

**Title:**

**Optimal care of rheumatoid arthritis and spondyloarthropathies: a road going through enhanced collaboration and communication for Canadian Rheumatologists**

**Conference:**

**Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA) and Arthritis Health Professions Association (AHPA) Annual Scientific Meeting**

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**Objectives:**

To identify the clinical practice gaps and educational needs of Canadian healthcare providers (HCPs) who care for patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and spondyloarthropathies (SpA), in order to mitigate risk of bias in the development of evidence-based educational interventions.

**Key Points:**

This needs assessment highlighted gaps that will allow for the development of evidence-based educational interventions to help improve patient outcomes. These could include interprofessional educational programs aiming to improve 1) providers' knowledge of biologic safety and use in special populations, 2) communication with patients on treatment decisions, psychosocial issues, and work impacts, as well as 3) collaboration and the referral process with primary care.