

TUFH 2020 Abstracts

An evaluation of osteoarthritis rehabilitative practices within a South African

Title	multidisciplinary rehabilitation setting
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Content	Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common cause of functional disability in an aging population worldwide. This prevalent musculoskeletal condition is characterised by its debilitating effects that influences the functional capacity and quality of life of 240 million people globally. In a South African context, the prevalence of OA follows that of the global trend indicating a prevalence rate of 55.1% in urban settings and between 29.5% to 82.7% in rural settings. Evidence shows that the management of OA varies; however, consensus on the management thereof is limited, particularly in an interprofessional management context. The main purpose of this study is to evaluate and describe OA rehabilitative practices amongst medical and allied healthcare practitioners (AHCPs) within a South African setting, thereby identifying emerging trends within a South African multidisciplinary rehabilitation setting. Therefore, this study will determine OA rehabilitative practices amongst medical and AHCPs within a South African multidisciplinary rehabilitation setting. By understanding the various OA rehabilitative practices, it may help create better inter-professional relationships and build the South African multidisciplinary rehabilitation setting in the future. The target population will consist of medical and AHCPs located within the South African public and private healthcare framework. The practitioners to be included are medical practitioners, specialist practitioners, pharmacists, biokineticists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dieticians and psychologists. Personal trainers will also form part of the study cohort. Data will be collected using questionnaires. These questionnaires will be circulated electronically to medical and AHCPs via their respective gatekeepers located within the South African healthcare framework.