



## Discussion Guide

Visiting a rheumatologist can be a little scary, especially if you haven't seen one before. These questions can serve as a starting point for a conversation at your visit. Don't be afraid to ask anything that's on your mind. Your doctor wants to provide you with the best care possible, and it will give you the chance to put your mind at ease.

- How do you diagnose RA?
- How will RA affect my body?
- What will happen to my joints over time?
- Will RA cause me to become disabled?
- How is RA treated?
- Do you have any advice for me on how to manage my RA?
- What treatment do you think will work best for me? Why?
- How long will it take for my treatment to start working?
- Are there any laboratory tests you'll need me to take?
- How will I know if a treatment isn't working?
- How often should I make an appointment to see you?
- What are the potential side effects of the medications I may choose to take?
- Is there anything I should avoid while taking an RA medication?
- Will I need to tell other doctors that I'm taking a medication that you've prescribed?

**Add your own questions here:**

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