Supplementary Table 1. Multivariable GEE analyses of overall work impairment (BASDAI models)

Variable	Low education (n=177)			High education (n=146)		
	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p
Age, years	0.06	-0.25 to 0.38	0.69	0.06	-0.28 to 0.40	0.73
Male gender	-1.64	-8.59 to 5.32	0.64	-1.92	-9.71 to 5.88	0.63
High education	N/A†			N/A†		
BASDAI (0-10)	7.92	6.81 to 9.03	<0.01	7.39	5.97 to 8.82	<0.01
NSAID, current	§			§		
csDMARD, current	§			§		
bDMARD/tsDMARD, current	§			§		
Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic*	8.13	3.15 to 13.11	<0.01	4.02	-1.36 to 9.41	0.14

Variables that were possibly associated with the outcome in univariable analysis (p<0.10) were considered for multivariable analysis. Next, these were retained in multivariable models if they were significantly associated with the outcome (p<0.05). Age, gender and the primary variable of interest (Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic) were always included. *Binary time-varying variable, indicating whether an assessment took place after onset of pandemic vs. pre-pandemic (primary variable of interest). As patients were followed up over time, they could have both pre-pandemic assessments (before March 2020, coded 0) and post-onset assessments (after March 2020, coded 1). †Used for stratification. §Not associated with outcome in univariable analysis.

1

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Supplementary Table 2. Multivariable GEE analyses of overall work impairment (patient global models)

Variable	Low education (n=178)			High education (n=145)		
	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p
Age, years	0.16	-0.18 to 0.49	0.36	0.27	-0.06 to 0.60	0.11
Male gender	-3.76	-11.22 to 3.70	0.32	-5.73	-13.42 to 1.97	0.14
High education	N/A†			N/A†		
Patient global (0-10)	5.52	4.66 to 6.38	<0.01	5.33	4.29 to 6.37	<0.01
NSAID, current	§			§		
csDMARD, current	§			§		
bDMARD/tsDMARD, current	§			§		
Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic*	6.50	1.61 to 11.39	<0.01	2.28	-3.10 to 7.66	0.41

Variables that were possibly associated with the outcome in univariable analysis (p<0.10) were considered for multivariable analysis. Next, these were retained in multivariable models if they were significantly associated with the outcome (p<0.05). Age, gender and the primary variable of interest (Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic) were always included. *Binary time-varying variable, indicating whether an assessment took place after onset of pandemic vs. pre-pandemic (primary variable of interest). As patients were followed up over time, they could have both pre-pandemic assessments (before March 2020, coded 0) and post-onset assessments (after March 2020, coded 1). †Used for stratification. §Not associated with outcome in univariable analysis.

2

Supplementary Table 3. Multivariable GEE analysis of ASDAS, BASDAI and patient global as outcome

Variable	Outcome = ASDAS (n=412)			Outcome = BASDAI (n=484)			Outcome = Patient global (n=482)		
	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p
Age, years	0.00	-0.01 to 0.01	0.84	0.01	0.00 to 0.03	0.16	0.00	-0.02 to 0.02	0.98
Male gender	-0.47	-0.63 to -0.32	<0.01	-0.94	-1.30 to -0.58	<0.01	-0.79	-1.20 to -0.38	<0.01
High education	-0.29	-0.45 to -0.13	<0.01	-0.75	-1.11 to -0.38	<0.01	-0.89	-1.30 to -0.47	<0.01
Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic*	-0.03	-0.15 to 0.09	0.58	-0.18	-0.36 to 0.00	0.05	0.03	-0.23 to 0.29	0.82

*Binary time-varying variable, indicating whether an assessment took place after onset of pandemic vs. pre-pandemic (primary variable of interest). As patients were followed up over time, they could have both pre-pandemic assessments (before March 2020, coded 0) and post-onset assessments (after March 2020, coded 1).

3

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Supplementary Table 4. Univariable and multivariable GEE analysis of absenteeism (0-100, ASDAS model)

Variable	Univariable (n=335)			Multivariable Low education (n=153)			Multivariable High education (n=123)		
	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p	B	95%CI	p
Age, years	0.21	-0.05 to 0.46	0.12	-0.35	-0.83 to 0.13	0.15	0.22	-0.09 to 0.54	0.17
Male gender	-4.39	-10.30 to 1.51	0.14	-5.26	-16.14 to 5.62	0.34	2.48	-4.48 to 9.43	0.49
High education	-5.95	-11.78 to -0.11	0.05	N/A†			N/A†		
ASDAS	6.40	4.19 to 8.62	<0.01	5.93	4.00 to 7.87	<0.01	4.73	1.44 to 8.01	<0.01
BASDAI (0-10)	3.76	2.83 to 4.69	<0.01	‡			‡		
Patient global (0-10)	2.95	2.24 to 3.66	<0.01	‡			‡		
NSAID, current	0.91	-3.77 to 5.60	0.70	§			§		
csDMARD, current	4.95	-0.55 to 10.46	0.08	¥			¥		
bDMARD/tsDMARD, current	-2.17	-6.79 to 2.45	0.36	§			§		
Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic*	5.80	2.03 to 9.56	<0.01	11.15	7.44 to 14.86	<0.01	3.54	-3.81 to 10.89	0.35

Variables that were possibly associated with the outcome in univariable analysis (p<0.10) were considered for multivariable analysis. Next, these were retained in multivariable models if they were significantly associated with the outcome (p<0.05). Age, gender and the primary variable of interest (Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic) were always included. *Binary time-varying variable, indicating whether an assessment took place after onset of pandemic vs. pre-pandemic (primary variable of interest). As patients were followed up over time, they could have both pre-pandemic assessments (before March 2020, coded 0) and post-onset assessments (after March 2020, coded 1).

