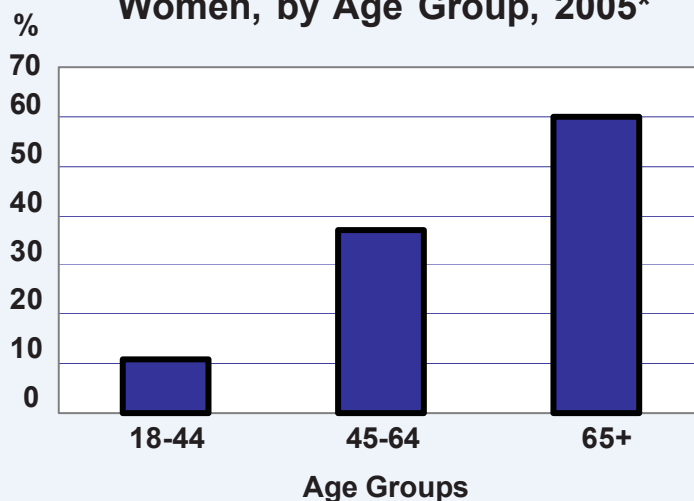


ARTHRITIS in Texas Women



Manage Your Arthritis!

Prevalence of Doctor-Diagnosed Arthritis in Adult Texas Women, by Age Group, 2005*



Impact of Arthritis on Texas Women

- An estimated 2.2 million (26 percent) Texas women, aged 18 and older, have doctor-diagnosed arthritis.
- Thirty-nine percent of Texas women with doctor-diagnosed arthritis have limitations in their daily activities.
- Among Texas women aged 65 years and older, 60 percent have doctor-diagnosed arthritis.
- Prevalence rates for Texas women with doctor-diagnosed arthritis are higher among non-Hispanic whites (33 percent) and for African-Americans (28 percent) than for Hispanics (16 percent).

* Source: 2005 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

What is Arthritis?

Arthritis is one of the most prevalent diseases in the United States and the leading cause of disability among adults. Common symptoms include pain, aching, stiffness, and swelling in or around the joints. Common forms of arthritis include Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Fibromyalgia and Juvenile Arthritis. However, arthritis can be seen in over 100 different conditions ranging from mild to life-threatening.



For more information contact:
Texas Arthritis Program
Texas Department of State Health Services
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756-3199
P: 512-458-7200 F: 512-458-7254
www.texasarthritisprogram.org



Arthritis Management Checklist

- Pay Attention To Symptoms
 - *schedule an appointment and get a doctor diagnosis*
- Listen To Your Doctor
 - *follow your treatment plan and take the medications prescribed*
- Control Your Weight
 - *eat right and exercise 30 minutes per day*
- Relieve Stress
 - *take time to do something fun or relaxing*
- Stop Smoking
 - *if you smoke - stop, if you don't smoke - don't start*

Source: Arthritis Foundation

Tips For Managing Your Arthritis

- Get diagnosed for joint pain lasting more than two weeks.
- Consult with your doctor about medications not working well or causing undesirable side effects.
- Control your weight by eating a well-balanced diet consisting of at least five servings of fruits and vegetables daily and exercising regularly including taking a walk, riding a bike, going for a swim, or dancing.
- Relieve stress by scheduling a massage, taking a warm bath, reading a book, or listening to music.
- Stop smoking by calling the Quitline at 1-877-937-7848.
- Contact the Arthritis Foundation at 1-800-442-6653 about available local exercise programs and resources.



Useful Web sites for more information:

- www.cdc.gov/arthritis
- www.niams.nih.gov
- www.rheumatology.org
- www.arthritis.org
- www.fmaware.org