



**Arthritis Alliance of Canada**  
**Alliance de l'arthrite du Canada**

# What is the Arthritis Alliance of Canada?

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- The Arthritis Alliance of Canada was formed in 2002 with a commitment to **improve the lives of Canadians with arthritis.**
- With **more than 30 member organizations**, the Alliance brings together:
  - Arthritis health care professionals
  - Researchers
  - Funding agencies
  - Governments
  - Voluntary sector agencies
  - Industry
  - Arthritis consumer organizations
- Alliance provides a central focus for **national arthritis-related initiatives**

# Stakeholder Collaboration

## Everyone has a role to play...

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### Member Organizations

- Arthritis & Autoimmunity Research Centre
- Alberta Bone & Joint Health Institute
- Arthritis Community Research & Evaluation Unit
- Arthritis Consumer Experts
- Arthritis Health Professions Association
- Arthritis Patient Advisory Board
- Arthritis Research Canada
- Arthritis Research Foundation
- The Arthritis Society
- Bone and Joint Canada
- Canadian Arthritis Patient Alliance
- Canadian Academy of Sports & Exercise Medicine
- Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
- Canadian Chiropractic Association
- Canadian Obesity Network
- Canadian Orthopaedic Association
- Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation
- Canadian Physiotherapy Association
- Canadian Rheumatology Association

### Member Organizations

- Canadian Spondylitis Association
- The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
- Cochrane Collaboration
- Institute for Work and Health
- McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health
- Patient Partners
- Western's Bone & Joint Institute

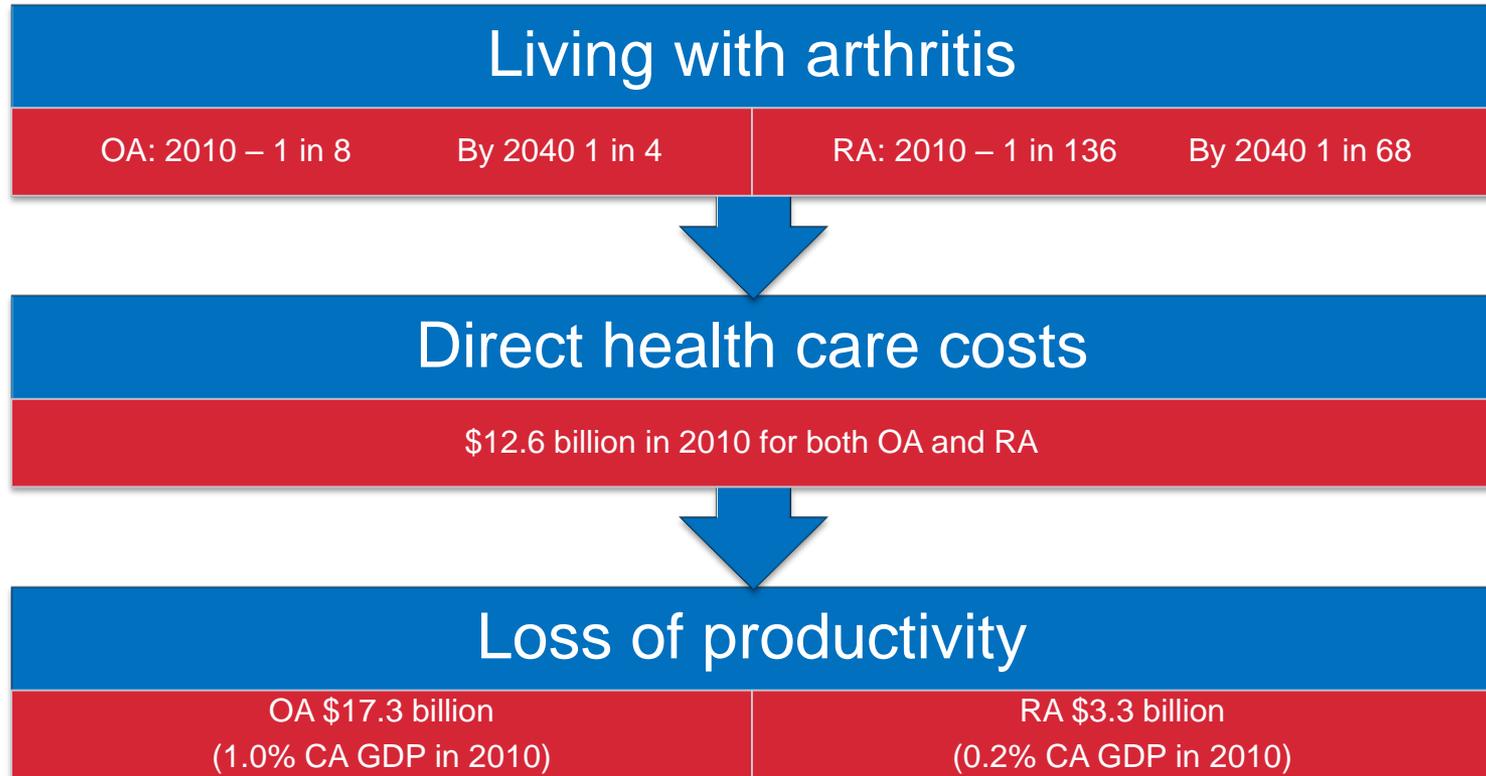
### Government Affiliates

- CIHRs Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis
- Public Health Agency of Canada

### Member Companies

- AbbVie
- Amgen Canada Inc.
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada
- Celgene Inc.
- Janssen Inc.
- Pfizer Canada Inc.

