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Rheumatology Research Highlights provides members of the media with important medical evidence that focuses on **rheumatic diseases** such as rheumatoid **arthritis**

, **osteoarthritis**

, **systemic lupus erythematosus**

, **juvenile arthritis**

, and

fibromyalgia

In addition to *Highlights, Arthritis & Rheumatology* and *Arthritis Care & Research* provide news releases about important research under embargo. Members of the media may sign up

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All of the papers highlighted are published on Wiley Online Library and a link to the abstract is provided. If you do not already have a media login to *Arthritis & Rheumatology* and *Arthritis Care & Research*

, please reply to this email to request one.

Cheers! Drinking Beer May Decrease RA Risk for Women From: *Arthritis & Rheumatology*

A study by researchers from Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston reports that women who drank beer 2-4 times per week over a number of years decrease their risk of developing rheumatoid arthritis (RA) by 31% compared to women who never drank beer. Wine and liquor consumption was not associated with reduced RA risk. Study results published in *Arthritis & Rheumatology*, suggest that further investigation of moderate alcohol consumption and RA risk is needed in other patient groups.

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Older African-Americans More Sensitive to Osteoarthritis Pain

From:

Arthritis & Rheumatology

New research suggests that

African-Americans between the ages of 45 and 85 with knee osteoarthritis (OA) display more pain sensitivity than non-Hispanic white patients. Results published in *Arthritis & Rheumatology*, reveal that, whereas differences among races in some clinical pain-related variables became nonsignificant after controlling for education and income, differences in pain as assessed by quantitative sensory testing

remained highly significant, indicating that further investigation of pain differences among racial or ethnic groups is needed.

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Hypertension Underdiagnosed in RA Patients From: *Arthriti*

s Care & Research

Research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reports that patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) are less likely to be diagnosed with hypertension than those without the

disease. Findings published in *Arthritis Care & Research* indicate that at the end of the study hypertension was diagnosed in 36% of RA patients compared to 51% of those without RA.

Given that RA patients are at higher risk for developing cardiovascular disease this study highlights the importance of identifying high blood pressure in those with RA.

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Heavy Lifting Contributes to Total Hip

Replacement Risk in Men

From:

*Arthritis Care &
Research*

A study of
Danish workers
shows a modest

risk for total hip replacement in men who lifted greater than 20 ton-years.

According to results published in *Art*

hritis Care & Research

walking and
whole body
vibration did not
impact risk of
hip replacement
for either sex.

However, men and women with a high body mass index (BMI) at age 25, or those who had a gain in BMI, may

increase their
risk of needing
hip replacement
surgery.

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