

Chronic diseases and health care delivery 2020: The challenge of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases. *Findings, lessons and perspectives from the eumusc.net project*

European Parliament & Thon Hotel EU

17 October 2013, 10:30 – 17:30

Hosted by:
Paul Rübige (MEP)

Draft agenda

Chairs: Prof. Maurizio Cutolo (EULAR President)
Prof. Anthony Woolf (eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator)

Registration:
10:30 – 11:30

MORNING SESSION

Venue: European Parliament (*József Antall Building, room 6Q2*)

Chair: Prof. Anthony Woolf, eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator

11.30 – 12:00: Welcome Note

- ❖ Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President
- ❖ Paul Rübige, MEP from Austria
- ❖ Francisco Alvarez Hidalgo, Deputy Head of the Unit Health, Safety and Hygiene at Work, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
- ❖ Jonas Bartlingas, Director of Personal Health Care Department, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania / Lithuanian EU Presidency

12.00 – 12:40: The need for action

The status of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases across Europe

- ❖ **Prof. Anthony Woolf**, eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator

Healthy active ageing and the threat from rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases and other chronic conditions

- ❖ **Dr Inés García Sánchez**, Policy Officer, Innovation for Health and Consumers Unit, DG Health and Consumers, European Commission.

The standards of care people in Europe need

- ❖ **Maarten de Wit**, eumusc.net & **Martina Sadlonova**, Österreichische Gesellschaft für rheumatologische Gesundheitsberufe

Q&A

12:40 – 13:30: Measuring to improve

How we can assess musculoskeletal health across Member States

- ❖ **Prof. Loreto Carmona**, eumusc.net / Instituto de Salud Musculoesquelética

Improving the care of people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases: what are the barriers?

- ❖ **Katerina Koutsogianni**, Association of People with Rheumatic Diseases of Crete

Opportunities for implementation

- ❖ **Prof. Ingemar Petersson**, eumusc.net / Director Epi-centre Skåne and Register Centre South, Skåne University Hospital and Lund University, Lund, Sweden

The World Health Organization perspective on evidence-based policies

- ❖ **Dr Roberto Bertollini**, Chief Scientist and WHO Representative to the EU, World Health Organization

Q&A

13:30: Closing morning session and guidelines for break-out sessions

- ❖ **Prof. Anthony Woolf**, eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator

13.30 – 14.00: Walk to Thon EU Hotel

AFTERNOON SESSION

Venue: Thon Hotel EU (*Rue de la Loi 75, 1040 - Brussels*)

14:00 – 14:45: Lunch

14.45 – 14.55: Walk to break-out rooms

14:55 – 15:55: Break-out sessions: How can you use the evidence to overcome the barriers to improved standards of care?

- ❖ Groups will consider how different stakeholders (policy makers, health professionals, patients, and other stakeholders) can use the evidence to overcome the barriers they will identify to improved standards of care

15:55 – 16:05: Walk to plenary room

16:05 – 16:35: Plenary session: Break-out sessions reports & discussion

Chair: Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President

- ❖ Presentations
- ❖ Q&A

16:35 – 16:45: Coffee break

16:45 – 17:00: Managing the burden of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases: Recommendations

- ❖ Prof. Anthony Woolf, eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator
- ❖ Q&A

17:00 – 17:30: Closing session

Chair: Prof. Anthony Woolf, eumusc.net Scientific Coordinator

Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President

- ❖ Dr Isabel de la Mata, Principal Adviser, Public Health and Risk Assessment, European Commission
- ❖ Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, EULAR President (conclusions)

Scope of the event

The eumusc.net Project

Rheumatic diseases and other musculoskeletal conditions are the biggest cause of disability across all Member States and incur major social costs and are a major loss of productivity. There are differences in care between Member States and failure to implement evidence based interventions that have enormous potential to reduce this burden. The aim of eumusc.net is to raise and harmonise quality of care and enable equity of care of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs) across the Member States.

The eumusc.net project was initiated and co-sponsored by the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) and undertaken with the support of the EC Community Action in the Field of Health 2008-2013.

To achieve its aim eumusc.net has analysed Standards of Care for Europe and developed methods that provide each Member State with the tools to measure the burden of RMDs in their own country and the quality of implementation of Standards of Care.

The tools developed by eumusc.net will enable a country to:

- Accurately assess the burden of musculoskeletal conditions
- Understand the Standards of Care that their citizens should expect
- Measure the quality of healthcare it provides, relative to the Standards of care
- Set goals for improvements in the provision of healthcare
- Recognise barriers to achieving its goals for healthcare provision
- Measure progress towards equity of care by comparison with an EU good practice model

The implementation of these tools will make a significant contribution to achieving the main goals of the overall initiative: to raise and harmonise quality of care and enable equity of care of RMDs across all the EU Member States.

Aim of the event

The aim of this conference is for policy makers and stakeholders to identify what they can and should do to implement these tools to measure and benchmark that will enable them to set goals, work to improve and strive for equity.

The event will also be an occasion to further the discussion on the policy use of the findings as well as on potential follow-up actions.

More specifically, the event will pursue the following objectives:

- To present the main results of the eumusc.net project

- To formulate recommendations on how to further implement the measurement and benchmarking tools
- To further raise awareness among policy makers, stakeholders and the public on the social and economic consequences of RMDs as well as on their links to the societal challenges the Commission is aiming to tackle
- To formulate recommendations to the European Commission on how to support Member States (MS) on assessing and addressing RMDs

Focus of the event

The conference will focus on the key findings and recommendations of eumusc.net as well as on the use of these findings to further implement policies addressing RMDs in Europe.

- The **evidence** that supports implementation
 - the burden across Europe and in Member States
 - the standards of care for the major musculoskeletal conditions of OA and RA that can control this burden
- The **tools** to measure & benchmark
 - assessment tool to measure the burden of musculoskeletal conditions
 - Health Care Quality Indicators to measure healthcare provision to deliver recommended standards of care
- The **recommendations** on how to implement the health information and surveillance system, allowing Member States to benchmark its position within and between countries and help to identify areas for improvement.

Participants

The conference aims at bringing together representatives of:

- EU institutions
- Member State institutions
- Research organisations
- Medical and health professional associations
- Patient organisations
- Research funding bodies
- Social services providers
- Other key stakeholders

Expected results

The conference is expected to achieve the following results:

- Dissemination of the results of the eumusc.net project
- European Commission commitment to further support RMDs and finance additional projects under the new “Health for Growth” Programme as well as under the Horizon 2020 research programme
- Recommendations for action to EU and MS based on latest evidence
- Specialised media coverage
- Conference report