

# **Exploring the connection between fibromyalgia and arthritis**

June 12, 2025



#### **Presenters**



Dr. Siân Bevan Chief Science Officer Arthritis Society Canada (Moderator)



Kristin Dillon
Occupational Therapist
Arthritis Rehabilitation and
Education Program



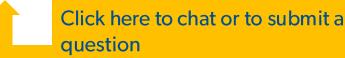
Cynthia Roberts
Physiotherapist
Arthritis Rehabilitation and
Education Program



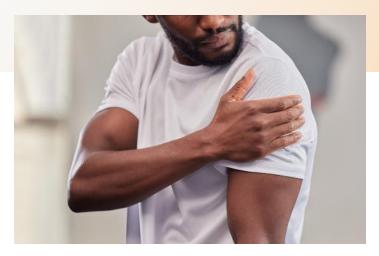
#### Webinar tips

- Use the Q&A section to ask the presenters your questions.
   Some of the questions will be chosen for the live question period at the end of the webinar.
- Click on the Chat box to connect with other participants and the Arthritis Society's Canada's chat moderator.
- If you have further issues, email arthritistalks@arthritis.ca





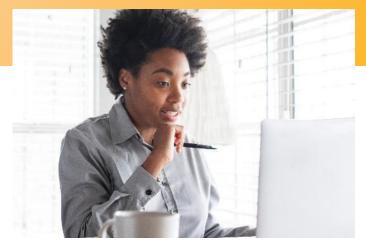




What is fibromyalgia?



**Self-management strategies** 



Q & A

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### How is fibromyalgia diagnosed?

# Fibromyalgia diagnosis

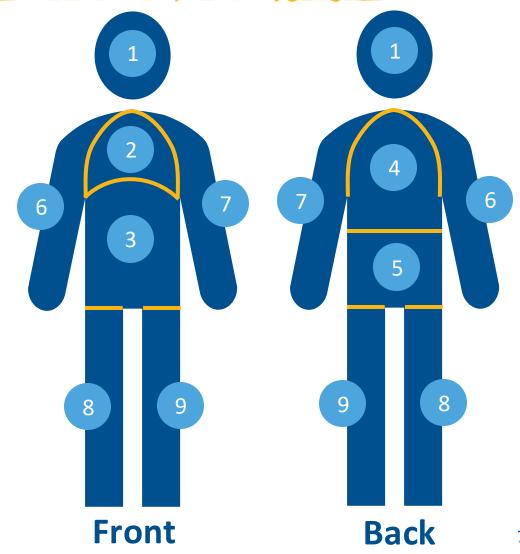
Multi-site pain: 6/9 regions



Sleep and/or fatigue problems



Lasting > 3 months



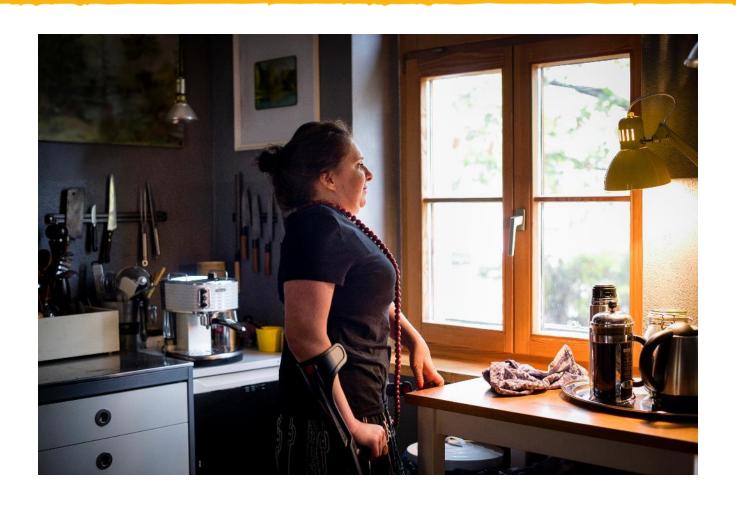
#### Pain mechanisms

Nociceptive pain

Neuropathic pain

Nociplastic pain

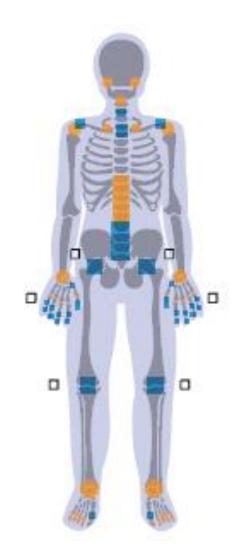
### Who is at risk for getting fibromyalgia?

