What is Axial Spondyloarthritis?



Axial Spondyloarthritis (axSpA) is a painful but treatable chronic inflammatory disease that primarily affects the spine and sacroiliac joints (SIJs)1

axSpA refers to a category of diseases that includes nr-axSpA and AS

Leading symptom:

Inflammatory back pain that improves with exercise, but not with rest1

Disease onset:

Usually before the age of 45, often in the 20s3,4

Prevalence:

Similar to Rheumatoid Arthritis, 0.2-1.4% of adults have axSpA^{3,5,6}

axSpA is equally common in both Men and Women^{4,7}

The presence or absence of structural damage to SIJs on X-ray differentiates nr-axSpA and AS²

Ankylosing spondylitis



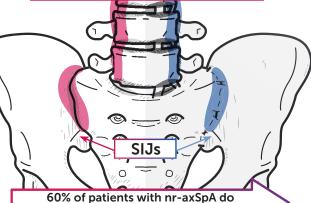
No definitive SIJ damage on X-ray²



Frequent abnormal MRI or elevated CRP and a combination of SpA features



nr-axSpA is more common in Women^{9,10}



60% of patients with nr-axSpA do not convert to AS after 10 years

Definitive SIJ damage on X-ray²



Bony growths leading to spine fusion in ~60-70% of AS patients^{1,8}



AS is more common in Men^{9,10}



Some patients with nr-axSpA and AS share common clinical features^{2,8,11-13}...

Eye inflammation or sensitivity to light (Uveitis)

Skin disease (Psoriasis)

Chronic inflammation of the digestive tract (Inflammatory Bowel Disease)

Swelling of fingers or toes (Dactylitis) -

Usually involving larger joints, e.g., knees (Peripheral Arthritis):

Inflammation of tendons where they attach to bone (e.g., back of the heel) (Enthesitis)-

and similar disease burden²

Inflammatory back pain (improves with activity, not rest)

Severe stiffness & reduced mobility, especially in the mornings

... and experience a significant



Fatigue & difficulty sleeping



Decreased quality of life



Limited social activities



Limited work and home productivity

