

# Developing EULAR recommendations

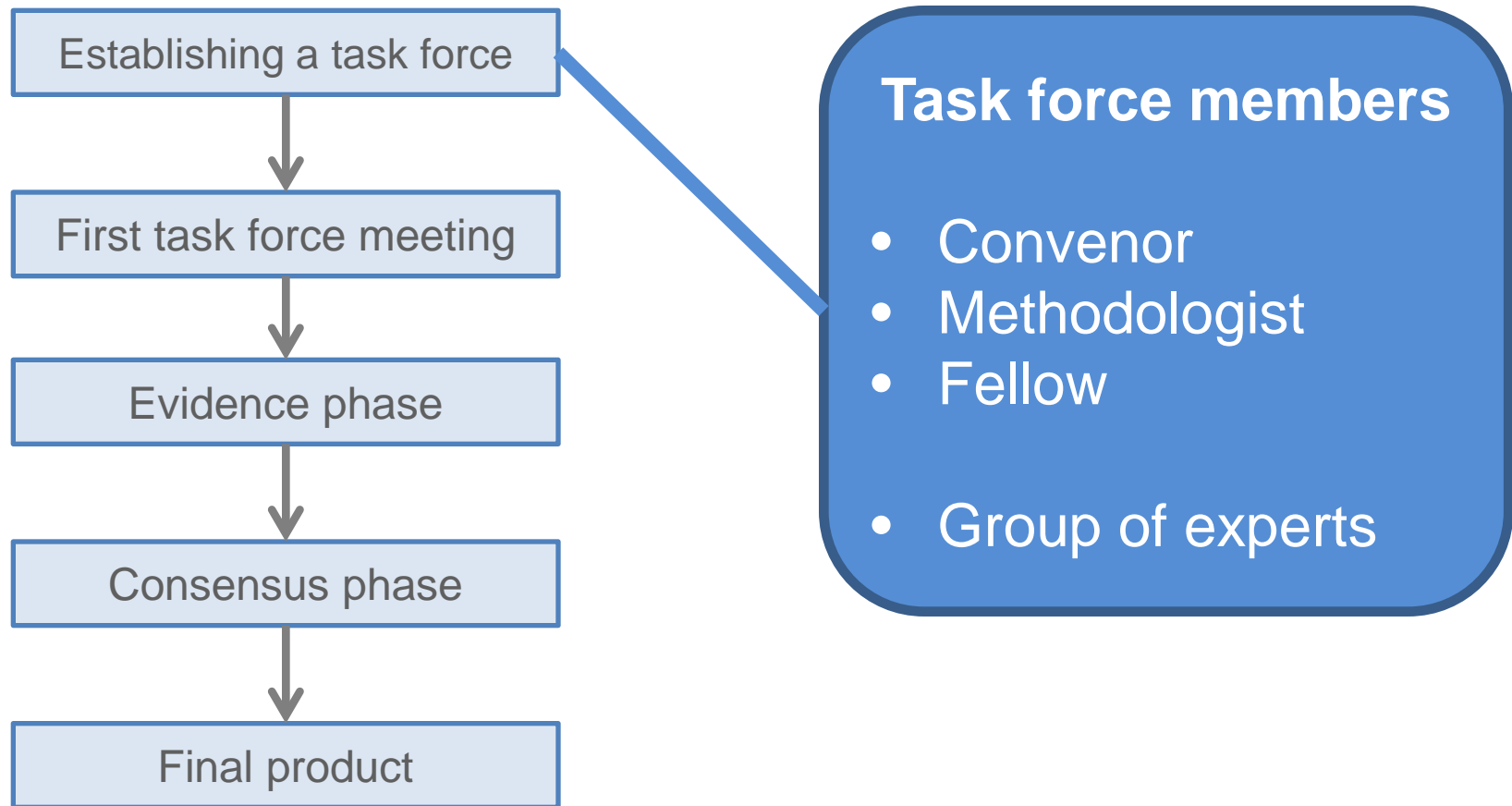
EULAR Standing Committee of Clinical Affairs

