



RhAPP

RHEUMATOLOGY ADVANCED
PRACTICE PROVIDERS

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RHEUMATOLOGY ADVANCED
PRACTICE PROVIDERS

The Influence of Inflammation on Comorbidities

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Disclaimer

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Faculty Disclosure

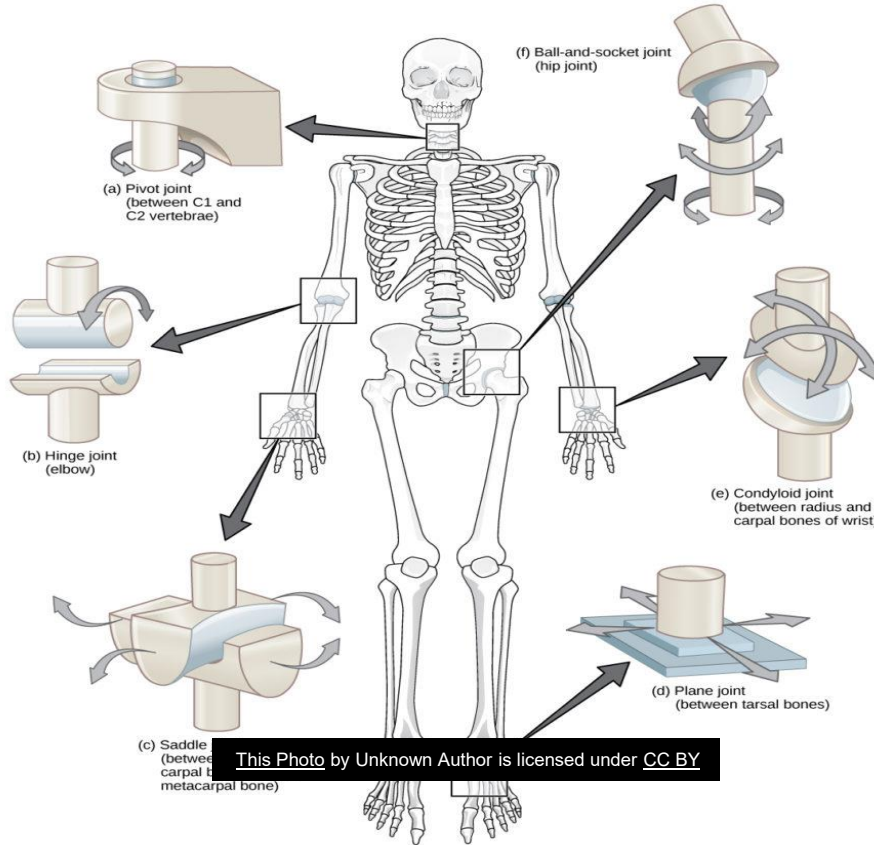
Kyle George, PA

- There are no relationships to disclose.

Jeanette Hart, PA-C

- Speaker: Abbvie, AstraZeneca, Sanofi Genzyme,

It's Not Just The Joints



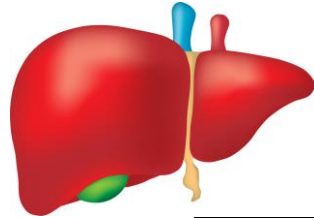
On average, RA patients have 1.6 comorbidities

