

## **The burden of spondyloarthritis on patients' work productivity in Portugal and a comparison with rheumatoid arthritis: cross-sectional analysis using the Portuguese national registry Reuma.pt**

In general, the impact of rheumatic diseases on paid work includes employed people missing time from work (absenteeism), reduced performance while at work (presenteeism), reduced routine working hours through changing or even losing jobs (employment status change). The impact on unpaid work usually refers to the impact of health problems on regular daily activities such as household work, shopping, and childcare.

The Work Productivity and Activity Impairment (WPAI) questionnaire is a well-known and wide-use instrument to measure impairments in both paid and unpaid work. It measures absenteeism, presenteeism as well as the impairments in unpaid activity because of a health problem during the past seven days.

Ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and Psoriatic arthritis (PsA) are chronic inflammatory arthritis which can lead to functional disability and impaired quality of life, often affecting young people, typically in their working years. Nevertheless, few data on work productivity in Portuguese patients with spondyloarthritis are available; it is therefore important to get a clear picture on how this disease impacts work productivity.

Therefore, the aim of this study is to investigate how much work productivity is affected by spondyloarthritis, to explore the impact of several covariates in work productivity, to understand corresponding societal costs and to compare these outcomes with rheumatoid arthritis. For this, we intend to apply the Portuguese version of the WPAI questionnaire in order to capture both absenteeism and presenteeism in a group of spondyloarthritis patients and in a group of rheumatoid arthritis patients.

### **Research team:**

Luís Cunha Miranda, Augusto Faustino, Helena Santos, Catarina Cortesão, Fernando Pimentel Santos