

ACE National Survey on Arthritis Medications Reimbursement for People with Arthritis



ACE Arthritis Consumer Experts

Find more Survey information here:

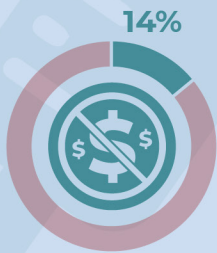
<https://bit.ly/MedicationsReimbursementReportJHIEN>

Who took the Survey?

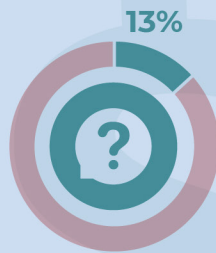
- 319 respondents (249 EN, 70 FR)
- 8 in 10 were women
- RA – 50%, OA – 14%, Lupus – 9%, PsA – 6%, AS – 9%
- Disease duration
 - 45% > 10 years
 - 14% 6 to 10 years
 - 41% < 5 years
- 39% on private drug plan
- 27% on public drug plan
- 19% on both public and private
- 12% pay for medications out of pocket
- 3% someone else pays for medications out of pocket



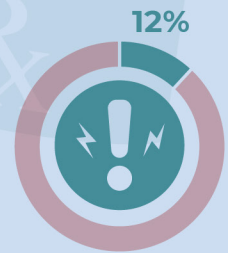
Respondents who reported challenges with reimbursement access



14%
of all respondents reported their **public or private drug plan declined to reimburse the cost of the arthritis medication** that rheumatologist said they needed



13%
of respondents **did not know who to talk to** about reimbursement for their medications



12%
of respondents found the entire reimbursement process difficult

Respondents who identified as black, Indigenous or a person of colour were



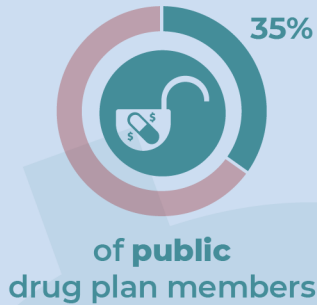
3 times more likely
to report the forms they needed to fill out for reimbursement were **confusing**



4 times more likely
to report there were **too many forms to fill out**

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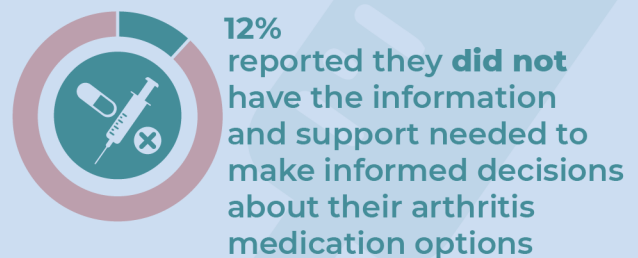
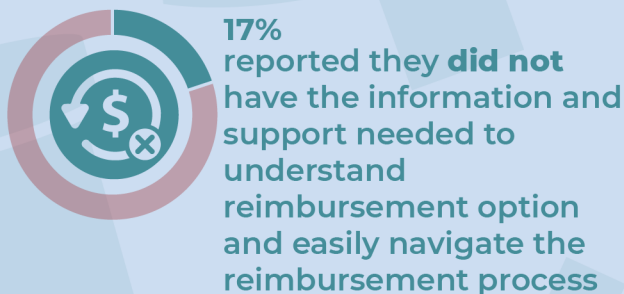
Significant number of respondents reported their drug plan coverage is inadequate



Inadequate reimbursement coverage created financial burden and disrupted treatment for Survey respondents



Many respondents unable to understand the reimbursement process or make informed treatment decisions



Key Conclusions

Reimbursement coverage accessibility and affordability for prescribed arthritis medications are causing hardship and forcing a significant percentage of respondents to make difficult choices to obtain and stay on their life-changing medications.