Vanderbilt University School of Medicine Division of Continuing Medical Education

Clinical and Experimental RHEUMATOLOGY

Sponsorship Statement

Jointly sponsored by the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and Health Report Services.

Target Audience

Rheumatologists in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Purpose and Learning Objectives

In rheumatoid arthritis as in other disease states, quantitative evaluation and documentation of disease status of patients provides critical data for clinical decision-making. Busy clinicians have found it difficult to collect the quantitative data in a format that is convenient to use in their practices. This issue of *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology* has been designed to provide an overview of the theory and practice of quantitative patient assessment in rheumatic diseases.

If you read all of the articles in this issue, you should be able to describe and discuss:

- 1. Approaches to quantitative clinical assessment of patients with rheumatic diseases.
- 2. Patient self-report questionnaires for clinical research and clinical care.
- 3. Indices for quantitative clinical assessment of specific rheumatic diseases.
- 4. Databases in standard clinical care of patients with rheumatoid arthritis in different countries.

CME Accreditation Statement

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CME Credit

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 20 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each article has been certified for 0.5 category 1 credit. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

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