**What is National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit (NEIAA)?**

The National Early Inflammatory Arthritis Audit (NEIAA) is a new 3-year project that aims to improve the quality of care for people living with inflammatory arthritis by collecting information on how care is being delivered by rheumatology units across England and Wales. The NEIAA officially launches in May 2018

Data will be collected from all new patients over the age of 16 presenting for the first time with suspected inflammatory arthritis, such as rheumatoid arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis and psoriatic arthritis. The data will be collected via two online portals, one for clinicians and one for their patients, to give a fuller picture of the quality of care. The information will be collected at three time points across the first 12 months after a patient is referred.

The information gathered will answer the following questions:

* How quickly patients are referred to secondary care by GPs and how long it takes to see a specialist in rheumatology?
* What treatment patients with inflammatory arthritis receive over this first year and is this in line with national (NICE) guidelines?
* How well staffed rheumatology departments are, and do they have access to specialist services such as physiotherapy, podiatry, psychologists?
* Do patients receive timely education about their new diagnosis to help manage it well?
* Can patients get access to advice quickly if their symptoms worsen or they run into problems?

**Where can I find more information?**

The British Society for Rheumatology website has more information on the audit at: <https://www.rheumatology.org.uk/Audits>