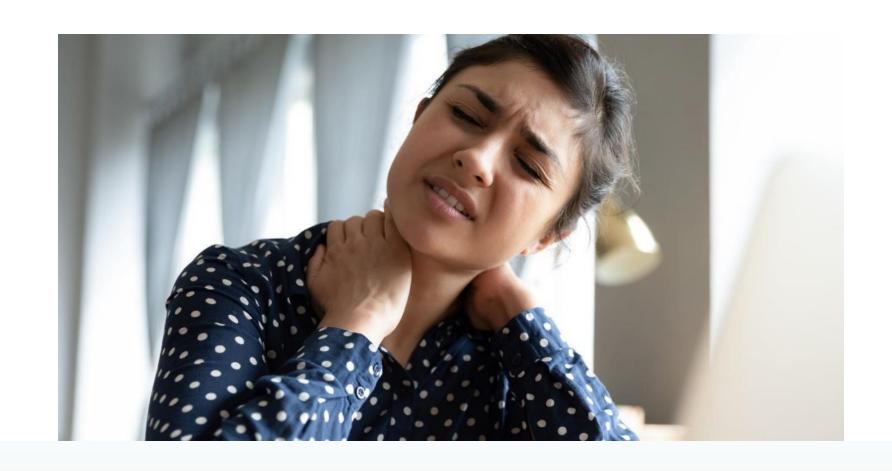




#### **Inflammatory Arthritis vs Osteoarthritis**

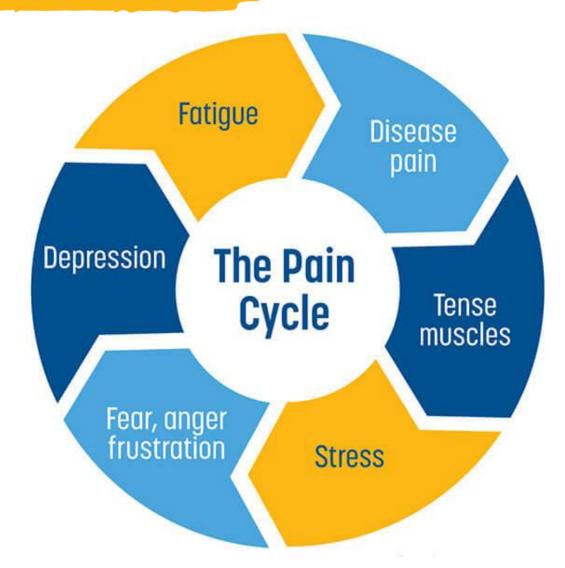
- Systemic Inflammatory <sup>3</sup> (rheumatoid arthritis)
- Osteoarthritis<sup>3</sup>



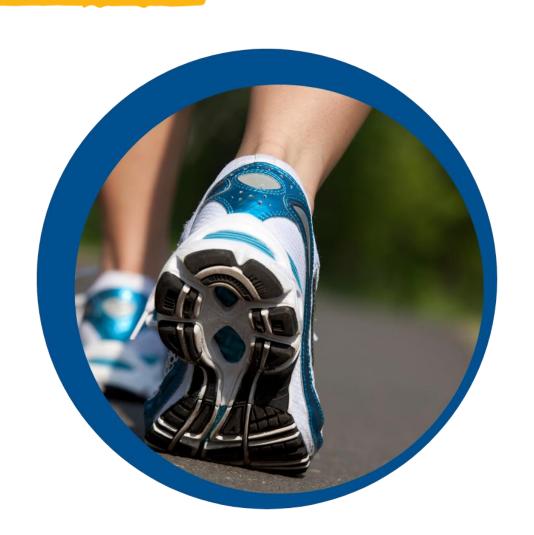


What can be done to manage fibromyalgia?

