Psoriatic Arthritis

What is Psoriatic Arthritis?
Psoriatic arthritis (PsA) is a chronic autoimmune disease that impacts the joints and skin.

Symptoms
Many patients with psoriatic arthritis experience disease flares, or periods of increased inflammation and disease activity. Symptoms vary, but may include:

- Joint pain
- Skin rashes
- Eye inflammation
- Stiffness
- Fatigue
- Swollen fingers or toes
- Tendon or ligament pain

Proactivity is crucial in managing symptoms — early recognition, diagnosis and treatment of psoriatic arthritis may help reduce pain and prevent long-term joint damage.

Prevalence
Psoriatic arthritis affects about 30 percent of patients who already have psoriasis.

Both men and women are affected equally, and diagnoses are usually made between the ages of 30 and 55.

Diagnosis & Treatment
Diagnosis of psoriatic arthritis is difficult, due to symptoms that mirror other autoimmune diseases.

Typically, patients are referred to a rheumatologist, who might run tests such as:

- Physical exam
- X-ray
- Blood test

There are treatment options available that can help manage symptoms of psoriatic arthritis, including:

- Anti-inflammatory treatments
- Corticosteroids
- Topical treatments
- Disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs)
- Biologics

However, there remains an unmet need for additional treatment options that decrease the rate of flares and increase rates of remission.

Bristol-Myers Squibb is committed to identifying and pursuing new treatment options and innovative development approaches to help deliver transformational medicines for patients with psoriatic arthritis and other autoimmune diseases.