

Rheumatoid Arthritis

What is it?

Rheumatoid arthritis is an autoimmune connective tissue disease

It causes the immune system to attack the cells and tissues of your body which results in inflammation and tissue damage.

Rheumatoid arthritis tends to affect both sides of the body in a symmetric fashion. The most common areas are the fingers, wrists, knees, and ankles.

Who does it affect?

It can occur at any age. Women are more likely to be effected by men.

What are the causes?

The cause of RA is unknown. Genetics, infections, and hormones may have some role.

What are the symptoms?

Fatigue

Loss of appetite

Low grade fever

Swollen glands

Weakness

Later joint pain appears (hands, wrists, knees) with:

Morning stiffness

Joint pain on both sides of the body

Swollen joints that are often warm to touch

Tests:

Positive finding on RF (Rheumatoid Factor) test

What are traditional treatments?

NSAIDS

Methotrexate

Prednisone and other corticosteroids

Celebrex

Plaquenil

Azulfidine

Biological agents (i.e. Enbrel, Orencia, Rituxam Humira)

Surgery
Physical therapy

What are some alternative treatments?

Dietary modification

Supplementation with vitamins, herbs, and other agents

Botanical Medicine

Homeopathy

Low Dose Naltrexone

Alpha Lipoic acid (IV and oral)

Specific individualized testing and custom treatments

Please contact us to start a program for you. We can work with many insurance plans or design a cash package.