

Introduction

Arthritis Australia is seeking stakeholder and community feedback on the draft National Strategic Action Plan for Arthritis.

The purpose of the Action Plan is to provide guidance on key priorities and actions to improve arthritis prevention and care in Australia. Arthritis Australia has led the development of the Action Plan on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Health.

Read the [Consultation Draft – National Strategic Action Plan for Arthritis](#)

The draft Action Plan has been developed with the input of a multidisciplinary Steering Committee comprising representatives of major stakeholder groups with an interest in arthritis prevention, management and care, including consumers, health professionals, researchers, policy makers and service providers. Major contributions were also provided by the project team developing the National Osteoarthritis Strategy (2018), which has informed many of the recommendations of the Plan, and participants in the Arthritis Roundtable Workshop held in December 2017. In addition, we thank the National Arthritis Consumer Reference Group and respondents to our recent consumer survey for sharing their experience of living with arthritis and their ideas for improving arthritis care and support.

Survey

Please provide your views on the draft National Strategic Action Plan for Arthritis by completing this survey. The survey should take about 15-20 minutes to complete.

Please note that you will need to complete the survey in one sitting as your responses cannot be saved until submitted.

The survey will close on Friday 7 December 2018.

If you have any queries, please email: policy@arthritisaustralia.com.au

Please click the button below to begin the survey.

Section 1 - Demographics

1. Are you providing your response as: (pick all that apply)

☐ Person with arthritis

☐ Policy maker

☐ Family member or carer for someone with arthritis

☐ Researcher/academic

☐ Health professional

Other (please specify)

2. Are you providing your response on behalf of an organisation?

☐ No

☐ Yes (if so, please provide your name and position, as well as the name of the organisation)

3. If you are a health professional, please specify which health profession you belong to

☐ Allied health professional

☐ Other physician/specialist

☐ General Practitioner

☐ Specialist nurse

☐ Nurse

☐ Surgeon

☐ Pharmacist

☐ I am not a health professional.

☐ Rheumatologist

Other (please specify)

4. In which of the following conditions do you have an interest? (tick all that apply)

☐ Osteoarthritis

☐ Psoriatic arthritis

☐ Rheumatoid arthritis

☐ Juvenile idiopathic arthritis

☐ Gout

☐ Chronic pain

☐ Ankylosing Spondylitis

Other (please specify)

5. Do you identify as

- ☐ an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person
- ☐ a person from a culturally and linguistically diverse background

6. Where are you based?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="radio"/> Tasmania |
| <input type="radio"/> New South Wales | <input type="radio"/> Victoria |
| <input type="radio"/> Northern Territory | <input type="radio"/> Western Australia |
| <input type="radio"/> Queensland | <input type="radio"/> National (if responding on behalf of an organisation) |
| <input type="radio"/> South Australia | |

Other (please specify)

7. In what area do you live?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Major metropolitan centre | <input type="radio"/> Small rural centre |
| <input type="radio"/> Regional centre | <input type="radio"/> Other rural |
| <input type="radio"/> Large rural centre | <input type="radio"/> Remote |

Section 2: Feedback on the DRAFT National Strategic Action Plan for Arthritis**Introductory information**

Questions 8-10 refer to the introductory information included in the Action Plan in the sections titled 'About this Action Plan', 'What is arthritis', 'The challenge of arthritis' and 'Overview' (pages 4-11)

8. Does the introductory material for the Action Plan provide adequate context and background for why action is required?

☐ Yes

☐ No - If not, please provide comments on how this section could be improved (max 300 words).

9. Do you agree with the vision and the three priority areas for the Action Plan?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If not, please provide comments on what you think should be changed and why (max 300 words).

10. Do you agree, in general terms, that the nine objectives and action areas proposed are appropriate?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If not, please provide comments on what you think should be changed and why (max 300 words).

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Priority 1 - Arthritis awareness, prevention and education

Questions 11-14 relate to the objectives and actions proposed for Priority 1 - Arthritis awareness, prevention and education (pages 12-15)

11. Does this section adequately address the key objectives and actions required for this priority?

☐ Yes

☐ No - If not, please explain what should be changed and why (max 300 words).

12. Which of the proposed objectives do you consider to be the most important to address for this priority? (scale of 1-5 with 1 most important and 5 least important)

	1	2	3	4	5
1.1 Increase community awareness and understanding of arthritis, its risk factors and opportunities for prevention and improved management.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.2 Reduce the risk of developing arthritis across the life course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.3 Empower people with arthritis with information, education and support to effectively self-manage their condition.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. Please rate the proposed actions for this priority in terms of importance for implementation over the next 2-3 years (1 most important, 5 least important)

	1	2	3	4	5
1.1.1 Develop, deliver and promote a range of arthritis education and awareness campaigns tailored to different target audiences, to address identified community knowledge gaps.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.1.2 Integrate arthritis into all health care policies, programs and reform initiatives across all levels of government in Australia.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.2.1 Work with government and other stakeholders to support the development and implementation of the national obesity strategy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.2.2 Raise awareness of the link between obesity, physical inactivity, smoking and arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.2.3 Develop and implement a national sports injury prevention program to reduce the incidence of sports injuries associated with increased arthritis risk.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.3.1 Integrate the provision of patient information, education and support into health service delivery for people with arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.3.2 Expand existing and develop and trial new information, education and support programs to assist people with arthritis to proactively manage their condition.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.3.3 Develop and promote new consumer information resources to address identified resource gaps and unmet needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1.3.4 Develop and disseminate consumer-focused guides or standards of care for people with arthritis so they know what care they should receive.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. Do you have any comments on the proposed implementation approaches outlined for this priority? (max 300 words)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please explain your choice.

