

Supplementary Table S1. Interview guide for patients with rheumatic disease

Construct assessed	Guiding questions
General oral health	<p>As a person with rheumatic disease,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you feel about the state of your mouth health? • Do you feel that the health of your mouth is good? • Do you have any problems with your mouth? • Do you think your rheumatic disease affects your overall mouth health? • Does your mouth health affect your rheumatic disease? In what ways?
Effect of rheumatic disease on oral care	<p>Does your rheumatic disease affect your mouth care? How? Is there anything that makes it hard to care for your mouth? (Think about your rheumatic disease or other aspects of your health or personal situation.) What helps with caring for your mouth? Is there anything that makes it hard to seek dental care for your mouth? What helps? Why do you think this helps? (Think about your rheumatic disease or other aspects of your health or personal situation.)</p>
Educational needs relating to oral health	<p>What do you think about the aims of having information on mouth care that includes recommendations for everyone but also includes suggestions specific to people with rheumatic disease? What type of information would you like to know? How do you usually get information about your rheumatic disease and how would you like to get information about your rheumatic disease or mouth care? What format would be most helpful? Paper handouts, words or pictures? From your doctors/dentists? From the internet? Do you connect with other people (with rheumatic disease) using Facebook or other types of social media?</p>
Recommendations relating to oral health	<p>As part of this project, we have reviewed the literature for studies that looked at ways to improve mouth health and have asked the opinion of clinical specialists and oral care providers for recommendations on how to help maintain good mouth health. Several suggestions were considered. We are interested in your thoughts about these suggestions. Do you feel they will help you with your mouth care? If yes, how? If no, why?</p>
Priority oral health concerns	<p>Of all the things we've discussed today, what would you say are the most important issues you would like to share about rheumatic disease and mouth concerns?</p>

CITATION

Stavropoulou C, Protudjer JLP, Billedeau C, Hitchon CA. Exploring oral health care needs of Canadians with rheumatic diseases: a qualitative study. *Can J Dent Hyg.* 2026;60(2):103–112.