In the presentation, patient cases will be used to illustrate how occupational therapists may work to enhance occupation in individual clients with a rheumatic condition, and evidence for some of the core interventions will be discussed.

REFERENCES:

Disclosure of Interests: None declared

SP0139 WHAT WE ARE BRILLIANT AT: NURSING PERSPECTIVE
Ricardo Ferreira, Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, EPE, Rheumatology, Coimbra, Portugal

The challenges confronting health care delivery systems worldwide are rapidly changing, and this calls for practice-defined competencies for nurses and other health care workers (Zhang, Luk, Arthur, & Wong, 2001). The definition of competency or competence in nursing has been a subject of debate (Axley, 2008; Fukada, 2018; Zhang et al., 2001). Its clarification is important and still needed to establish a foundation for realistic working behaviours, for nursing education and management.

Although there has been an extensive and valuable work in the definition of core competencies of nursing profession, which includes both autonomous and inter-dependent activities within the multidisciplinary team, little scientific research has been done to clarify the way in which nursing profession is unique.

This presentation will address the following questions:

- What are nurses (collectively) really brilliant at?
- What leads them to develop unique characteristics?
- How do they bring into care, that matches or complements other health professions to result in better quality care?

The presentation is informed by a scoping review, a survey of international nurse leaders and researchers.

REFERENCES:

Disclosure of Interests: None declared

FRIDAY, 14 JUNE 2019
15:30:00 – 17:00:00

Overdiagnosis and overtreatment in inflammatory arthritis

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Background: The use of musculoskeletal ultrasound (MSUS) and magnetic resonance (MR) imaging is widespread in the diagnosis and management of patients with rheumatic disease. Interpreting the images, and their implication for clinical management is challenging, particularly in the community, in mild/early disease, where there is discordance between clinical and imaging findings, and in the presence of co-morbid joint disease.

Objectives: To review the evidence about whether the use of imaging results in over-diagnosis and over-treatment

Specifically, the following issues will be addressed, using rheumatoid arthritis as the exemplar:

- To review the prevalence of ‘abnormal’ MSUS and MR findings in the general population
- To understand the prevalence and significance of sub-clinical joint inflammation
- To summarise the evidence from clinical trials about the risks/benefits of treating to a target of imaging (rather than clinical) remission

Methods: If clinicians are to interpret the available imaging correctly, several issues are pertinent. Firstly, it is important to understand the prevalence of erosions, synovitis and bone marrow oedema in the general population, in different joints, at different ages and in the presence of co-morbid conditions such as osteoarthritis. Secondly, in RA what are the implications of sub-clinical inflammatory changes for disease progression? Thirdly, do clinical trials support the hypothesis that ‘treat to target’ strategies should aim at a target of ‘imaging remission’ rather than clinical remission? The results of the TaSER, ARTIC and RA-IMAGINE trials will be reviewed to identify if the systematic, routine use of imaging results in over-treatment or clinical harm. Lastly, the possibility that imaging could have a role in reducing over-treatment will be discussed.

Conclusion: It is impossible to interpret the results of imaging correctly, without knowing the clinical context. Clinicians need to understand the value and the limitations of imaging, and should not pursue a simplistic or binary approach when interpreting the results - otherwise over-diagnosis and over-treatment will be the result. To date, the evidence from RCTs in the management of RA suggest that a ‘treat-to-target’ approach should aim for clinical and not imaging remission.

REFERENCES: