

**ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

**Supplementary Table 1.** Qualitative research published in the top ten rheumatology journals by impact factor

Journal	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total per journal
Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases	1 (0.4%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (0.2%)
Arthritis & Rheumatology	1 (0.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.1%)
Rheumatology (Oxford)	7 (2.9%)	3 (1.3%)	1 (0.5%)	3 (1.4%)	1 (0.5%)	15 (1.4%)
Seminars in arthritis and rheumatism	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.2%)
Therapeutic advances in musculoskeletal disease	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Osteoarthritis and Cartilage	1 (0.5%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.4%)	1 (0.6%)	2 (1.1%)	5 (0.5%)
Arthritis Care & Research	9 (4.5%)	11 (5.1%)	7 (3.2%)	17 (7.7%)	10 (5.9%)	54 (5.3%)
Arthritis Research & Therapy	0 (0%)	1 (0.4%)	2 (0.8%)	2 (0.8%)	1 (0.4%)	6 (0.4%)
Current Rheumatology reports	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
The Journal of Rheumatology	3 (1.1%)	3 (1.3%)	2 (1.1%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.7%)	10 (1.0)
Total qualitative studies per year (% of all original research articles)	22 (1.1%)	18 (1.0%)	14 (0.8%)	24 (1.5%)	16 (1.1%)	94 (1.1%)

N.B. Both qualitative and mixed methods studies were included. All journals were hand-searched online. Articles were screened by title and if necessary, by abstract or full text. Nature Reviews Rheumatology and Current Opinion in Rheumatology were excluded from this analysis as they do not publish original research articles.