

The Impact of Arthritis in Quebec

The Human Story

Osteoarthritis in Quebec

In Quebec, approximately 1.2 million people – or 1 in 7 – are living with osteoarthritis (OA). Within a generation (30 years) it is anticipated that 2.4 million Quebecers – or 1 in 4 - will be living with OA and one person in Quebec will be diagnosed every 5.7 minutes.

Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) in Quebec

Unlike OA, rheumatoid arthritis (RA) can occur at any age. In Quebec approximately 70,000 people in Quebec are living with RA. The prevalence of RA is expected to rise by 67 per cent by 2030. In 2040, 125,077– or 1 in 68 people in Quebec – will be living with RA.

Economic Impact

Impact on the Productivity of the Quebec Labour Force (OA)

While OA is generally perceived as a condition that affects older adults, it is estimated that OA results in approximately \$3.4 billion dollars annually in productivity losses in Quebec. This number is expected to rise by 51 per cent by 2020 and 88 per cent by 2040. Summed over the next 30 years, OA is expected to result in \$165 billion in productivity losses in Quebec (after adjusting for inflation and interest rates).

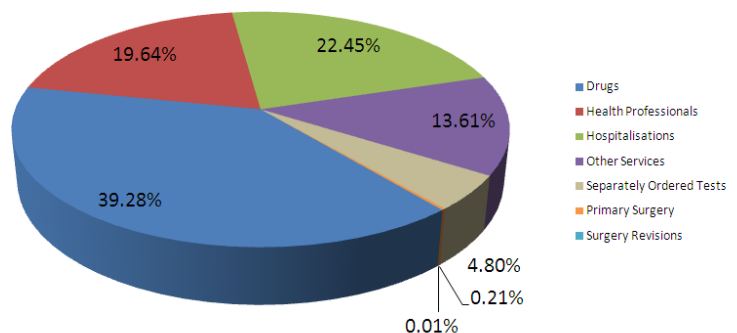
Impact on the Productivity of the Quebec Labour Force (RA)

On average, someone with RA will be work disabled within 10 years of getting the disease. It is estimated that RA generates \$636 million dollars annually in productivity losses in Quebec. This number is expected to rise by 75 per cent by the year 2040. The cumulative total productivity losses generated by RA are expected to reach \$29.6 billion dollars by 2040 (after adjusting for inflation and interest rates).

Direct Health Care Costs (OA) on the Province of Quebec

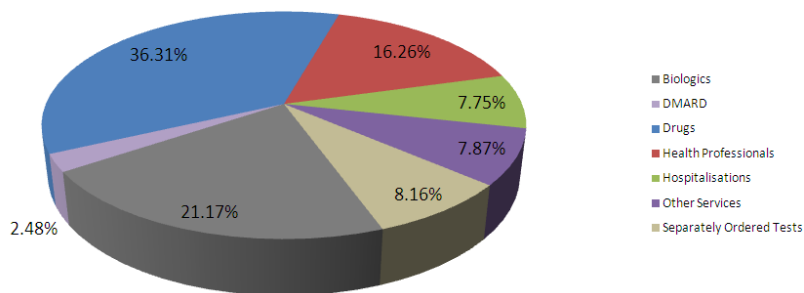
It is estimated that OA drove \$2.54 billion dollars in direct health care costs in Quebec in 2010. These costs are expected to rise by 64 per cent by 2020 and by 90 per cent in 2040 (in 2010 dollar terms). Over the next 30 years, the cumulative total direct health care costs associated with OA in Quebec are expected to exceed \$129 billion dollars.

Direct Health Costs of Osteoarthritis: 2010



Direct Health Care Costs (RA) on the Province of Quebec

Direct Health Costs of Rheumatoid Arthritis: 2010



It is estimated that RA drove \$590 million dollars in direct health care costs in Quebec in 2010. These costs are expected to rise by 26 per cent by 2040 (in 2010 dollar terms). Total cumulative direct health care costs associated with RA in Quebec are expected to exceed \$22.5 billion dollars over the next 30 years (2040).

Arthritis in Quebec and Across Canada

Fourteen per cent of Quebecers were living with OA, and another 0.9% with RA. These numbers are slightly higher than the numbers reported for the Canadian population, with national percentages of 13% and 0.8% for OA and RA respectively. Within 30 years (by 2040), it is estimated that 28% of Quebecers and 26% of Canadians will be living OA, and another 1.5% of Quebecers and 1.4% of Canadians will be living with RA.