

This lay summary was provided by Theresa Burkard

## Longitudinal associations between body mass index and changes in disease activity and radiographic progression in rheumatoid arthritis patients treated with infliximab

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This research was about how body mass index (as an approximation for weight) affected disease activity and joint damage in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. In the past, studies only looked at this issue at one point in time, like taking a snapshot. But in this study, we looked at it over time, like taking a video. We observed that the disease activity was not affected by weight changes, as previously assumed. However, the condition of patient's joints as seen in X-rays improve as their weight increases, which is consistent with previous assessments. This study provides valuable insight into the conflicting topic of how weight affects rheumatoid arthritis disease.