

*AM Mengshoel et al. Journal of Rheumatology. September (2001) Vol. 28 #9 p 2085.*

Diffuse RSI shares many features with Fibromyalgia Syndrome (FM).

This study reports on the long-term prognoses of those diagnosed with FM.

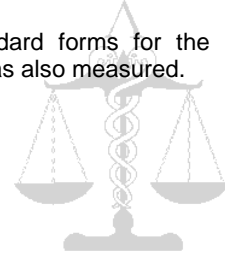
33 women, with an average age of 45 were diagnosed with FM, an average of 18 years prior to this study.

Diagnosis was reassessed and the participants were asked to complete standard forms for the assessment of pain, and impact on activities of daily living. Cardiovascular fitness was also measured.

All 33 had widespread pain, 79% were still diagnosable as cases of FM.

Cardiovascular capacity was normal.

Symptoms had not worsened, job status had not changed.



### **Comment**

Although symptoms seem remarkably persistent it is notable that deterioration does not seem to be a feature of FM cases. Ability to work must be dependent on factors other than diagnosis.