# Current Burden of Arthritis in Canada



**CA = Canada**  
**GDP = Gross Domestic Product**

# Homecare and Arthritis

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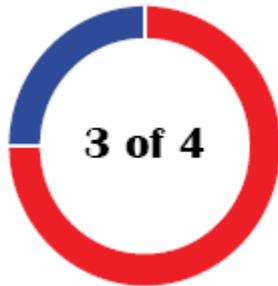
Increasingly Canadians rely on health care delivered in the home and community, rather than in a hospital or other health care facilities, such as nursing homes. Often, the supports and services required for independent living, like housecleaning, physical or exercise therapy, assistance with bathing and meal preparation, are not covered by provincial health insurance.

Currently, most people living with arthritis pay for the services that allow them to live at home out of their own pocket. This must change.

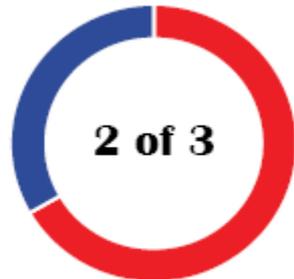


# What do Canadians think?

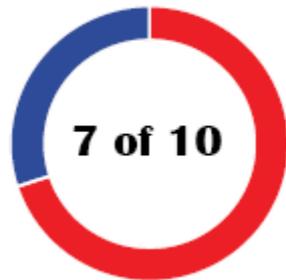
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Canadians believe “covering the cost of physical care, therapy and supports in the home for people with a chronic illness that limits their mobility will lead to improved health outcomes and less spending on doctors and hospitals”.



Canadians support a new national homecare program that covers both services that are considered medically necessary, as well as physical care, supports, and therapies that help people live independently



Canadians believe “people living with a chronic illnesses that limits their mobility should not have to pay out of pocket for the supports and therapy they need to live independently.”

# Arthritis in the Workforce

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According to Statistics Canada, **3.8 million** Canadians aged 15 years or older reported a difficulty or impairment due to a long-term condition or health problem that limited their daily activities, including their ability to work

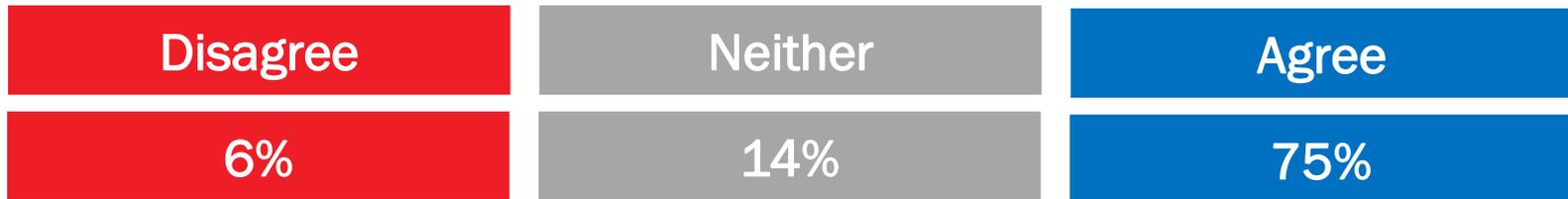


Governments and employers both have a vested interest in facilitating the full participation of employees with an illness that limits their mobility.

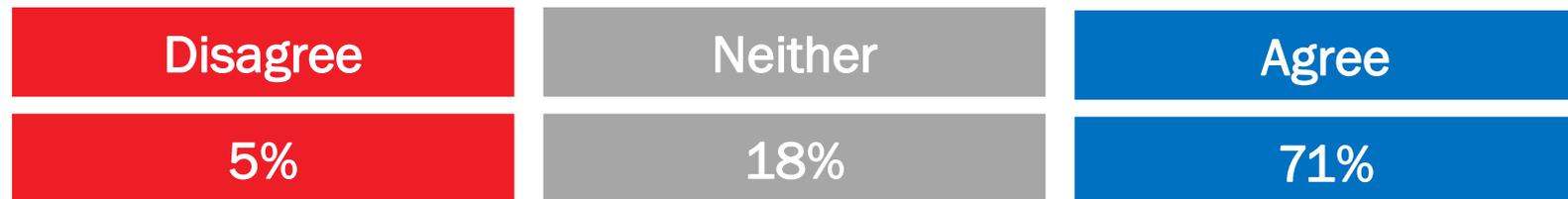
# What do Canadians Think?

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“I think employers need to make much more of an effort to ensure that workers with a chronic illness that limits their mobility can continue to be productive and contribute to the Canadian economy.”



