

- Half or fewer of the 125 US-practicing rheumatologists surveyed online were very familiar with the American College of Rheumatology (58% 2012 update on use of DMARDs) and European League Against Rheumatism (54% classification; 39% management) recommendations regarding classification and management of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients and one quarter or more disagreed with guideline recommendations for management.
- There is no consensus among rheumatologists on which validated tools to use to assess RA severity and more than one measure is employed for ongoing disease activity assessment.
- There is no consensus on management of patients for whom TNFi therapy is ineffective.
- Rheumatologists reported infections and comorbidities to be very significant barriers to prescribing biologic agents for patients with RA.
- There is a continuing unmet need for education among rheumatologists to address the treatment barriers and knowledge gaps identified.

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