Arthritis in Manitoba

Arthritis is one word that describes more than 100 disease types and affects one in four Manitoba residents. Within a generation, the number of Manitoba residents living with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis - is expected to increase significantly.

The human story

Arthritis affects more than 6 million Canadians, or 1 in 5. In 2014, Statistics Canada reported that the proportion of residents aged 15 years and over with arthritis in Manitoba was higher than the national average with over 226,000 Manitobans affected, or 1 in 4.¹

Osteoarthritis in Manitoba
In 2010, 154,000 people – or 1 in 8 Manitobans – were living with Osteoarthritis (OA). Within a generation (30 years), it is anticipated that 1 in 4 or 330,000 Manitobans will be living with OA and one person in Manitoba will be diagnosed every 38 minutes.*

Rheumatoid Arthritis in Manitoba
Unlike OA, Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) can occur at any age. In 2010, 9,375 Manitobans were living with RA. The prevalence of RA is expected to rise by 63 per cent by 2030. In 2040, 17,296 – or 1 in 84 Manitobans – will be living with RA; one person in Manitoba will be diagnosed with RA every 11 hours.

Economic Impact

Impact on the Productivity of the Manitoba Labour Force (OA)
While OA is generally perceived as a condition that affects older adults, it is estimated that OA resulted in $532 million dollars in productivity losses in Manitoba in 2010. This number is expected to rise by 58 percent by 2020 and more than double (121 per cent) by 2040. Summed over the next 30 years, OA is expected to result in $28.3 billion in productivity losses in Manitoba alone (after adjusting for inflation and interest rates).

¹ Statistics Canada: [https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/82-625-x/2015001/article/14178-eng.htm](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/82-625-x/2015001/article/14178-eng.htm)
Impact on the Productivity of the Manitoba Labour Force (RA)

On average, someone with RA will be work disabled within 10 years of getting the disease. In 2010, it is estimated that RA generated $100 million dollars in productivity losses in Manitoba. This number is expected to more than double by 2040 (105 per cent). The cumulative total productivity losses generated by RA are expected to reach $5.06 billion dollars by 2040 (after adjusting for inflation and interest rates).

Direct Health Care Costs (OA) on the Province of Manitoba

These costs are expected to rise by 59 per cent by 2020 and by 88 per cent in 2040 (in 2010 dollar terms). Over the next 30 years, the cumulative total direct health care costs associated with OA in Manitoba are expected to exceed $17.6 billion.

Direct Health Care Costs (RA) on the Province of Manitoba

It is estimated that RA drove $82.3 million dollars in direct health care costs in Manitoba in 2010. These costs are expected to rise by 25 per cent by 2040 (in 2010 dollar terms). Total cumulative direct health care costs associated with RA in Manitoba are expected to exceed $3.08 billion dollars over the next 30 years (2040).

*The statistics in this document are based on a 2011 report commissioned by the Alliance for the Canadian Arthritis Program and conducted by RiskAnalytica using a life and economic simulation framework (Life at Risk®) to generate a base model of the health and economics of OA and RA. Using historical Manitoba data as inputs, the base model estimated the health and economic impacts of OA and RA over the next 30 years.