

10/85

6) ARTHRITIS

:60 PSA

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS IS A SERIOUS DISEASE WHICH AFFECTS MANY YOUNG ADULTS AND CHILDREN, SAYS DR. RICHARD RASKIN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:

12.18 Patients will complain of joint stiffness, early on in the disease. As the disease progresses, there may be more pain and swelling and then ultimately, there's deformity and difficulty using joints.

ONCE THE RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED, A COMBINATION OF DRUGS AND PHYSICAL THERAPY IS USED TO TREAT IT.

25.8 The first line of treatment is usually antiinflammatory types of drugs, like aspirin and related drugs. Along with that we usually prescribe physical therapy. As the disease becomes a little bit more severe, there's a second class of agents that can really suppress the inflammation to a greater degree. And those actually have a possibility of eliminating all the patient's symptoms.

AMONG THOSE AGENTS IS GOLD, WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE IN PILL FORM WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. THIS IS HEALTHLINE, FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.