STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

LEVEZ-VOUS POUR ÊTRE COMPTÉ!

Measuring and Mapping the Rheumatology Workforce in Canada
How many rheumatologists does it take.....

Stand Up and Be Counted
- Launched March 2015
- Measure and map the rheumatology workforce in Canada
- Little data outside of academic practices

Why?
- Estimate workforce capacity
- Plan for future
- Inform MOC development
- Advocate for specialty
Study Objectives

1. Categorize the rheumatology workforce in Canada and estimate the number of rheumatologist FTEs per 100,000 population;
2. Summarize demographic information and retirement projections for the Rheumatology workforce across Canada;
3. Document estimates of the uptake of EMRs in Rheumatology practices;
4. Document estimates on Rheumatologist participation in Tele-Rheumatology, travelling clinics, and E-consultation;
5. Understand how we collaborate with allied health professionals in Rheumatology clinics.
Methods

1. Literature Review
   - Identify existing surveys to identify gaps
   - National Surveys, Provincial studies, Thematic studies (Pediatrics and Indigenous Populations)

2. Questionnaire Development
   - Draft questions
   - Questionnaire reviewed by Rheumatologists across Canada: Adult and Pediatric, Academic and Community

3. Identify Rheumatologists
   - CRA membership
   - Cross-referenced with Royal College list, provincial colleges, websites, and local champions

4. Electronic Survey
   - Launched March 9th 2015
   - Second wave to be sent in July to new graduates

University of Calgary Ethics ID: REB14-2135
CRA Survey Questions

Demographics
• Age, sex, years practicing, training & certification, retirement plans,

Practice Setting
• Location, Hospital Affiliation, call coverage, Tele-health, travelling clinics, E-consultation

Allied Health Professionals
• Types of AHPs in clinics & collaborative roles

Provision of Care for Canadian Indigenous Populations
• Proportion of patients in practice, Tele-health, traveling clinics

Rheumatological Diseases Treated
• Inflammatory arthritis, pediatric patients, multi-morbidities, specialty clinics

Electronic Medical Records
• Use, hospital-based, type
What Does The New CRA Survey Add?

1. Location of clinics
2. Canada-wide, individual physician-level data
3. Information on Tele-health, travelling clinics and E-consultation
4. Questions on
   1. EMR use,
   2. Allied health care access and collaborative care, and
   3. Provision of care to Canadian Indigenous populations
Survey Sent to...

Survey emailed to 656
• 515 CRA members + 141 non-CRA members
• 552 are expected to be practising “Rheumatologists”
  • 48 are Internists 1+ rheum clinic/week
  • 56 are Ped Rheums

Preliminary Responses by 279
• 239 “Rheumatologists” completed survey (43.7%)
• 40 Ped Rheums completed survey (71.4%)
Demographics & Retirement

Rheum median age = 50 years
Demographics & Retirement

Retirement Plans

- 58.6% have no plans to retire in the next 10 years.
- 18.4% plan on retiring in the next 10 years.
- 14.6% plan on retiring in the next 5 years.
- 8.4% are uncertain.

33% Rheums plan to retire ≤ 10 years.
Funding

- 57% - Fee for service
- 19% - Salary
- 21% - Other
- 3% - Blended (Salary and Fee for Service)

57% - Fee for service
19% - Salary
Billing

68% Bill as “Rheum”
20% Bill as Intern or Ped
Primary Practice Setting

- ½ Exclusively academic
- ½ Community-based setting (with varying affiliations to hospitals or academic centres)
Call Roster

- \( \frac{1}{2} \) Rheumatology call roster
- \( \frac{1}{3} \) No call roster

Bar chart showing the distribution of rheumatologists:
- 54% Rheumatology call roster only
- 32% Does not participate in any call roster
- 5% Rheumatology & Pediatric/Internal Medicine call roster
- 3% Only Pediatric or Internal Medicine call roster
- 2% Other (Available outside clinic hours, No fixed schedule, Provides call-backs)
Travelling Clinics

- 82% NO travelling clinics to rural/remote areas
- 85% NO Tele-Health OR E-consultation services
Response Rates by Province

Survey Response Rate as of April 21st

- Number of surveys sent
- Number of Rheums responded

Percentage of respondents per province shown above orange bar.
Summary

Key Preliminary Findings (April 21st)

• 43% Rheumatologists responded (total)
• 71% Pediatric Rheumatologists responded
• Median age = 50 years
• ½ Academic, ½ Community
• ⅓ Expect to retire within 10 years
Next Steps

• Data collection end August

• Analysis will ensure privacy and accuracy of presented results

• Final Report will be available in the Fall 2015

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR SURVEY!
Join Us!

- 1st National CRA workforce survey
- Start a conversation about the capacity of rheumatology workforce
- Meet the needs of patients today, and the future

Please join us and Stand Up and Be Counted!
Participate Today!

Participate through the link sent to you in an email by the CRA

This survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and is compatible with all web browsers and mobile devices.
Thank You

Canadian Rheumatology Association *in partnership with*

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