# The pain cycle



# **Physical activity**



# **Physical activity**



# Beginner exercises





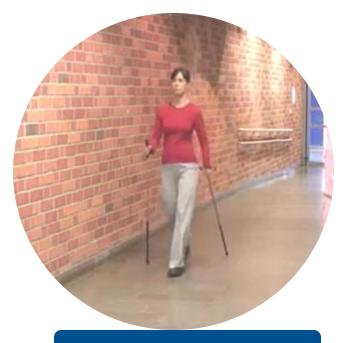


### Intermediate exercises





Light resistance strengthening



Lighter impact cardio

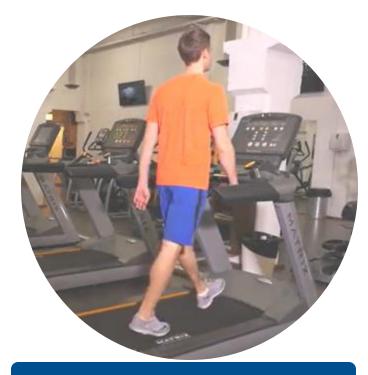
### **Advanced Exercises**



Body weight strengthening

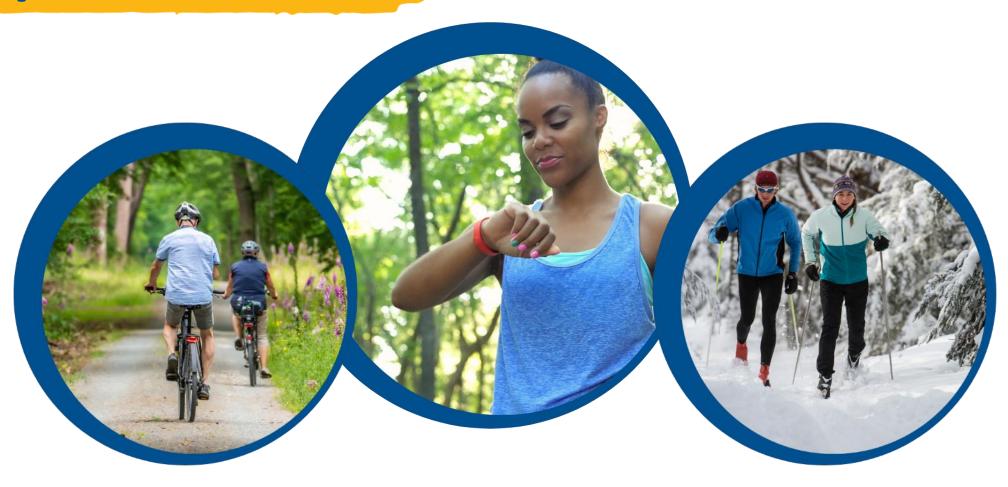


Progressive weight training



Weightbearing cardio

# Keep track



Find out what works for you

#### **Footwear**

Lace-up or velcro

Cushioned heel collar

Soft upper

Firm heel counter



Deep/wide toe area

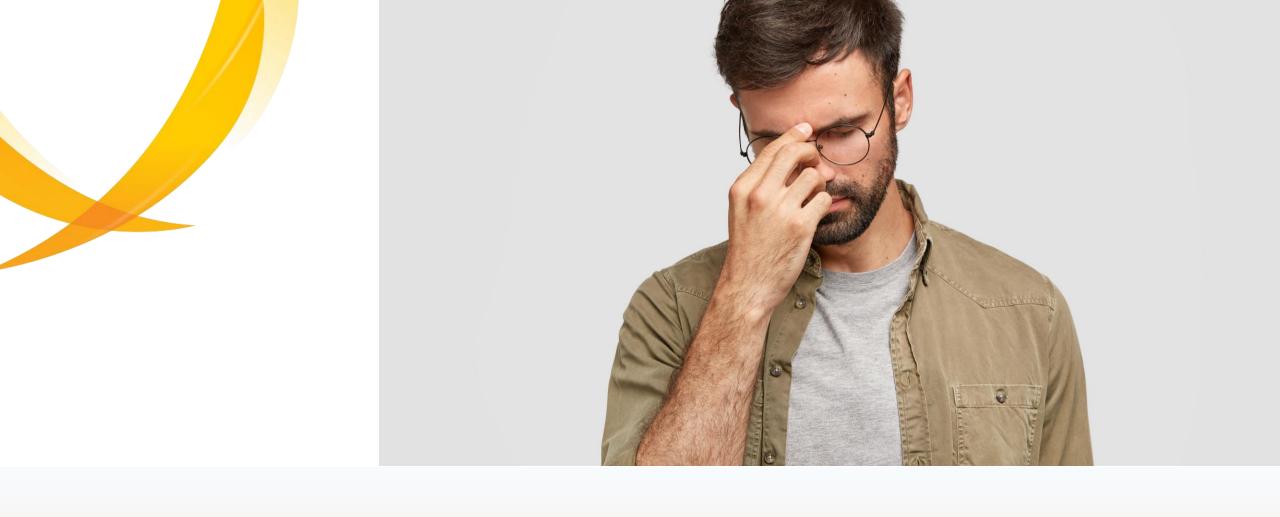
Wide/stable heel

Non-slip/cushion sole

### Posture makes a difference







Do you have any recommendations for managing fatigue?