Systemic Manifestations of chronic inflammation

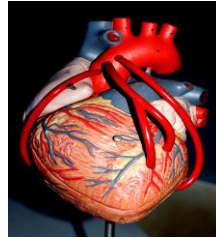
- Neuroendocrine/Neurophysiological



- Metabolic



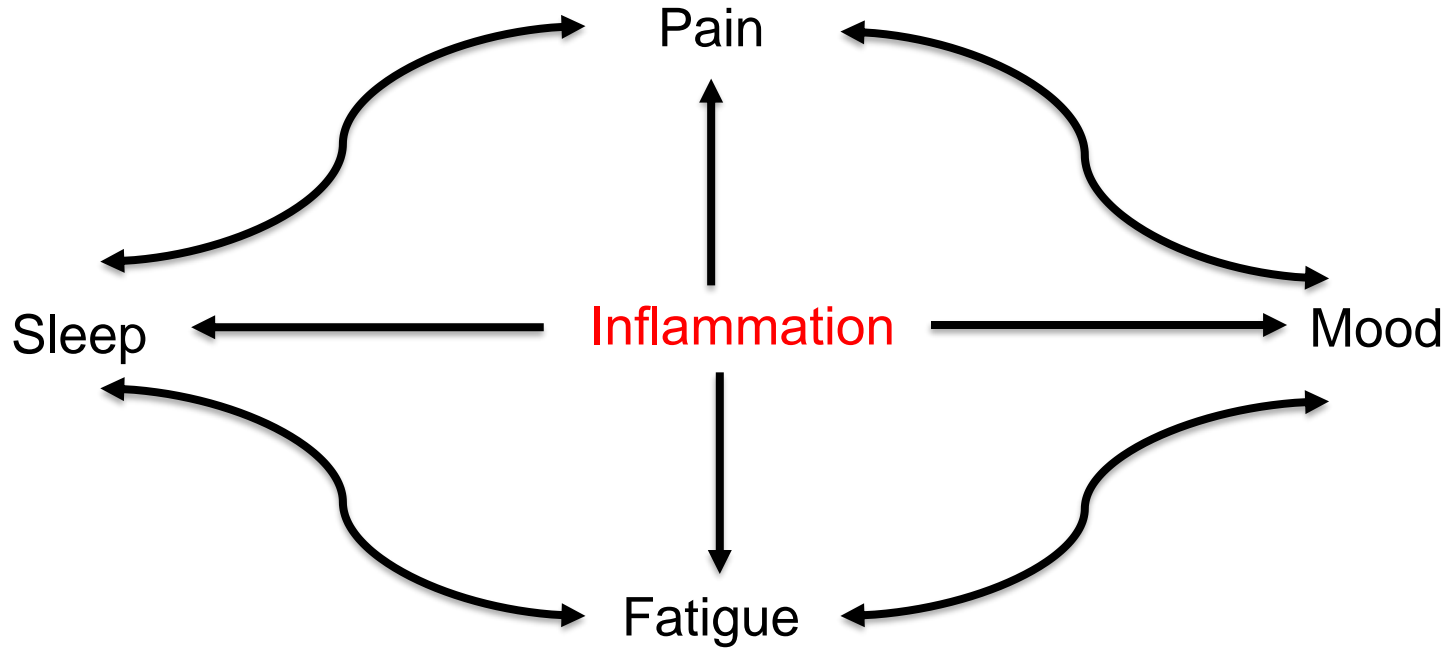
- Cardiovascular



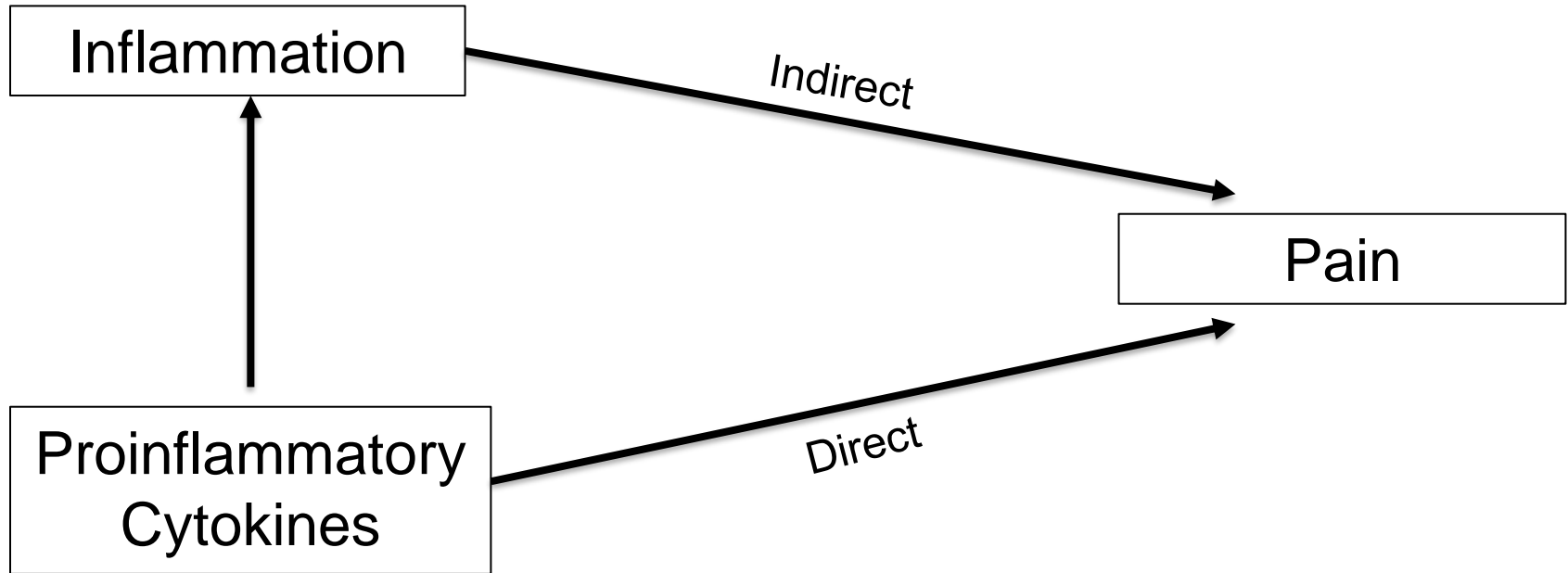
- Bone/Bone Marrow



