

Pathophysiology

- An autoimmune, systemic, inflammatory disorder causing inflammation of the synovial lining in the joints.
- The inflammatory process starts in the joints, leading to pannus, and eventually ankylosis.

Signs and Symptoms

- Decreased ROM
- Pain
- Bilateral joints affected
- Warmth
- Edema
- Stiff in the morning, takes time to loosen up
- Pain with use
- Anemia

Topic/Disorder

MUSCULOSKELETAL RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Nursing Assessment

- Thorough pain assessment
- Assess function of joints
- X-ray or MRI
- Lab values:
 - CBC
 - ESR
 - CRP

Nursing Interventions

- Encourage lifestyle changes
 - Low impact activity
 - ROM exercises
- Pain management
- PT and OT involvement
- Medication management:
 - Antirheumatic
 - Anti-inflammatory
 - Corticosteroids

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: This concept map is intended for educational purposes only. This is not medical advice and errors may occur. Never treat a patient or make a nursing or medical decision based solely on the information provided in this concept map. You should always assess the individual person and provide care based on your own assessment, the assessments and recommendations of that individual's medical team. Never practice nursing or medicine unless you have a proper license to do so.

4 CORE METHOD  **CONCEPT MAP**

Step 3  NursingSOS
Build Your Study Plan