

Supplementary material

Appendix A: Classification of individual items of Standards of Care (SOC)

a) Allocation of SOC items to domains

SOC item: Brief description	Domain
1. Diagnosis within 6 months	1. Process/structure related SOC
2.1. Info and education about disease	2. Information related SOC
2.2. Info /education on treatment benefits/risks	2. Information related SOC
2.3. Info/education on patient's needs	2. Information related SOC
2.4. Info about relevant patient organisations and trusted sources of evidence-based information	2. Information related SOC
3. Availability of a treatment plan	1. Process/structure related SOC
4.1. Clinical status assessment prior treatment	1. Process/structure related SOC
4.2. Patients are informed about vaccination	2. Information related SOC
5. Schedule of regular assessment of disease received?	1. Process/structure related SOC
6. Patients have access to emergency contact	1. Process/structure related SOC
7. DMARD received? If not, reasons transparently provided?	1. Process/structure related SOC
8. Reappraisal within 3 months in case low disease activity not achieved	1. Process/structure related SOC
9. Patient informed on how to control pain	2. Information related SOC
10. Patient informed about options of surgery (benefit/risk)	2. Information related SOC
11. Patients have access to treatments (pharm. & non-pharm.)	1. Process/structure related SOC
12. Access to other HCPs (occupational therapist, physiotherapist etc)	1. Process/structure related SOC
13. Info on adequate physical exercise	2. Information related SOC
14. Training on aids, devices, ergonomic principles	2. Information related SOC
15. Info on healthy lifestyle	2. Information related SOC
16. Info about limited evidence of alternative therapies	2. Information related SOC

b) Results

	Level of care received ¹ (0-10)		Level of importance ¹ (0-10)		Care Gap ² (0-100)	
	Information	Process/ structure	Information	Process/ structure	Information	Process/ structure
	<i>Mean (SD)</i>					
Rheumatologists	7.4 (1.2)	8.0 (1.1)	7.9 (1.0)	8.5 (0.9)	17.8 (7.3)	14.5 (7.4)
Nurses	7.6 (0.9)	7.9 (1.1)	8.5 (0.8)	8.8 (0.8)	19.2 (7.4)	16.9 (8.8)
Patients	7.3 (1.9)	7.8 (1.8)	8.5 (1.2)	8.9 (1.2)	20.7 (15.3)	17.5 (15.2)
HCP all	7.5 (1.1)	7.9 (1.1)	8.2 (1.0)	8.6 (0.9)	18.4 (7.3)	15.5 (8.0)

²Care gap: for importance adjusted implementation gap [(10-score for care received) *score for importance], scale 0–100, respondents who selected an alternative response options (not applicable, I do not understand or no opinion) did not contribute to the scores.

¹NRS: numeric rating scale; DMARD: disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug.

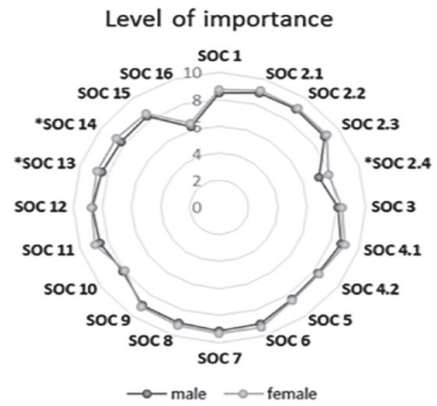
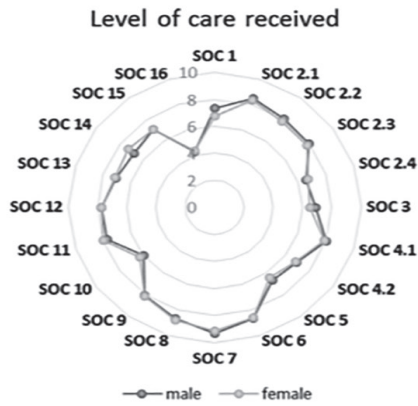
Appendix B: Patients' and health care professionals' (HCP) response characteristics on individual items of Standards of Care (SOC).

