

ACP supports NQF 2524 for physicians managing Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA): "Rheumatoid Arthritis: Functional Status Assessment." ACP supports this measure because therapeutic treatment goals include preservation of function and quality of life. Findings of a joint examination alone may not adequately reflect disease activity and structural damage; therefore, periodic measurements of functional status should be performed. Additionally, it is important to determine whether a decline in function is the result of inflammation, mechanical damage, or both because treatment approaches will differ accordingly. This is a physician level measure and should only be applicable to physicians who are managing and providing medical therapy for patients with RA. Most often this will apply to rheumatologists, but primary care physicians may also manage RA.

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