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Patient Information/***Rheumatoid Arthritis***

- Rheumatoid arthritis and periodontal disease are both immune-inflammatory disorders, both of which lead to destruction of bones.
- Specific periodontal pathogens (bad bugs) and their toxins can be found in the joints of RA patients and increase autoantibody production and inflammation in the joints.
- Patients with periodontal disease have been shown to have worse RA, and treatment and control of periodontal disease has been shown to decrease symptoms (decreased RAS-28).