†Used for stratification. ‡Due to collinearity, ASDAS, BASDAI and patient global were not included in the same model. §Not associated with outcome in univariable analysis. ¥Possibly associated with outcome in univariable analysis (p<0.10), but not when adjusted for other variables in multivariable analysis.

4

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Supplementary Table 5. Univariable GEE analysis of presenteeism (0-100)

Variable	B	Univariable (n=325) 95%CI	p
Age, years	0.11	-0.11 to 0.34	0.32
Male gender	-5.27	-10.35 to -0.19	0.04
High education	-3.69	-8.85 to 1.46	0.16
ASDAS	11.25	9.56 to 12.95	<0.01
BASDAI (0-10)	6.56	5.87 to 7.24	<0.01
Patient global (0-10)	4.67	4.14 to 5.20	<0.01
NSAID, current	-0.30	-4.32 to 3.73	0.89
csDMARD, current	0.89	-3.79 to 5.58	0.71
bDMARD/tsDMARD, current	0.43	-3.56 to 4.41	0.83
Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic*	0.26	-2.91 to 3.43	0.87

Note: no multivariable analysis was conducted with presenteeism as outcome, as the primary variable of interest (Time, post-onset vs pre-pandemic) was not associated with presenteeism in univariable analysis (p=0.87). In addition, there were no relevant interactions between this primary variable of interest and other variables.

*Binary variable, indicating whether assessment took place after onset of pandemic vs. pre-pandemic (primary variable of interest).
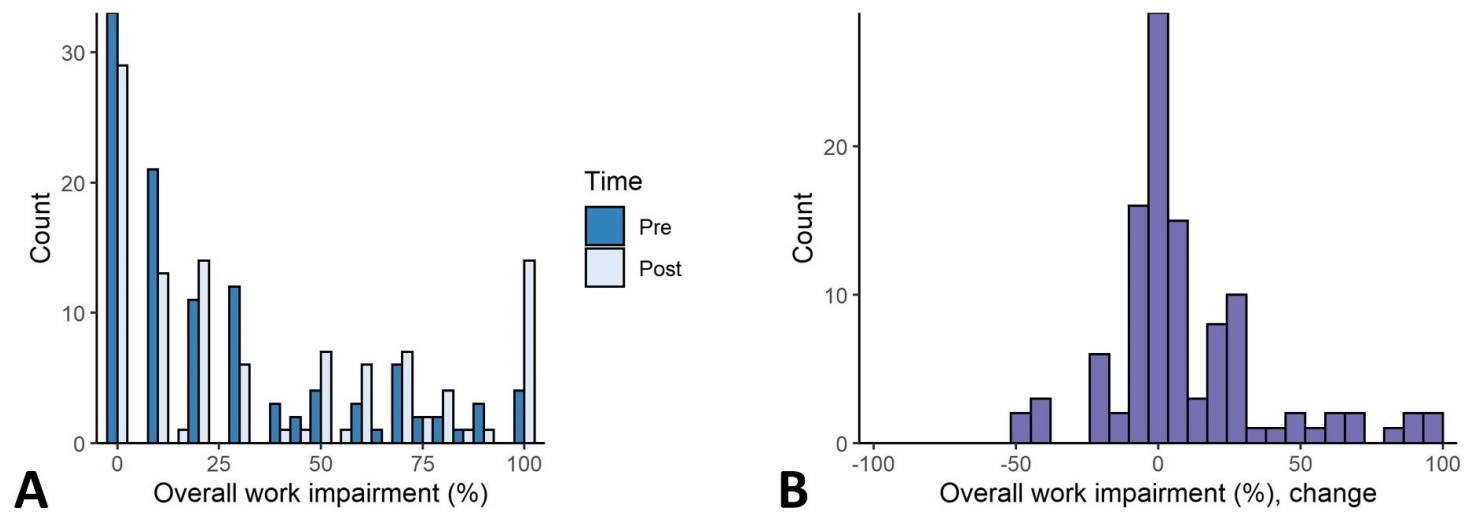
Supplementary Figure 1. Distribution of (change in) overall work impairment

Figure caption: Distribution of overall work impairment at pre-pandemic and post-onset assessments (A), and distribution of (absolute) change from pre-pandemic to post-onset assessment (B). Overall work impairment assessed with Work Productivity and Activity Impairment questionnaire, resulting in a score of 0% (no impairment) to 100% (maximum impairment).

6