Dr. Daniel Aletaha

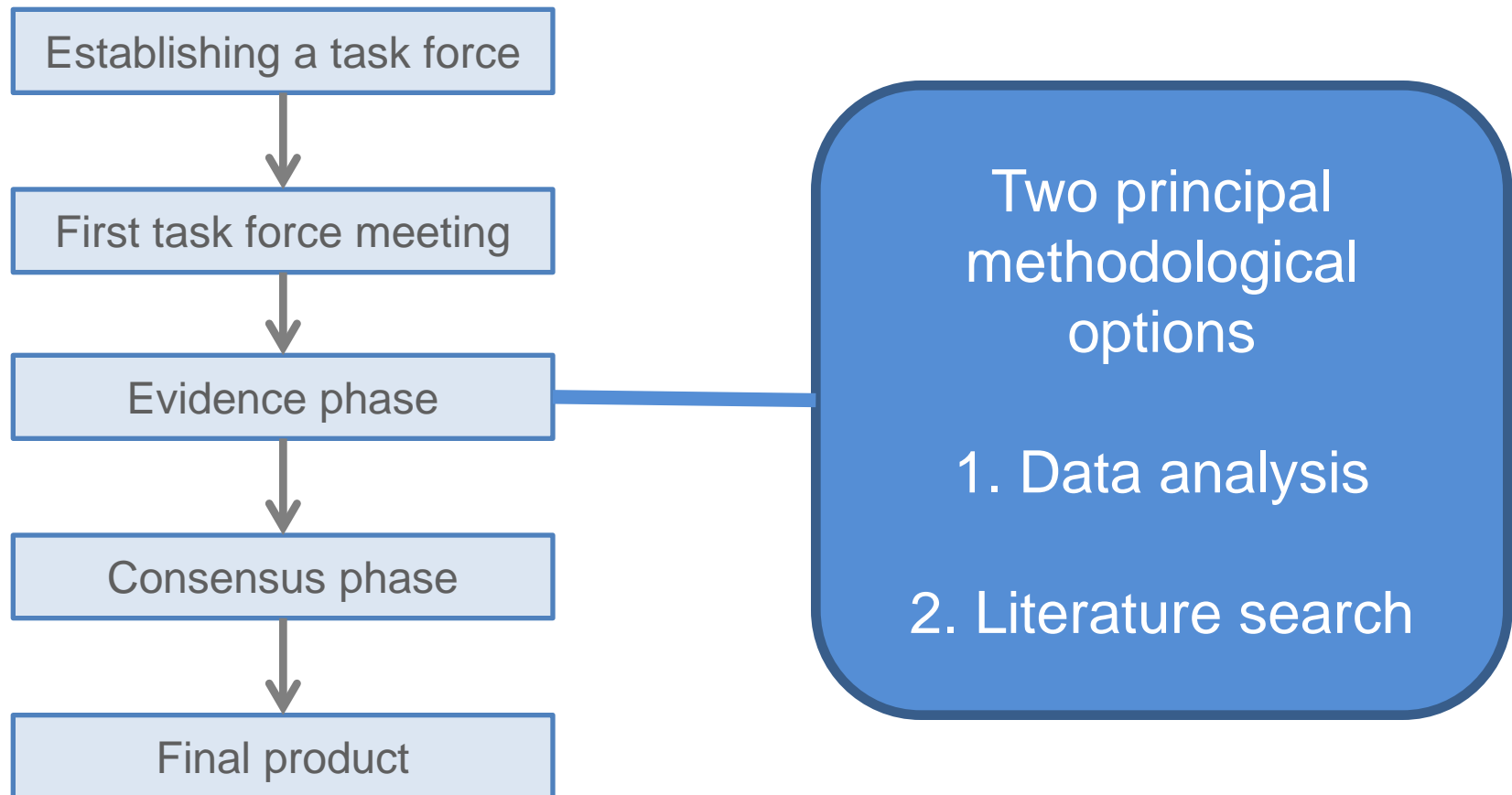
Prof. Désirée van der Heijde

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# Typical methods for developing EULAR recommendations



# Typical methods for developing EULAR recommendations



# EULAR terminology for committee projects

Criteria documents

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Guidance documents

- (Guidelines)
- Recommendations
- Points to consider

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# EULAR terminology for committee projects

- Classification / diagnostic criteria
- Outcomes criteria (e.g. remission criteria, disease activity tools etc.)