Neuroendocrine



Neuroendocrine: Pain



Neuroendocrine: Fatigue

- Listen and Discuss = Control



- Connected to mood sleep and pain



- Do not ignore comorbidities as cause

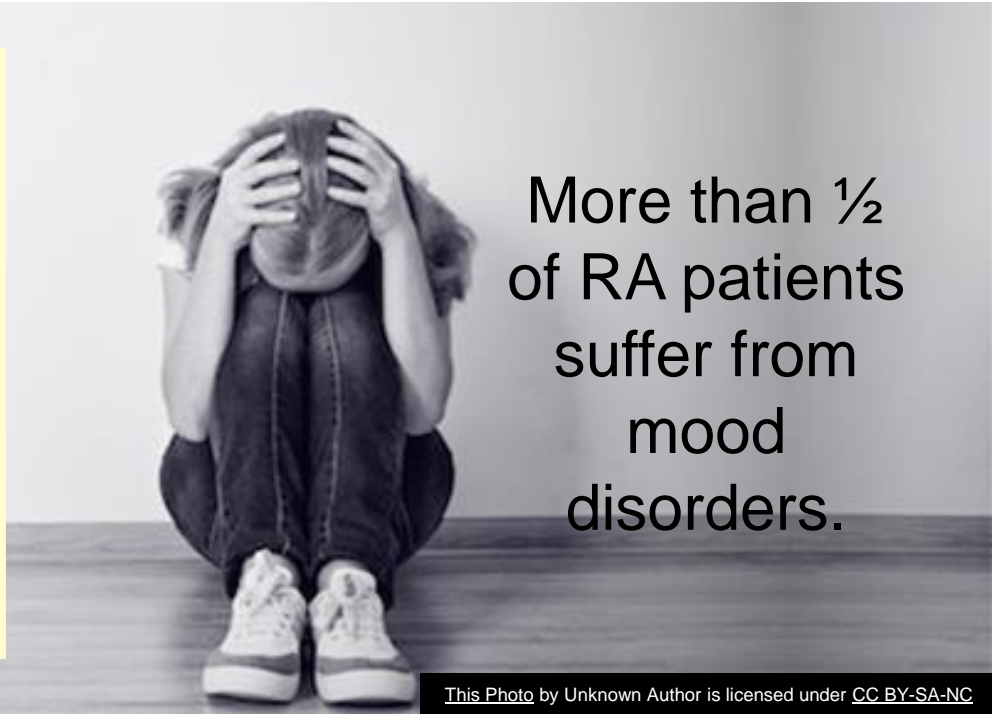
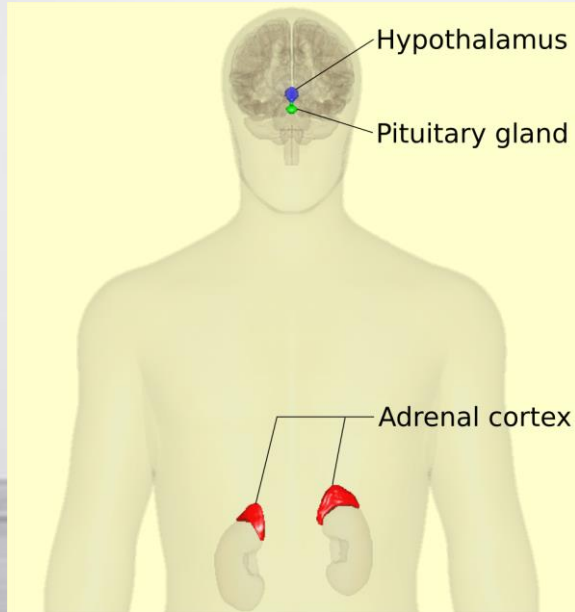


