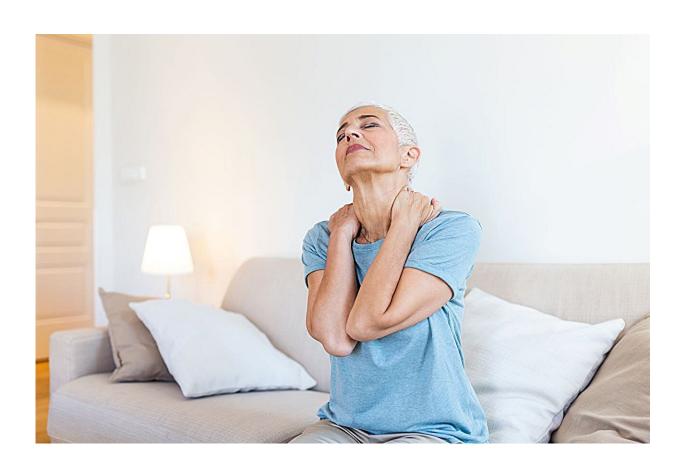


Depression, anxiety, fibromyalgia common with rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis

July 24 2024, by Lori Solomon



Approximately four in 10 patients with osteoarthritis (OA) or rheumatoid arthritis (RA) have anxiety, depression, or fibromyalgia, according to a study <u>published</u> online July 16 in *ACR Open*



Rheumatology.

Juan Schmukler, M.D., from the Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, and colleagues analyzed the prevalence of anxiety, depression, and <u>fibromyalgia</u> in 361 patients with OA versus 488 patients with RA seen in routine care.

The researchers found that 40.4% of patients with OA and 36.3% of 488 patients with RA screened positive for anxiety, depression, or fibromyalgia. Eight and 7% of patients with OA and RA, respectively, screened positive for all three. Poorer patient status (as measured by the Routine Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 [RAPID3]) overall, as well as each component, were significantly higher in patients with any positive screen result in both diagnoses (odds ratios of 2.6 to 35.8).

"Screening for anxiety, depression, and/or fibromyalgia can be incorporated feasibly into routine clinical care using a single MDHAQ [Multidimensional Health Assessment Questionnaire] to better inform health professionals concerning patient status, prognosis, and response to treatments," the authors write.

One author disclosed ties to the pharmaceutical industry; one author holds a copyright and trademark on MDHAQ and RAPID3.

More information: Juan Schmukler et al, 36-40% of Routine Care Patients With Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid Arthritis Screen Positive for Anxiety, Depression, and/or Fibromyalgia on a Single MDHAQ, *ACR Open Rheumatology* (2024). DOI: 10.1002/acr2.11711

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