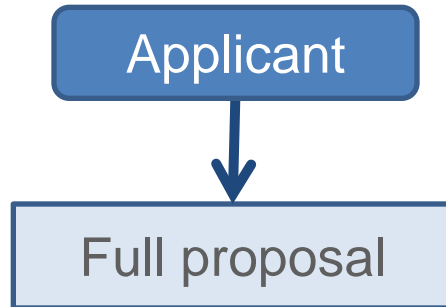
## Criteria documents

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## Guidance documents

- Management recommendations (diagnostic and therapeutic)
- Recommendations for conducting scientific research (e.g. reporting clinical trials)

# Process of Application



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Every year, EULAR invites European centres of rheumatology research to apply for recognition as "EULAR Centre of Excellence". Applications can now be submitted until 30 April 2014.

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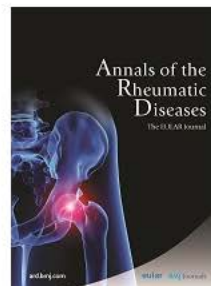


The next EULAR Annual European Congress of Rheumatology will take place from 11-14 June 2014 in Paris, France. The annual EULAR congress is now a major event in the calendar of world rheumatology. As have previous congresses during the last decade, Paris 2014 will provide a unique event for the exchange of scientific and clinical information.

[Visit the congress website >>](#)

- >> Online registration for journalist now open
- >> Complimentary Ticket for CDG Airport Transfer included in Registration
- >> Online registration and hotel reservation now open

eular congress news



The Annals of Rheumatic Diseases hold an impact factor of 9.111 and retain the number one position for original research in rheumatology also in 2012.

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Driving musculoskeletal health for Europe

Musculoskeletal conditions have a great impact across EU member states, but are not diagnosed, prevented and treated with equity. The Eumusc.net project addresses this with the support of EULAR.

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## What EULAR does

The aims of EULAR are to reduce the burden of rheumatic diseases on the individual and society and to improve the treatment, prevention and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal diseases. To this end, EULAR fosters excellence in education and research in the field of rheumatology. It promotes the translation of research advances into daily care and fights for the recognition of the needs of people with rheumatic diseases.

Specifically, EULAR supports research projects in rheumatology by funding collaborative research between European rheumatology groups and more recently also across the Atlantic. Education and training is another key area of commitment for EULAR. The annual congress of rheumatology is the highlight event in the EULAR calendar each year.

At the European political level, EULAR represents the interests of the entire rheumatic disease community and is the natural partner of European policy makers when policies and regulatory frameworks are developed. Collaboration with international organisations as well as the American College of Rheumatology and the regional leagues of rheumatology associations is a continued and expanding effort of EULAR.

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### RELATED INFORMATION

#### Applications for project grants

EULAR welcomes project applications from rheumatologists around Europe. Applicants should be aware of a standard EULAR procedure for applying, internal evaluation, and decision-making.

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## Standing Committee for Clinical Affairs

### Applications for project grants

EULAR welcomes project applications from rheumatologists around Europe designed to developing EULAR Recommendations, EULAR Criteria, EULAR Points to Consider, or similar projects. Final manuscripts, approved by EULAR, will ultimately need to be submitted to ARD for review and possible publication. Applicants should be aware of a standard EULAR procedure for applying, internal evaluation, and decision-making.

- Applicants are invited to submit a full proposal (maximal length: 5 pages; longer proposals will be returned)
- Project proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the EULAR Standing Committee chairmen. Following evaluation, the EULAR Executive Committee will make a final funding decision at its next available meeting. Funding decisions will be made twice a year, in March and September. (Full project proposals must reach the Secretariat by end of June or end of December in order to meet internal process deadlines and ensure submission to the next EULAR Executive Committee meetings.)
- Standard budget for projects is EUR 55,000 (two meetings at 20,000 each, 15,000 for Fellow work), and EUR 35,000 for "update" projects (one meeting at 20,000, 15,000 for Fellow work).
- If a project proposal is approved, all task force members will need to fill in a "Declaration of Interest" form provided by the EULAR Secretariat.
- Note that, EULAR has recognised the pivotal role of patients in the development of recommendations. Today it is common practice for EULARs task force leaders to involve one or two patient research partners in their project organisation.  
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##### Grant application templates