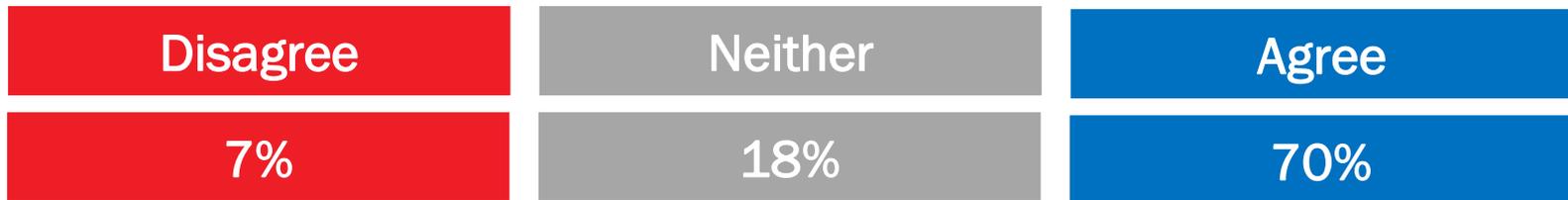
“The economy would be stronger if people with a chronic illness that limits their mobility had the support they need to work to their full potential.”



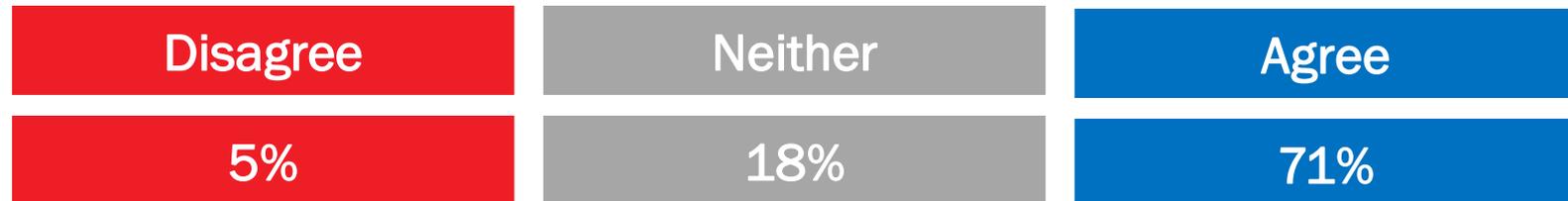
# What do Canadians Think?

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“Given Canada’s aging population, it’s very important that all employers offer different, more flexible work arrangements to accommodate employees with a chronic illness that limits their mobility.”



“I would want to continue to work even if I develop a chronic illness that limits my mobility.”



# Our Community Calls on Government

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The Arthritis Alliance of Canada is calling on governments:

1. To ensure that **homecare services** are considered medically necessary, as well as physical care and supports that help people to live independently are included in government-funded homecare programs.
2. To ensure that **employers** do more to ensure that people with a chronic illness, like arthritis, that limits their mobility can continue to be productive and contribute to the Canadian economy.



# AAC Publications

## Reducing the impact in Canada

Standards for Arthritis Prevention and Care



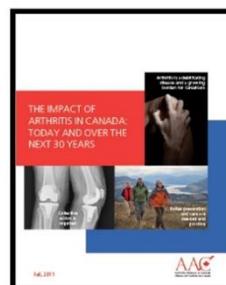
2005

Arthritis Funding Landscape Review



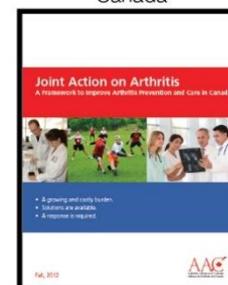
2011

The Impact of Arthritis in Canada: Today and Over the Next 30 Years



2011

Joint Action: A Framework for Arthritis Prevention and Care in Canada



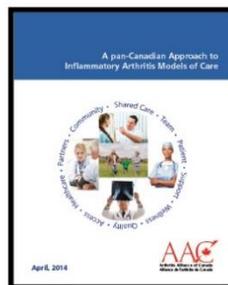
2012

Master Worksheet for Developing and Evaluating Models of Care



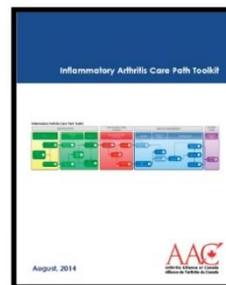
2012

Pan-Canadian Approach to Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care



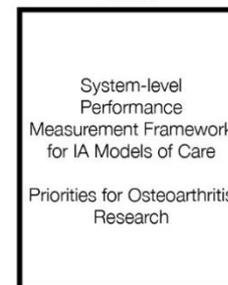
2014

Inflammatory Arthritis Models of Care Toolkit



2014

Manuscripts Coming Soon



2016

# Thank you!

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If you have any questions or would like to follow-up on any topics, please contact:

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Visit our website [www.arthritisalliance.ca](http://www.arthritisalliance.ca)



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