

Pubmed: 788	
	694 excluded (off topic)
Screen (title/abstract) (LvT and MB): 96	
	60 excluded (off topic, clearly wrong relation)
Potentially relevant studies screened (full article) (LvT and MB): 36	
	21 excluded because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no comparison with core set measures (n=8) - review (n=5) - qualitative study (n=1) - no PRO (n=3) - no stiffness measure (n=3) - no RA (n=1)
Studies identified through reference checking/citation tracking (LvT): 1	
Final screen of studies on validity of stiffness as a PRO: 16	
	14 excluded because no data on low disease activity (additional file 2)
2 studies included in systematic review	