

EULAR Study Group on Social Media for Rheumatology Healthcare Professionals (SoMeR)

Background & Aim:

The proposed EULAR Study Group (SG) aims to explore the current landscape of social media by rheumatology professionals, while supporting global scientific exchange, reducing disparity in educational opportunities online, and provide future generations with the opportunity to channel time spent on SoME platforms into accredited professional development.

We envision that the study group will offer professionals the platform to conduct a workshop and qualitative synthesis to define a credible, value-added SoME learning event. These objectives are aligned with the vision to develop evidence based international recommendations for safe and appropriate use of SoME, including, where possible, academic accreditation for those who engage with such events. The study group has support from other regional rheumatology leagues aside from EULAR. The SoMeR initiative brings the unique opportunity to bridge communication gaps among rheumatology professionals across the globe, while establishing the foundation for novel future educational approaches. The study group leads are established researchers with a credible academic profile and organisational leadership experience in furthering communications and social media network worldwide.

Study Group Lead:

Latika Gupta

Consultant Rheumatologist, Department of Rheumatology, Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust, Wolverhampton, UK

Senior Lecturer (honorary, teaching and research), Division of Musculoskeletal and Dermatological Sciences, Centre for Musculoskeletal Research, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Manchester, Manchester, UK.

Co-Chair EMEUNET and APLAR Young Rheumatology social media.

Founding Members:

	Name	Role	Affiliation
1	Elena Nikiphorou	Member, EULAR Communications Sub-Committee Chair Ex-EMEUNET Chair & leader of Social Media subcommittee	Centre for Rheumatic Diseases, King's College London, London, UK.
2	Loreto Carmona	Member, EULAR Advocacy Committee Chair	Instituto de Salud Musculoesquelética, Madrid, Spain.
3	Chris Edwards	Member, EULAR Chair of Education Committee	NIHR Clinical Research Facility, University Hospital Southampton, Southampton, UK
4	Francis Barenbaum	Member, Social media expert and EULAR Communications Sub-Committee member	Sorbonne Université, CRSA, INSERM UMR 938, F-75012, Service de Rhumatologie, Hôpital Saint-Antoine, AP-HP, F-75012, Paris, France.

5	Jeffrey Sparks	Member, Social media expert and ACR representative	Division of Rheumatology, Inflammation, and Immunity, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts.
6	Carlos Vinicio Caballero	Member, PANLAR expert on social media	Department of Medicine, Hospital Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia.
7	Ghita Harifi	Member, APLAR education committee, APLAR Young Rheumatology Vice Chair	HBG medical centre, Dubai city
8	Yoshiya Tanaka	Member, APLAR international affairs Japanese College of Rheumatology President	The First Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Japan, Kitakyushu, Japan.
9	Dzifa Dey	Member, AFLAR President	Rheumatology Unit, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, Korlebu Teaching Hospital, University of Ghana Medical School, College of Health Sciences, PO Box 4236, Korle-Bu, Accra, Ghana.
10	Manouk De Hooge	Member, EULAR advocacy committee	Department of Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium; VIB Center of Inflammation Research, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium.
11	Kim Lauper	Member, Ex EMEUNET president and social media user	Service de rhumatologie, Hôpitaux universitaires de Genève, 1211 Genève 14
12	Wilson Bautista	Member, PANLAR social media user	Reumatología, Hospital Universitario Fundación Santa Fe, Universidad El Bosque, Bogotá, Colombia.
13	Peter Kerkhoff	Member, Professor of Communication, Amsterdam	External expert , Department of Communication Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands
14	Peter Boyd	Member, Chair of EULAR PARE & SoME user	Patient research partner, Services Support Officer with Arthritis Ireland.
15	Simone Battista	Member, HPR EULAR	Health Professional, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, and University of Genoa, Campus of Savona, Savona, Italy.