North Carolina: Why Arthritis Matters

Arthritis affects 27% of the population in North Carolina. That’s 2,089,000 adults living with doctor-diagnosed arthritis in the state.

There are 52.5 million American adults with arthritis.

- There are 2,089,000 people in NC living with doctor-diagnosed arthritis.
- That means that 27% of North Carolina adults live with arthritis.
- 1 in 3 veterans has arthritis—veterans represent 16% of the 27% of people in NC with arthritis.

22.7 million Americans experience activity limitation due to their arthritis.

- 1,080,000 adults in North Carolina have activity limitations caused by arthritis.
- Among all adults in NC with arthritis, 40% have work limitations.
- In NC, the yearly cost for days lost from work because of arthritis is $460 million.

In NC, adults with one or more chronic conditions often have arthritis.

- Diabetes: 53% of NC adults with diabetes also have arthritis.
- Hypertension: 46% of NC adults with hypertension also have arthritis.
- Obesity: 37% of NC adults who are obese also have arthritis.

You can help people in NC by ensuring that all legislation protects:

- Timely Access to Care and Treatments.
- Continuous Coverage without pre-existing exclusions.
- Affordability of premiums, co-pays, deductibles and other patient cost-sharing.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014; 2015.