

## Biennial report

### Study Groups

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#### **Title of the study group: Diffuse Idiopathic Skeletal Hyperostosis (DISH) study group**

Study Group Leader's name: Xenofon Baraliakos, Reuven Mader.

Date of annual report submission: March 2018

#### **Summary of last year's activities**

The study group published a review paper in RMD Open on the present knowledge and the shortcoming in our understanding of DISH. In that Review, suggested topic for a research agenda was included.

Furthermore, a pilot study about visceral adiposity and DISH or ankylosing spondylitis was performed and is, at present, under review.

In its annual meeting held in Germany in January 2018, the group discussed plans for future studies and also the current status of studies on DISH performed by members of the study group. In that context, collaborations between group members but also other persons outside the group who are working on DISH were considered. A research plan for the next 2 years was finalized. This includes the following projects:

- MRI study on high risk patients for the development of DISH (status: recruiting).
- Genetic study (status: submitted in the ethical committee of one European country and soon be submitted to the IRB in a second country)
- Collection of appropriate images and publication of an imaging Atlas on DISH (status: in preparation)

The next meeting of the group is planned for January 2019.