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##### How EULAR develops recommendations

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##### EULAR SOPs

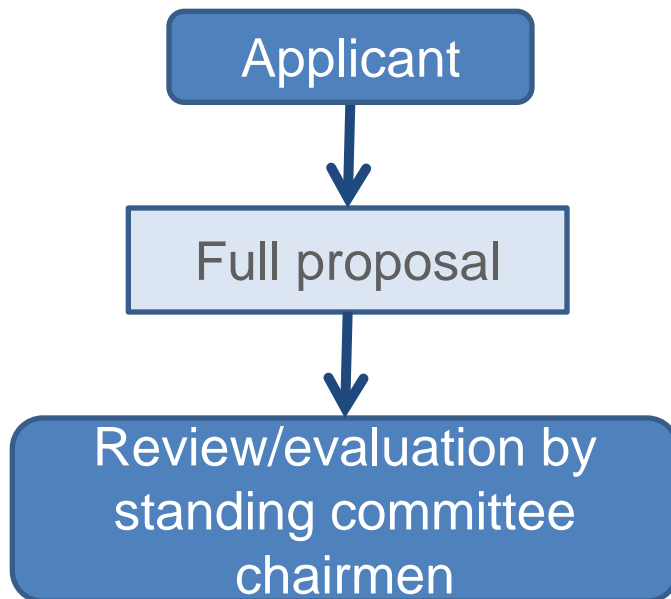
It is the objective of the EULAR Executive Committee to promote actions and/or projects permitting to improve the knowledge and/or the recognition of musculoskeletal disorders.

[SOPs 2004 >>](#)

[SOPs updated 2014 >>](#)

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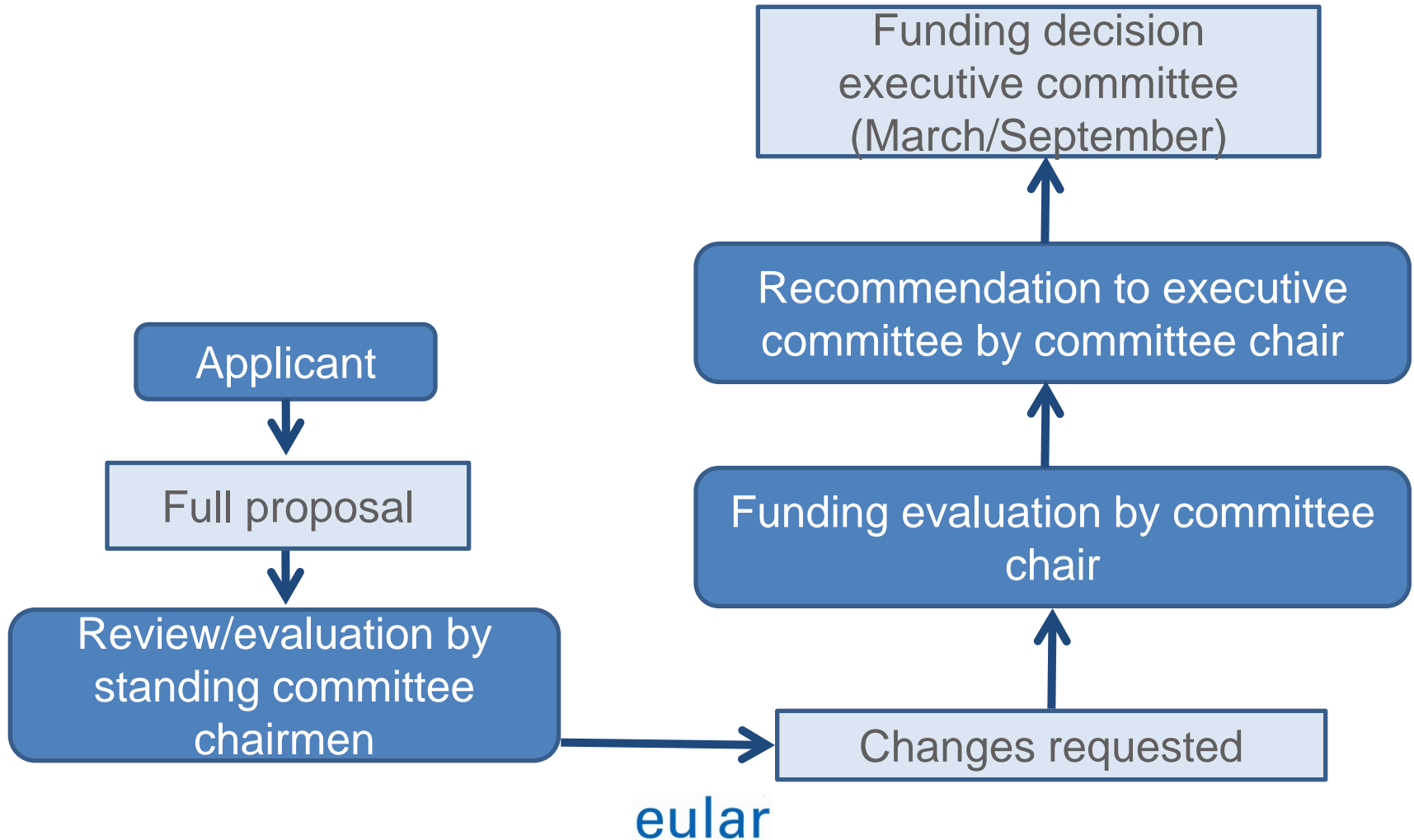
# Process of Application