Neuroendocrine: Sleep

Sleep loss is
linked to
increased pain
over interrupted
sleep



Neuroendocrine: Mood

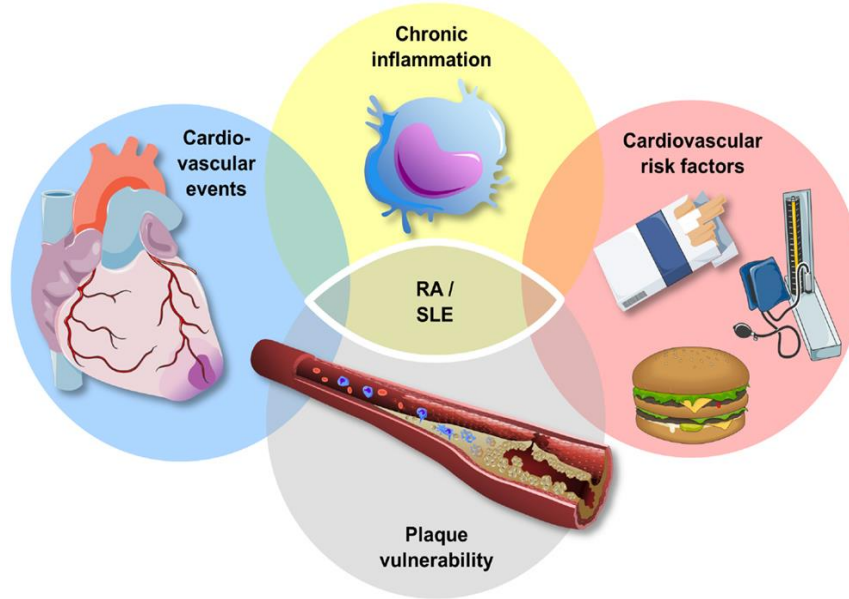


More than $\frac{1}{2}$
of RA patients
suffer from
mood
disorders.

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Cardiovascular

Systemic inflammation is an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease.



Lipid Oxidation

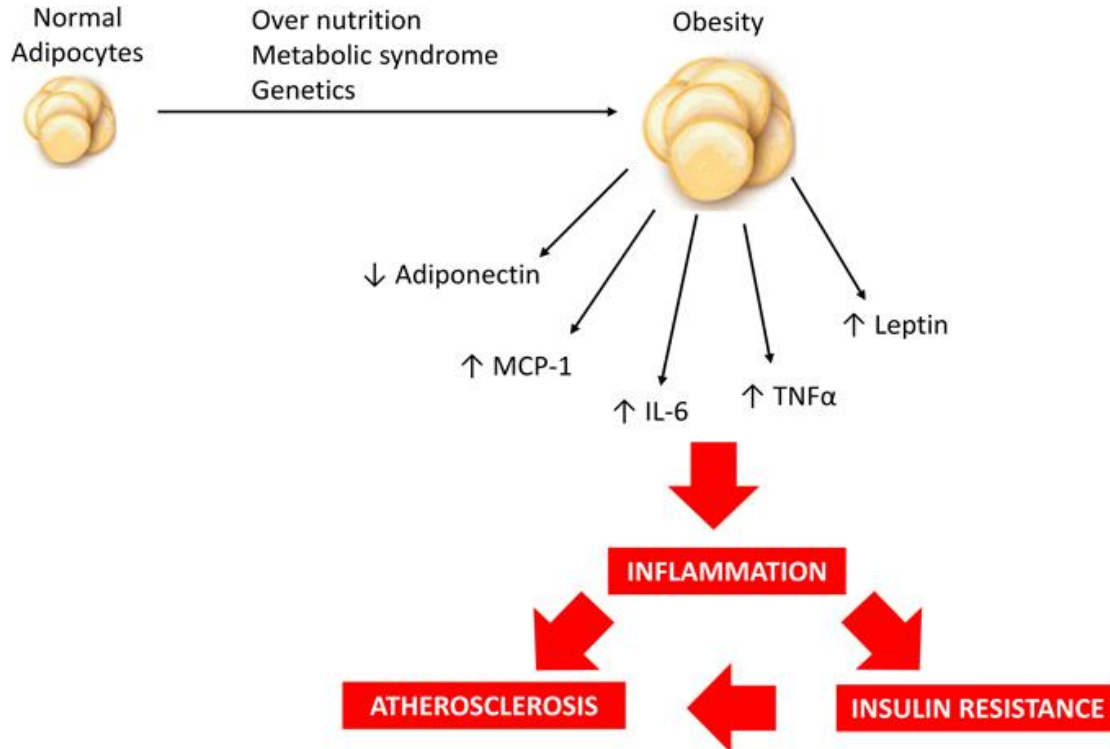
- ✓ Low serum lipid levels
- ✓ Oxidation of LDL
- ✓ Decreased protective capacity of HDL

