General practice indicator suitable for use in the Quality and Outcomes Framework.

## Rationale

An accurate register is a prerequisite to ensuring proactive engagement with patients with a defined condition.

Early identification of recent-onset rheumatoid arthritis is important because long-term outcomes are improved if disease modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) treatment is started shortly after the onset of symptoms.

## Source guidance

[Rheumatoid arthritis in adults: management. NICE guideline NG100](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng100) (2018).

## Specification

A register of people with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis.

Exclusions: Patients aged 15 years and under.

Minimum population: The indicator would be appropriate to assess performance at individual general practice level.

## Further information

This is NICE indicator guidance, which is part of the [NICE menu of indicators](https://www.nice.org.uk/Standards-and-Indicators/index). This document does not represent formal NICE guidance.