# 5 Ps of fatigue management

Problem solving

**Planning** 

Prioritizing

**Pacing** 

**Posture** 

# Spoon theory







- Getting out of bed
- Brushing teeth
- Reading book

- Washing hair
- Driving to appointment
- Making lunch

- Making dinner
- Cleaning bathroom
- Taking kids to school

How many spoons do your activities take? What gives you spoons?



#### Track your symptoms

#### DAILY SYMPTOM TRACKER

DATE:	NAME:

This is a great tool for you and your health-care provider to spot patterns and help manage your care. It is recommended you fill it out daily for at least two weeks prior to seeing your health-care provider.

#### **MEASURE YOUR PAIN**

Circle where it hurts:



#### Rank your pain:

1 ←→ 5 1 = minimal pain 5 = worst pain

Morning:

Midday:

Evening:

#### **HOW WAS YOUR DAY?**

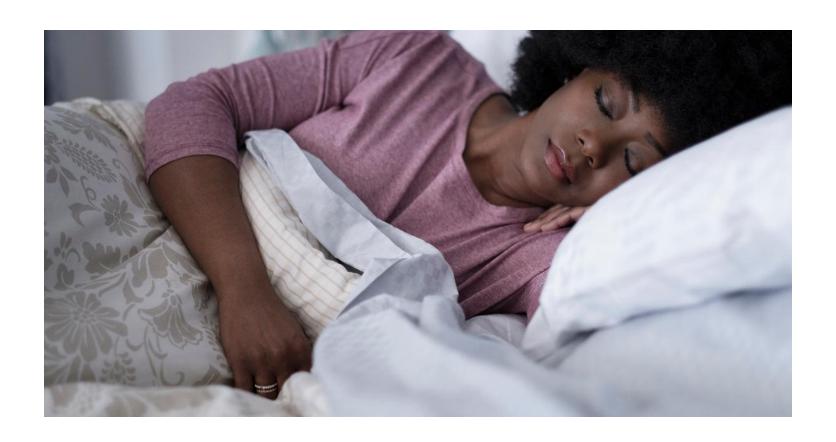
#### Please rate yourself on the following scales:

Fatigue	Y	1 2 No fatigue	3	4 5 Very tired	12Z
Mood	<b>(2)</b>	1 2 Happy/ relaxed	3	4 5 Depressed/ anxious	8
Stress	<b>4</b>	1 2 Low	3	4 5 High	٩
Physical activity/exercise	'n	1 2 Physical activity	3	4 5 No physical activity	į
Healthy eating		1 2 Healthy eating	3	4 5 Unhealthy eating	<b>W</b>
Social life	†	1 2 Lots of interact with family and friends	3 tion	4 5 No interaction with family and friends	Ť

#### Did anything out of the ordinary happen today?

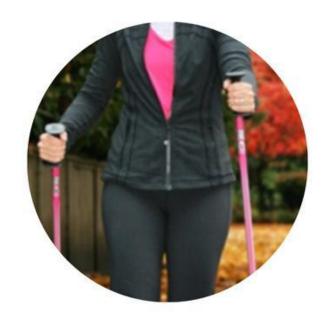
Please make a note of anything that happened outside of your usual routine, e.g., activities, medications, treatments, overall health.

# **Sleep strategies**



# **Activity modification**







Change method

Use devices

**Uses braces** 

### **Assistive devices**



Bed making aid



Raised cushion



Jar Key



Raised toilet seat





Q: Any final thoughts or recommendations?



#### Breaking the pain cycle

**Physical Activity and Exercise** 

Fatigue Management

**Activity Modification** 

Sleep

**Body Mind Wellness** 

**Nutrition** 

Medication

#### Resources







519-453-3198 | admin@fibrosupportnetwork.com | fibrosupportnetwork.ca



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#### **Smart Strategies to Manage Joint Pain & Stiffness**

Expert tips and tricks to keep your joints healthy and active

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How can we help?

Select an option to find out more





Q: What excites you about the future for those diagnosed with arthritis today?





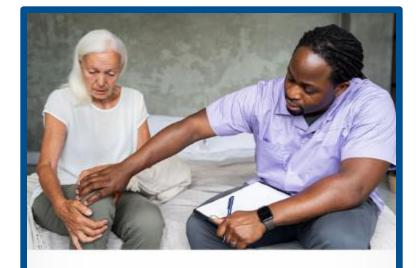
#### Questions





Tell us what you think...





Waiting for Joint Surgery – What You Can Do Now

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 • 6 p.m. ET

Visit arthritis.ca/arthritistalks to learn more

