

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Clinician Questionnaire

Section 1: Demographic Items

Q1: Please indicate your gender:

Q1a: male

Q1b: female

Q1c: I prefer not to declare.

Q2: Please indicate your age:

Q3: Please indicate if you are:

Q3a: specialist/resident in orthopedics and traumatology

Q3b: specialist/resident in anesthesiology

Q3c: specialist/resident in rheumatology

Q3d: specialist/resident in physical medicine and rehabilitation

Q4: Please indicate how many years of medical practice did you spend as a specialist:

Q4a: <5 years

Q4b: 5–10 years

Q4c: 10–20 years

Q4d: >20 years

Q5: Please indicate your year of residency:

Q5a: first

Q5a: second

Q5a: third

Q5a: fourth

Q5a: fifth

Q6: Please indicate your working geographical area:

Q6a: Northern Italy

Q6b: Central

Q6c: Southern Italy (including islands, namely Sicily and Sardinia)

Q7: Please indicate the healthcare facility you are currently working for:

Q7a: Outpatient territorial ambulatory within the local health authority

Q7b: Public hospital

Q7c: Hospital within the local health authority

Q7d: University hospital

Q7e: Not accredited clinics

Q7f: IRCCS private

Q7g: IRCCS public

Q7h: Accredited private hospital

Q7i: Other

Q8: Please indicate how many patients with osteoarthritis (OA) you see monthly:

Q9: With reference to the OA patients you encounter, please indicate the percentage of patients based on the affected joint:

Q9a: knee

Q9b: hip

Q9c: lumbar

Q9d: cervical

Q9e: hand/wrist

Q9f: ankle

Q9g: poli-arthritis

Q9h: other

Q10: Please indicate how many patients with knee OA you see monthly:

Section 2: Clinical profile of the patients encountered by the participant clinicians in their daily practice.

Q11: Which are the main causes of knee OA in the patients you have encountered?

Q11a: primary degenerative OA

Q11b: post-traumatic (including surgery)

Q11c: secondary to systemic conditions (gout, arthritis)

Q11d: other

Q12: When the patient refers to you for the first time, which Kellgren-Lawrence grade is more frequently observed?

Q12a: I

Q12b: II

Q12c: III

Q12d: IV

Q13: How many patients with knee OA refer to you with a previous diagnosis?

Q14: In the case of patients with a prior diagnosis, who was the physician making the first diagnosis?

Q14a: general practitioner

Q14b: orthopedics

Q14c: rheumatologist

Q14d: physiatrist

Q14e: pain therapist

Q14f: radiologist

Q14g: other

Q15: Why does a patient with a prior diagnosis of knee OA refer to you? Please indicate for each cause a percentage:

Q15a: pain

Q15b: functional disability

Q15c: inflammation

Q15d: other

Q16: Please indicate the proportion of patients suffering from knee OA who present moderate-to-severe pain:

Q17: The moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA is present:

Q17a: continuously

Q17b: mostly upon load but not at rest

Q17c: both

Q17d: other

Q18: On average, how much time elapses between the diagnosis of pain associated with knee OA and the start of analgesic therapy?

Q18a: Immediately

Q18b: <1 month

Q18c: 1–3 months

Q18d: 3–6 months

Q18e: 3–12 months

Q18f: >12 months

Q19: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed non-pharmacological therapy/topical NSAIDs?

Q19a: none

Q19b: <10%

Q19c: 10–25%

Q19d: 25–50%

Q19e: 50–75%

Q19f: >75%

Q20: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed paracetamol/oral NSAIDs/COXIB?

Q20a: none

Q20b: <10%

Q20c: 10–25%

Q20d: 25–50%

Q20e: 50–75%

Q20f: >75%

Q21: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed weak/strong opioids?

Q21a: none

Q21b: <10%

Q21c: 10–25%

Q21d: 25–50%

Q21e: 50–75%

Q21f: >75%

Q22: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed SYSADOA?

- Q22a: none
- Q22b: <10%
- Q22c: 10–25%
- Q22d: 25–50%
- Q22e: 50–75%
- Q22f: >75%

Q23: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed intra-articular hyaluronic acid?

- Q23a: none
- Q23b: <10%
- Q23c: 10–25%
- Q23d: 25–50%
- Q23e: 50–75%
- Q23f: >75%

Q24: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed intra-articular corticosteroids?

- Q24a: none
- Q24b: <10%
- Q24c: 10–25%
- Q24d: 25–50%
- Q24e: 50–75%
- Q24f: >75%

Q25: Among the patients with previously diagnosed knee OA and moderate-to-severe pain you have encountered monthly, how many have been prescribed intra-articular platelet-rich plasma/stem cells?

