

Table 12.1: Percent Prevalence of Self-Reported Arthritis and Surgical Treatment for Arthritis^{1,2}

| Condition and Treatment | Total (N=1002) | Age Group | | | Disability Level | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | 65-74 (N=388) | 75-84 (N=311) | 85+ (N=303) | Moderate ³ (N=343) | ADL Difficulty | |
| | | | | | | Receives No Help (N=478) | Receives Help (N=181) |
| Self-report of arthritis ⁴ | 76.1 | 75.4 | 77.4 | 74.6 | 70.0 | 80.4 | 76.9 |
| Has a doctor ever told you that you had arthritis? ⁵ | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 75.1 | 74.7 | 76.5 | 72.6 | 68.5 | 79.8 | 75.5 |
| Are you currently being treated or taking medication for arthritis? | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 42.2 | 42.5 | 44.7 | 34.6 | 37.7 | 44.5 | 45.3 |
| Which type of arthritis do you have? ⁶ | | | | | | | |
| Rheumatoid arthritis | 11.6 | 10.1 | 14.4 | 8.7 | 10.2 | 11.3 | 15.5 |
| Osteoarthritis or degenerative arthritis | 21.8 | 26.4 | 19.0 | 16.1 | 17.7 | 24.6 | 22.7 |
| Some other type | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.8 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Don't know | 40.8 | 37.5 | 41.3 | 48.9 | 39.8 | 42.7 | 37.4 |
| Any surgery for arthritis ⁷ | 8.4 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 6.6 | 3.5 | 11.2 | 10.8 |
| Hip surgery ⁸ | 2.2 | 1.9 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| Knee surgery ⁹ | 5.0 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 2.2 | 6.8 | 5.8 |

(Women's Health and Aging Study, screening and baseline interviews, 1992-1995)

¹ All variables have less than 1% missing data. Results are based on non-missing data.

² Descriptive statistics are based on weighted data.

³ No ADL difficulty; disabled in two or more domains (see Chapter 1).

⁴ "Yes" response to either the question about doctor's diagnosis of arthritis or the question about treatment or medication for arthritis.

⁵ The question was asked in the screener interview and the presence of the condition was confirmed in the baseline interview.

⁶ Categories may not add up to percent reporting arthritis due to rounding.

⁷ "Yes" response to "Have you ever had any operations for treatment of your arthritis?"

⁸ "Yes" response to either "Was your right hip operated on?" or "Was your left hip operated on?"

⁹ "Yes" response to either "Was your right knee operated on?" or "Was your left knee operated on?"