

DJD	Referral Guide: Page 1 of	Rheum
Diagnosis/Definition: Chronic aching in joints often in older individuals or in traumatized joints		
Initial Diagnosis and Management: A thorough H and P Xrays of affected joints Nsaid and PT if possible Joint aspiration and steroid injection if possible		
Ongoing Management and Objectives:		
Indications for Specialty Care Referral: Second opinion concerning DX and management		
Test(s) to Prepare for Consult: Please Xray painful joints before referral	Test(s) Consultant May Need To Do: Aspiration for diagnosis and steroid injection	
Criteria for Return to Primary Care: After diagnosing and instituting above treatment and injecting affected joints with steroids Patient will be returned to PCP		
Revision History: Created Revised		

Disclaimer: Adherence to these guidelines will not ensure successful treatment in every situation. Further, these guidelines should not be considered inclusive of all accepted methods of care or exclusive of other methods of care reasonably directed to obtaining the same results. The ultimate judgment regarding the appropriateness of any specific procedure, therapy, or referral must be made by the physician/provider in light of all circumstances presented by an individual patient.