- ✓ Decreased muscle
- ✓ Decrease subq fat
- ✓ Decreased BMI

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Metabolic

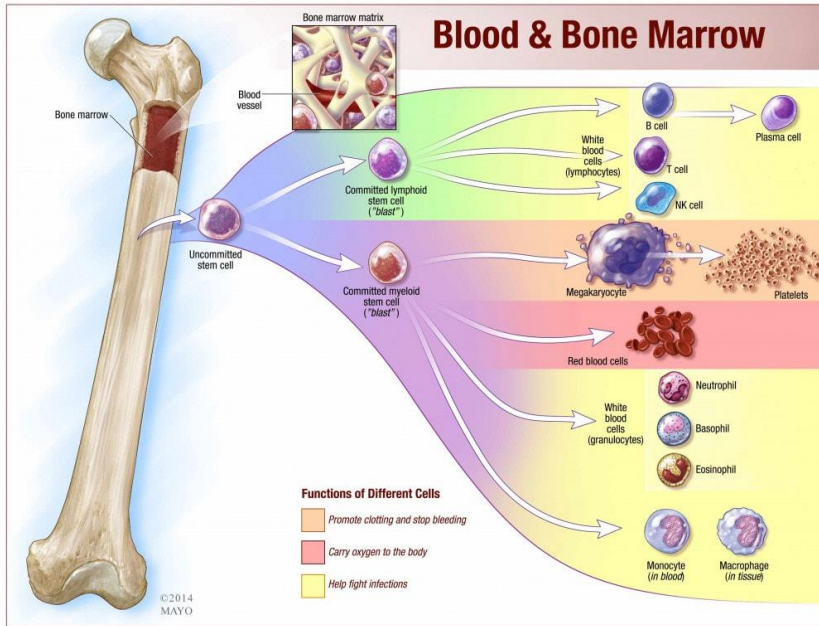
Metabolic Syndrome



RA Cachexia

- Loss of skeletal muscle mass
- Increase in fat mass

Bone/ Bone Marrow



- Evaluate for anemia and its relation to fatigue, medications and disease
- Don't forget about osteoporosis

Review

Neuroendocrine/Neurophysiological

- Pain, Sleep disorders and fatigue

Metabolic

- Dyslipidemia, metabolic syndrome or even DM2

Cardiovascular

- Endothelial dysfunction, hypercoagulability, arthrocentesis, CVD

Bone/Bone Marrow

- Anemia, bone resorption and osteoporosis

Infection as a comorbidity

- Choose a CDMARD with a shorter half life for patients with a history of serious infection.
- Hepatitis
 - “B” with natural immunity.
 - Monitor viral load for reactivation q 6-12 months
 - Active
 - Should be managed with Hepatologist or infectious disease
 - “C” with normal hepatic function can be managed normally but in conjunction with specialist
 - Avoid hepatotoxic drug initially

Infection as a comorbidity

- Tuberculosis
 - At least one month of TB therapy prior to initiating DMARD if treating latent TB
- Cocci
 - Use fluconazole if there is an active infection (AmB if serious) • Asymptomatic patients should be closely monitored
 - Serologic screening at initiation
 - Annual serologic screening has not been evaluated
 - *Resume Biologic or cDMARD* once the infection has improved
 - *Treat OCS the same as BRMs*
- Both: choose cDMARDs over biologics. Non-TNF >TNF.

Chronic inflammation and Malignancy

Malignancy

- Conventional DMARDs over Biologics and JAK inhibitors.
 - Non-Melanoma skin cancer: No contraindication to therapy escalation if needed but warrants routine skin cancer surveillance
 - Melanoma skin cancer: Abatacept avoided
 - Lymphoproliferative disorder – cDMARD, Rituximab
 - Solid Organ Malignancy – cDMARD > Rituximab > Other biologics. >5 years treated then treatment is no different than those without malignancy (excluding melanoma)*

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