Main criteria for proposal:

1. Convenor from a EULAR country
2. Multinationality
3. Patient involvement
4. Relevance to EULAR objectives
5. Adequate budget (€55,000 or €35,000 updates)

# Process of Application



# EULAR SOP's for Recommendation Projects

Version 2004

*Ann Rheum Dis* 2004;**63**:1172-1176 doi:10.1136/ard.2004.023697

## **EULAR reports**

**EULAR standardised operating procedures for the elaboration, evaluation, dissemination, and implementation of recommendations endorsed by the EULAR standing committees**

M Dougados<sup>1</sup>, N Betteridge<sup>2</sup>, G R Burmester<sup>3</sup>, L Euler-Ziegler<sup>4</sup>, F Guillemain<sup>5</sup>, J Hirvonen<sup>6</sup>, J Lloyd<sup>7</sup>, S Ozen<sup>8</sup>, J A P Da Silva<sup>9</sup>, P Emery<sup>10</sup>, J R Kalden<sup>11</sup>, T Kvien<sup>12</sup>, M Matucci-Cerinic<sup>13</sup>, J Smolen<sup>14</sup>

# EULAR SOP's for Recommendation Projects

Updated version 2014

*Ann Rheum Dis* doi:10.1136/annrheumdis-2014-206350

## Recommendation

### **2014 Update of the EULAR standardised operating procedures for EULAR-endorsed recommendations**

Désirée van der Heijde<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Aletaha<sup>2</sup>, Loreto Carmona<sup>3</sup>, Christopher J Edwards<sup>4,5</sup>,  
Tore K Kvien<sup>6</sup>, Marios Kouloumas<sup>7</sup>, Pedro Machado<sup>1,8</sup>, Sue Oliver<sup>9</sup>, Maarten de Wit<sup>7</sup>,  
Maxime Dougados<sup>10,11</sup>

# The role of patients in EULAR projects

- **Patients should be involved in all phases of the project**
- All project applications must have a separate lay summary
- At least two patients have to be involved in the active process

# The role of patients in EULAR projects

## European League Against Rheumatism recommendations for the inclusion of patient representatives in scientific projects

M P T de Wit,<sup>1</sup> S E Berlo,<sup>2</sup> G J Aanerud,<sup>3</sup> D Aletaha,<sup>4</sup> J W Bijlsma,<sup>5</sup> L Croucher,<sup>6</sup>  
J A P Da Silva,<sup>7</sup> B Glüsing,<sup>8</sup> L Gossec,<sup>9</sup> S Hewlett,<sup>10</sup> M Jongkees,<sup>11</sup> D Magnusson,<sup>12</sup>  
M Scholte-Voshaar,<sup>13</sup> P Richards,<sup>14</sup> C Ziegler,<sup>15</sup> T A Abma<sup>1</sup>

*de Wit M et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2010.*