# Get the information out there: Monthly webinars

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#### **Background**

The corona pandemic required a higher grade of digitalisation within ReumaNet. Information on RMD's was still needed but opportunities to spread it were limited. We needed to be creative in order to reach out to anyone needing information.

## **Objectives**

- Inform (newly diagnosed) people with RMD's about (aspects of) their disease in an easy accessible way during a global health crisis
- Replace live meetings by easy access online meetings with a variety of topics and speakers
- Allow people with RMD's to interact with health care providers and peers

## **Methods**

From September 2020 onwards, ReumaNet started organising monthly webinars. We invited a wide range of speakers on a variety of topics. Using Teams Live Events or Teams Meeting, the sessions are easy accessible, no subscription or fee is necessary. Links to the meetings are shared via website, social media and newsletters. Participating anonymously is possible.

## **Results**

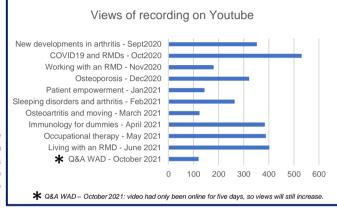
11 sessions have been organised so far (not in July-August). Attendance rates vary from 35 until 110 people per session with an average of 70. Sessions during the day do not tend to have a larger audience than evening sessions or vice versa.

Speakers appreciate this kind of sessions because they can present from their home/hospital office.

Apart from a licence for Teams, there are no costs involved. Our speakers are all volunteers.

## **Conclusions**

People with RMDs appreciate the webinars, we get good comments on the initiative. It is easy to organise: a speaker and a link do the trick. People like it because it does not require travelling, it is free, they can join when it suits them or watch afterwards. Speakers and topics are easy to find. ReumaNet will continue organising webinars also in the future, after the pandemic.



## <u>Further information</u>

On the <u>Youtube channel of ReumaNet</u> you can find all webinars from the past year. (language: Dutch)

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