global health assessment, the HAQ, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C-reactive protein, rheumatoid factor and anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide, DAS28, CDAI, SDAI, biologic treatment and radiographic structural damage. Multivariate logistic regression analysis didn’t show any association.

**Conclusion:** Ultrasound tenosynovitis was commonly found in RA in remission and the extensor carpi ulnaris tendon was most involved. A shorter duration of remission was associated with PD tenosynovitis in univariate analysis. The MSUS assessment of tendons can be an additional feasible method to assess clinical remission.

**REFERENCES:**


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**PO5073** IMPACT OF JOINT DESTRUCTION IN THE HANDS, THE WRISTS AND THE ANKLES ON THE ULTRASOUND ASSESSMENT AND THE FUNCTIONAL OUTCOMES IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS IN REMISSION

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**Background:** Joint destruction is a strong predictive factor for residual synovitis among rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients in clinical remission. Both of them were associated with functional impairment.

**Objectives:** To assess the ultrasound findings and functional outcomes of RA patients in remission according to the site of joint destruction.

**Methods:** A Cross-sectional study including RA patients in remission DAS28<3.2 at least for 6 months. A B-mode and power doppler (PD) ultrasound of 42 joints was performed. Synovitis was defined and scored using the combined OMERACT-PDUS (gray scale and power doppler (PD)) scoring system graded from 0 to 3. The health assessment questionnaire (HAQ) and the radiological Sharp score of the wrists, hands and feet were calculated.

**Results:** Thirty-seven patients were included. The sex ratio was 0.37 and the mean age was 54.2 years ± 12.7. The mean disease duration was 8.1 years ± 5.8. The mean remission duration was 36.5 months ± 32.7. The mean DAS28was 2.1 ± 0.5. Rheumatoid factor and anti-citrullinated peptide antibodies were found in 62% and 75% of patients, respectively. The mean HAQ was 0.35 ± 0.38. Bone erosion was found in 81% of patients. In patients with hands and feet erosions (54%), synovitis was found in 90% of cases associated with PD in 70% of cases. The mean total score of synovitis was 7.8 ± 4.5. The mean HAQ was 0.37 ± 0.44. In patients with only erosions in the hands or wrists (18.9%), synovitis was found in 100% of cases associated with PD in 57% of cases. The mean total score of synovitis was 4.5 ± 4.7. The mean HAQ was 0.48 ± 0.34. In patients with only joint destruction (8.1%), synovitis was found in 100% of cases associated with PD in 66.7% of cases. The mean total score of synovitis was 4.6 ± 3.5. The mean HAQ was 0.31 ± 0.26. RA was not erosive in 10% of patients. In these patients, synovitis was found in 100% of cases associated with PD in 28.6% of cases. The mean total score of synovitis was 5.6 ± 4.3. The mean HAQ was 0.21 ± 0.23. There was no significant difference between these groups (p=0.05).

**Conclusion:** In RA in remission, PD synovitis and functional incapacity were less frequent in the absence of erosion. PD synovitis was more frequently found in patients with erosions, especially, in the feet. The HAQ was higher in patients in remission, less frequent in the absence of erosion. PD synovitis was more frequently found in patients with erosions, especially, in the feet. The HAQ was higher in patients with erosions, especially, in the feet. The HAQ was higher in patients with erosions, especially, in the feet.

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**PO5075** THE PATIENT GLOBAL ASSESSMENT (PGA) OF DISEASE ACTIVITY COLLECTS DIFFERENT INFORMATION IN EARLY COMPARED TO ESTABLISHED RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

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**Background:** The patient global assessment (PGA) is the most widely used patient-reported measure in rheumatoid arthritis (RA), being a component of disease activity scores and a component of remission definitions. We hypothesized that, at least in established RA, PGA is mostly associated with pain, functional limitation, psychological distress and comorbidities, rather than with objective measures of inflammation. As such, the inclusion of PGA as a driver of intensification of immunosuppressive therapy is being questioned. Determinants of PGA may however differ in the earliest stages of RA, when pain processing mechanisms and clinical damage accrual mechanisms are not yet. Whether the association of PGA with disease activity in RA changes over time is at present undetermined.

**Objectives:** To analyze the associations between PGA and disease activity measures in patients with RA across different phases of the disease.

**Methods:** 1,002 RA patients from two independent cohorts were included: 1) a prospective longitudinal cohort of early RA (<12 months of symptoms) (n=801) with an observation period of 24 months upon initiation of therapy with methotrexate and 2) a cross-sectional cohort of established RA (duration >5 years) (n=401) with inadequate response to methotrexate. Determinants of PGA were assessed by Pearson’s correlation coefficients and multivariable linear regression.

**Results:** In early RA, median (IQR) symptom duration at inclusion was 15 (9-27) weeks, 71.5% of the patients were female, 49.3% were autoantibody-positive, and 30% had radiographic evidence of ≥1 erosion. The mean (SD) DAS28 was 4.94 (1.19), and the mean (SD) PGA 576 (28.6). The proportion of patients at least in low disease activity (DAS28 <3.2) after 6, 12 and 24 months of treatment was 49.9%, 57.4% and 67% respectively. The associations of PGA with pain and functional limitation were moderate to good (r >0.40) at all time points, and were independent of other co-variates (Table 1). Swollen joints (SJC28) were independently and directly associated with PGA at all time points until 12 months, whilst the association become indirect at 24 months (Table 1). In ACA-positive patients, PGA at 6 and 12 months was weakly but still significantly associated with SJC28 even in low disease activity states (adj r 0.15 and 0.13, p<0.05). Patients with established RA had a mean [SD] DAS28 of 5.3 [1.2] and were ACA-positive in 69.6% of the cases. Independent determinants of PGA were pain, HAQ and tender joints, whilst no associations with SJC28 were observed in ACA-positive patients with SJC28 phases. In ACA-negative patients with SJC28 phases, radiographs were found neither in the overall cohort nor in ACA-positive patients.

**Conclusion:** In established RA, PGA appears mostly related to factors outside the core domains of disease activity. In contrast, in the early phases of the disease, PGA may more strictly collect information on inflammatory-related symptoms. Better understanding of the relationship between patient reported outcomes and disease activity in the various phases of RA may thus be needed before introducing definitive changes in the current definitions of disease activity.