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Services for People with Rheumatoid Arthritis: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General, Session 2008-2009

By National Audit Office (NAO)

TSO. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Services for People with Rheumatoid Arthritis: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General, Session 2008-2009, National Audit Office (NAO), Approximately 580,000 adults in England currently have rheumatoid arthritis, with a further 26,000 new cases diagnosed each year. The disease costs the NHS around GBP 560 million annually and the estimated cost to the economy, in sick leave and work-related disability for people with rheumatoid arthritis, is GBP 1.8 billion a year. Conclusions and recommendations of this title include the following. The NHS does not consistently provide support for people with the disease to remain in, or get back into, work, with a lack of local links between the NHS and Jobcentre Plus services. Early diagnosis is the key to the successful treatment of rheumatoid arthritis but public awareness of the disease is low. People often delay seeking medical help from their GP, the disease is difficult to diagnose and requires specialist knowledge; and few GPs have the specialist expertise required to diagnose rheumatoid. The average length of time from symptom onset to treatment is nine months, compared to the clinically recommended period of three months, and this has not improved in the past...



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