

Rheumatoid Arthritis vs. Osteoarthritis



The first step in finding relief from joint pain, swelling, and stiffness is working with your doctor to determine if you could be having symptoms of certain types of arthritis, such as, rheumatoid arthritis (RA) or osteoarthritis (OA). The sooner you know, the sooner you can begin treatment and find relief from your symptoms. 1, 2

We've put together a quick guide to help you understand the differences between RA and OA. While RA and OA can both lead to joint pain and stiffness, ^{3, 4} there are important differences that can help you have a conversation with your doctor to assist in identifying which type of arthritis you might have—and ultimately—how to treat it. ^{1, 2} Use the chart below to learn more about RA and OA.

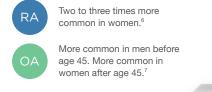
What is it?



How are joints affected?



Are men or women more commonly affected?



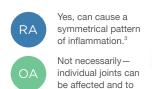
At what age do symptoms begin?



How long can joint pain and stiffness last after waking in the morning?



Are the same joints on both sides of the body affected in the same way?



varying degrees.9



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