

Madrid, 11 of November, 2011

The Call for research proposals on PROs decided

Last spring, Eular put out a call with the aim to elicit proposals from the community that concerned advances in the measurement of PROs for clinical and epidemiological research on a Europe wide basis in accordance with EULAR's strategic goals. Eighteen full applications were received by June 15, that were reviewed by 15 experts in the field from outside of Europe, as well as by 13 patients. Review criteria included relevance to the subject matter of the call or the EULAR research strategy, feasibility, track record of the main participants as individuals and in collaboration, active participation of people with arthritis in the project, novelty and importance for the field of rheumatology, and design.

The call was decided on September meeting of the Eular Executive Committee, and the recipients of the grants are:

- A comprehensive audit of the content and quality of 'Patient Reported Outcomes '(PRO'S), for Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis (PI Alan Tennant, UK)
- Development and cross-cultural validation of a patient-reported computer animation questionnaire for measuring functional limitations in patients with arthritis (PI Caroline Terwee, NL)
- Cross-cultural validation of two patient reported outcome measures in RA (BRAF and RAID)(PI Sarah Hewlett, UK)
- Cross-European validation of a disease-specific quality of life measure for osteoarthritis (PI Ayse A. Kucukdeveci, TR)
- The patient perspective on remission in rheumatoid arthritis (PI Lillian van Tuyl, NL)
- Towards a simple patient-reported outcome measure to assess at-work productivity loss in patients with inflammatory diseases and osteoarthritis (PI Suzanne Verstappen, UK)

Congratulations and good work to those awarded!

Eular Executive approves the creation of a Tool-Box for PROs

The call on PROs was decided by a taskforce on PRO established two years ago. As a result of the discussions in the taskforce, it was deemed strategic to create an open access quality catalogue of PROs and perhaps more instruments used both for research and clinical practice in rheumatology. A proposal was presented by Isabel Castrejón and Laure Gossec that includes development, feed of the catalogue by systematic reviews, and an educational tool. The proposal and three year budget was approved last September by the Eular Executive. The launch meeting of the catalogue will be held in Madrid, next December.

We hope it will become a useful tool for all!

Eumusc.Net delivers powerful data for Epidemiologists

After a year of hard work and very difficult search, the Eumusc research team is delighted to announce the post of its first report on Europe's Musculoskeletal Health. The report provides data on relevant indicators of health, care services provision, and costs throughout Europe. Please make use of this relevant information, available at the project web-page (www.eumusc.net). The list of the indicators has been available also since a few months ago.

As an epidemiologist, your task should be to make sure that you country is measuring them!

Questions? Do not hesitate to ask me. Loreto Carmona (Chair of Eular SCHER)