

ACR: High demand for CVD-preventive meds in IJD

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(HealthDay)—For patients with inflammatory joint diseases (IJD),

cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention medication is often indicated, but less often initiated, according to a study presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Rheumatology, held from Nov. 12 to 16 in Washington, D.C.

Eirik Ikdahl, M.D., from Diakonhjemmet Hospital in Oslo, Norway, and colleagues collected data on CVD risk factors for patients in a large IJD cohort. They estimated the 10-year risk of a fatal CVD event using the Systematic Coronary Risk Evaluation tool.

The researchers found that 53.2 percent of the 2,647 patients had indication for antihypertensives, and the proportion was significantly higher in RA and psoriatic arthritis (57.0 and 57.2 percent, respectively). Fifty-nine percent of those for whom antihypertensives were indicated received treatment, and half of those receiving treatment obtained blood pressure goal. Overall, 24.1 percent had indication for lipid-lowering therapies (LLT), which was comparable for most entities, except for ankylosing spondylitis (14.4 percent; P treatment rates were higher among those with very-high versus high CVD risk (P

"There is a huge, unmet need for CVD-preventive measures in [patients](#) with [inflammatory joint disease](#) who are at high risk for CVD," a coauthor said in a statement.

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