SOC items and brief SOC description	Patients						HCPs				
	1. Level of care received			2. Level of importance			1. Level of care provided		2. Level of importance		
	Patients not scoring NRS	"not applicable"	"I do not understand"	n (%) all patients	n (%) primary education	n (%) all patients	"no opinion"	HCPs not scoring NRS	"not applicable"	n (%) all HCPs	n (%) all HCPs
1. Diagnosis within 6 months of symptom onset	102 (26%)	70 (18%)	7 (2%)	4 (3%)	14 (4%)	6 (3%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)
2.1. Info and education about disease	14 (4%)	3 (1%)	1 (<1%)	1 (1%)	8 (2%)	3 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
2.2. Info/education on treatment benefits/risks	21 (5%)	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	1 (1%)	9 (2%)	3 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
2.3. Info/education on patient's needs	18 (5%)	5 (1%)	3 (1%)	1 (1%)	8 (2%)	2 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
2.4. Info about relevant patient organisations and trusted sources of evidence-based information	63 (16%)	35 (9%)	15 (4%)	7 (4%)	17 (4%)	6 (4%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
3. Availability of a treatment plan	51 (13%)	32 (8%)	7 (2%)	2 (1%)	12 (3%)	4 (1%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
4.1. Clinical status assessment prior treatment	33 (8%)	15 (4%)	9 (2%)	3 (2%)	14 (4%)	6 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
4.2. Patients are informed about vaccination	125 (32%)	83 (22%)	31 (8%)	16 (9%)	56 (15%)	22 (9%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
5. Schedule of regular assessment of disease received?	53 (14%)	30 (8%)	9 (2%)	5 (3%)	15 (4%)	6 (3%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
6. Patients have access to emergency contact	21 (5%)	6 (2%)	5 (1%)	3 (2%)	9 (2%)	4 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
7. Adequate DMARD received?	39 (10%)	13 (3%)	17 (4%)	11 (6%)	27 (7%)	16 (6%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)
8. Regular re-appraisal of treatment targets in case of treatment failure	39 (10%)	7 (2%)	20 (5%)	13 (8%)	9 (2%)	2 (8%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
9. Patient informed on how to control pain	25 (6%)	7 (2%)	8 (2%)	5 (3%)	6 (2%)	2 (3%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)
10. Patient informed about options of surgery (benefit/risk)	239 (61%)	113 (29%)	114 (30%)	72 (43%)	86 (22%)	40 (43%)	8 (9%)	8 (9%)	8 (9%)	8 (9%)	7 (9%)
11. Patients have access to treatments (pharm. & non-pharm)	125 (32%)	67 (17%)	44 (11%)	21 (12%)	70 (18%)	44 (12%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	3 (3%)
12. Access to other HCPs (occupational therapist, physiotherapist etc.)	61 (16%)	29 (8%)	20 (5%)	14 (8%)	21 (5%)	11 (8%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	4 (3%)
13. Info on adequate physical exercise	70 (18%)	37 (10%)	22 (6%)	7 (4%)	15 (4%)	7 (4%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	2 (3%)
14. Training on aids, devices, ergonomic principles	152 (39%)	72 (19%)	71 (18%)	42 (24%)	48 (12%)	25 (24%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	3 (2%)
15. Info on healthy lifestyle	60 (15%)	29 (8%)	20 (5%)	10 (6%)	18 (5%)	10 (6%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	4 (3%)
16. Info about limited evidence of alternative therapies	186 (48%)	127 (33%)	45 (12%)	31 (18%)	56 (15%)	32 (18%)	5 (5%)	5 (5%)	5 (5%)	5 (5%)	5 (5%)

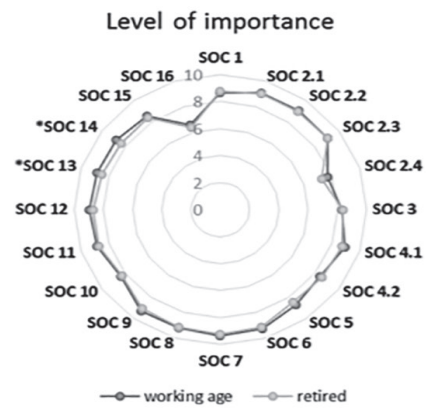
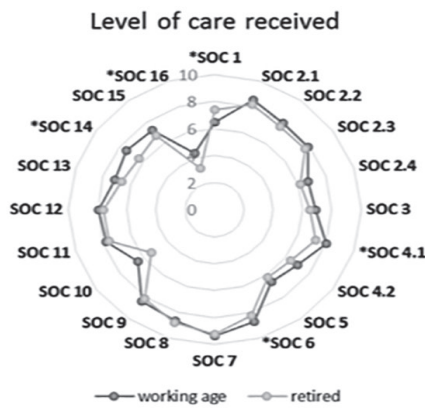
ni: number of patients; NRS: numeric rating scale; DMARD: disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug.

Appendix C: Assessment of Standards of Care (SOCs) in RA dependent on patients' socio-demographic background or disease characteristics.

Gender



Age



Disease Duration

