

Balancing Burnout, Burden Reduction and Appropriateness

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completed. My choices: fax the document back to the GP or to home care, stating that the GP needs to complete the form (burden reduction for me, burden increase for GP). Or, since it is a mutual patient, and I had suggested the orthopedic referral, and I have completed the RAC form many times, and it autopopulates much of the required info from my electronic medical record (EMR), I could take care of it myself and feel I had done my good deed for the day. So, I completed the form and sent it to the proper place. But I also noticed that the patient must bring a CD^h of their knee X-ray to the appointment (burden and cost to patient). So, I closed the loop by calling the patient. Much to my surprise, she told me she already had an appointment at the RAC next week! Conclusion 1: The GP must have completed the proper referral form eventually. Very unclear why I would then be sent a blank referral form. Conclusion 2: calling our current state of affairs a healthcare “system” is laughable.

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Glossary:

- ^aANA: antinuclear antibody
- ^bRF: rheumatoid factor
- ^canti-CCP: anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide
- ^dENA: extractable nuclear antigens
- ^eMRI: magnetic resonance imaging
- ^fTSH: thyroid-stimulating hormone
- ^gPSA: prostate-specific antigen
- ^hCD: compact disc

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Attend the ORA Annual Scientific Meeting!

By Sandy Kennedy, Executive Director, Ontario Rheumatology Association

Join us on May 26-28, 2023, at the Kingbridge Conference Centre in King City for the ORA Annual Scientific Meeting. The theme of this year's meeting is **Progress + Promise: Advancing Care in Rheumatology**. The meeting will enable participants to engage in both clinical and scholarly activities with the objective of improving the quality of care in Ontario for patients with rheumatic diseases.

Dr. Janet Pope has assembled an incredible line-up of speakers once again, including international and local talent. Enjoy learning sessions with international speakers, such as Dr. Atul Deodhar, Dr. Georg Schett, Dr. Cynthia Cooper and Dr. Eduardo Mysler. Some of our local speakers include Dr. Zain Chagla, Dr. Stephanie Garner, Dr. Amanda Steiman, Dr. Rae Yeung and more!



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*Sandy Kennedy
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