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Priority 2. High-value, person-centred clinical management, care and support

Questions 15-18 relate to the objectives and actions proposed for Priority 2. High-value, person-centred clinical management, care and support (pages 16-24)

15. Does this section adequately address the key objectives and actions required for this priority?

☐ Yes

☐ No - if not, please explain what should be changed and why (max 300 words).

16. Which of the proposed objectives do you consider to be the most important to address for this priority? (scale of 1-5 with 1 most important and 5 least important)

	1	2	3	4	5
2.1 Drive systems level improvements to support the delivery of high value care for people with all types of arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2 Improve affordable and timely access to appropriate health care and services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3 Support health professionals with information, education and tools to deliver high-value arthritis care.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.4 Address the needs of priority populations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. Please rate the proposed actions for this priority in terms of importance for implementation over the next 2-3 years (scale of 1-5 with 1 most important and 5 least important)

	1	2	3	4	5
2.1.1 Establish and fund a National Musculoskeletal Network to engage with and align efforts across multiple stakeholders, sectors and levels of the health system to drive improvements and monitor performance in arthritis prevention and management.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.2 Support the development, implementation and funding of evidence-based musculoskeletal models of care across Australia to guide the delivery of appropriate health services for people with arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.3 Trial and evaluate innovative models of care to assess their suitability for delivering better care for people with arthritis and to improve care coordination.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.4 Provide dedicated funding to Primary Health Networks (PHNs) to develop, deliver and commission programs to address the needs of people with arthritis in their area.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2.1 Drive early diagnosis and intervention for children and adults with inflammatory arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2.2 Improve access to affordable specialist adult and paediatric rheumatology services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2.3 Improve affordable access to interdisciplinary team care delivered by appropriately skilled nurses and allied health professionals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2.4 Increase the uptake of effective lifestyle and self-management interventions for people with arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.2.5 Improve equitable and timely access to appropriate surgical care for people with arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.1 Establish and promote guidelines and systems to assist health professionals to provide high-value clinical care for people with different types of arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.2 Develop and deliver a national information, training and education framework to upskill health professionals and other potential workforce providers to deliver appropriate management and care for people with arthritis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.3 Develop support tools and systems to assist health professionals to deliver appropriate care.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.4.1 Improve access to appropriate care for people in rural/remote and other under-served areas by expanding specialist and interdisciplinary outreach clinics, with additional support through telehealth services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.4.2 Develop information and education resources and health services that are culturally appropriate and address the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culturally and linguistically diverse groups.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.4.3 Ensure appropriate recognition of the impact of arthritis-related disability on people's lives and incomes in assessment processes for disability support services and welfare payments.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.4.4 Develop and deliver services and programs to improve arthritis and musculoskeletal pain management in older people both in the community and in residential aged care.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18. Do you have any comments on the proposed implementation approaches outlined for this priority?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please explain your choice.

Section 2: Feedback on the DRAFT National Strategic Action Plan for Arthritis

Priority 3: Quality improvement through research, evidence and data

Questions 19-22 relate to the actions areas and actions proposed for Priority 3: Quality improvement through research, evidence and data (pages 25-27)

19. Does this section adequately address the key objectives and actions required for this priority?

☐ Yes

☐ No - If not, please explain what should be changed and why (max 300 words).

20. Which of the proposed actions do you consider to be the most important to address for this priority?

	1	2	3	4	5
3.1 Provide funding from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) for a national arthritis and musculoskeletal health mission to increase strategic research and research capacity in the field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.2 Enhance data collection, linkage and analysis to drive quality improvement in arthritis prevention, management and outcomes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. Please rate the proposed actions for this priority in terms of importance for implementation over the next 2-3 years (scale of 1-5 with 1 most important and 5 least important)

	1	2	3	4	5
3.1.1 Establish and fund a virtual National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Research Institute to drive the strategic expansion of research into these conditions in Australia.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.1.2 Build the arthritis and musculoskeletal research workforce through dedicated funding for research fellowship programs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.1.3 Foster collaborative research.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.1.4 Fund high-quality research projects and infrastructure that will lead to improved prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and support the search for cures.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.2.1 Fund the development and implementation of a national data strategy to provide a clearer picture of the prevalence, prevention, management, treatment and outcomes for arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions and to support benchmarking and quality improvement.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.2.2 Expand and enhance existing arthritis registries/databases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.2.3 Embed data collection into hospital and clinical management systems to capture and analyse treatment and outcomes data to inform clinical decisions and drive quality improvement.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

22. Do you have any comments on the proposed implementation approaches outlined for this priority?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please explain your choice.

Section 3: Achieving Progress

23. Do you have any comments in relation to the proposed approach to implementing and monitoring the Plan? (max 300 words) (pages 28-29)

24. Are there any other comments relating to the Action Plan that you would like to make? (max 500 words)

Thank you for completing this survey. The final Action Plan will be made available on the Arthritis Australia website at www.arthritisaustralia.com.au by early 2019.