

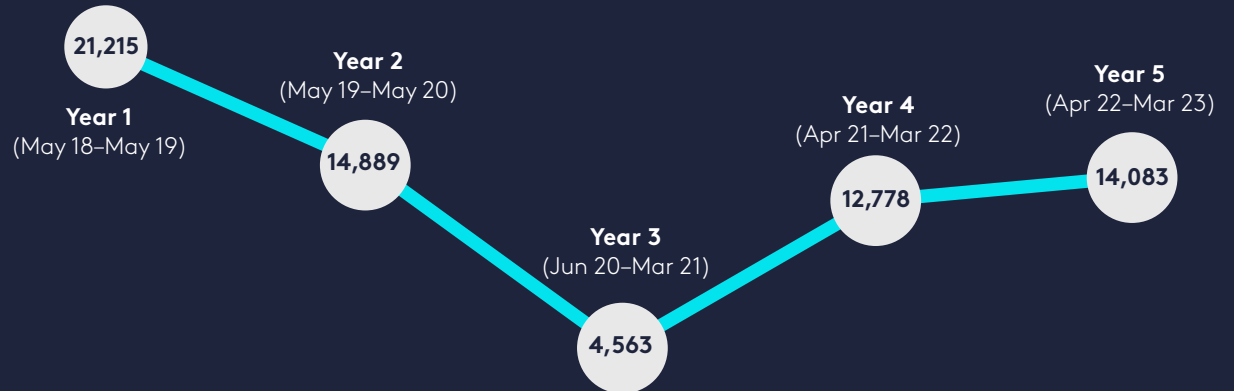
National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit (NEIAA) State of the Nation Report 2023

Key findings



Patients enrolled per year

Audit participation has improved, however participation is still not at pre COVID-19 levels.



Quality metrics



Referral to specialist rheumatology services has improved with 56% of patients (vs 54% in year 4) being referred within three working days.
(QS33 2013: QS 1)



Assessment delay has increased with only 39% of patients (vs 41% in year 4) being seen for their first appointment within three weeks of receipt of referral.
(QS33 2013: QS 2)



Treatment delay has decreased with 56% of patients (vs 52% in year 4) receiving treatment within six weeks of receipt of referral.
(QS33 2013: QS 3)



Response to treatment has not changed with 36% of patients reporting a good response to treatment within three months of diagnosis.



Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)
Clinically meaningful improvements were recorded for all PROMs between baseline and 3-month follow-up:

- Quality of Life
- Functional and work impairment
- Anxiety and depression

Organisational metrics

Data over the five years of NEIAA have shown the presence of a dedicated EIA clinic and higher levels of staffing are associated with an increase chance of meeting quality statements 2 (assessment within three weeks) and 3 (treatment within six weeks).