- Q25a: none
- Q25b: <10%
- Q25c: 10–25%
- Q25d: 25–50%
- Q25e: 50–75%
- Q25f: >75%

Section 3: Prescribing habits and degree of satisfaction of clinicians when managing moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA

Q26: Which interventions do you more frequently employ to manage moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA (please indicate the three most frequent):

- Q26a: non-pharmacological therapy

Q26b: topical NSAIDs
Q26c: SYSADOA
Q26d: oral NSAIDs/paracetamol
Q26e: COXIB
Q26f: weak opioids
Q26g: strong opioids
Q26h: intra-articular hyaluronic acid
Q26i: intra-articular corticosteroids
Q26l: intra-articular platelet-rich plasma/stem cells

Q27: Please indicate your degree of satisfaction with the pain relief achieved by topical NSAIDs/paracetamol/SYSADOA in the treatment of patients with moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA:

Q27a: very unsatisfied
Q27b: unsatisfied
Q27c: neutral
Q27d: satisfied
Q27e: very satisfied

Q28: Please indicate your degree of satisfaction with the pain relief achieved by oral NSAIDs, COXIB, and weak and strong opioids in the treatment of patients with moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA:

Q28a: very unsatisfied
Q28b: unsatisfied
Q28c: neutral
Q28d: satisfied
Q28e: very satisfied

Q29: Please indicate your degree of satisfaction with the pain relief achieved by intra-articular hyaluronic acid, intra-articular corticosteroids, and intra-articular platelet-rich plasma/stem cells in the treatment of patients with moderate-to-severe pain associated with knee OA:

Q29a: very unsatisfied
Q29b: unsatisfied
Q29c: neutral
Q29d: satisfied
Q29e: very satisfied

Q30: How much do patient expectations matter in your therapeutic choice when dealing with the pain associated with knee OA?

Q30a: nothing
Q30b: little
Q30c: enough
Q30d: very much

Patient Questionnaire

Section 1: Demographic Items

Q1: Please indicate your gender:

Q1a: male

Q1b: female

Q1c: I prefer not to declare.

Q2: Please indicate your age:

Q3: Please indicate your living area:

Q3a: Northern Italy

Q3b: Central

Q3c: Southern Italy (including islands, namely Sicily and Sardinia)

Q4: Please indicate your membership:

Q4a: ANMAR

Q4b: APMARR

Section 2: Patient clinical profile

Q5: How long have you been suffering from osteoarthritis (OA)?

Q5a: <6 months

Q5b: 6–12 months

Q5c: 1–3 years

Q5d: 3–5 years

Q5e: >5 years

Q6: Please indicate which joints are affected from OA:

Q6a: knee

Q6b: hip

Q6c: cervical

Q6d: lumbar

Q6e: shoulder

Q6f: elbow

Q6g: ankle

Q6h: hand/wrist

Q7: Please indicate if you are suffering from knee OA at one or both knees:

Q7a: one knee

Q7b: both knees

Q8: Beyond knee OA, are you suffering from other diseases?

Q8a: no

Q8b: hypertension

Q8c: diabetes

Q8d: cardiovascular diseases

Q8e: obesity

Q8f: other (please specify)

Q9: Please rate how much each of the following symptoms impact your daily life:

	Score 0 (no impact)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score 10 (burdensome)
Pain											
Joint stiffness											
Mobility issues											
Tiredness											
Joint swelling											
Loss of flexibility											
Sleep disorders											
Joint deformity											
Crackling knee (crepitus)											

Q10: Please rate how much pain impacts the following activities:

	Score 0 (no impact)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Score 10 (burdensome)
Physical activity											
Working activity											
Social activities											
Emotion/psychological dimension											

Q11: Please indicate the intensity of your pain on a scale of 0–10:

Section 3: Patient journey: from diagnosis to therapy

Q12: Please indicate your age at first diagnosis of knee OA:

Q13: Please indicate which specialist made the first knee OA diagnosis:

- Q13a: general practitioner
- Q13b: orthopedics
- Q13c: rheumatologist
- Q13d: physiatrist
- Q13e: pain therapist
- Q13f: radiologist
- Q13g: other (please specify)

Q14: Please indicate how much time elapses between the first visit to the confirmed diagnosis:

- Q14a: immediately
- Q14b: <1 month
- Q14c: 1–3 months
- Q14d: 3–6 months
- Q14e: >6 months

Q15: Please indicate by which means knee OA diagnosis was made:

- Q15a: X-rays
- Q15b: magnetic resonance
- Q15c: echography
- Q15d: physician objective examination
- Q15e: I do not remember

Q16: When you received your first diagnosis of knee OA, did you receive all the necessary information regarding the disease, lifestyle, therapies, and so on?

- Q16a: Yes
- Q16b: No
- Q16c: I do not remember

Q17: Please indicate the number of physicians you have encountered before receiving the knee OA diagnosis:

Q18: On average, how much time elapses between diagnosis of pain associated with knee OA and your first prescription of analgesic medications?

- Q18a: Immediately
- Q18b: <1 month
- Q18c: 1–3 months
- Q18d: 3–6 months
- Q18e: 3–12 months
- Q18f: >12 months

Q19: During your treatment journey, how much did you feel listened to and involved in the choice of therapy to manage pain associated with knee OA?

- Q19a: not at all
- Q19b: little
- Q19c: enough
- Q19d: very much

Q20: Please indicate the most relevant gaps you have dealt with during your patient journey:

Section 4: Prescribed analgesic medications and patient degree of satisfaction

Q21: Please indicate which of the following treatments you are currently taking to manage the pain associated with knee OA:

Q21a: non-pharmacological therapy

Q21b: topical NSAIDs

Q21c: paracetamol

Q21d: oral NSAIDs

Q21e: opioids

Q21f: intra-articular hyaluronan

Q21g: intra-articular corticosteroids

Q21h: currently, I am not treating the pain

Q21i: other (please specify)

Q22: Please indicate the degree of satisfaction with the prescribed analgesic therapy:

Q22a: not at all

Q22b: little

Q22c: enough

Q22d: very much

Q22e: currently, I am not treating the pain

Q23: If you consider yourself unsatisfied, please indicate the reason: