FOREWORD

EULAR has always had a strong commitment in the field of training and education in rheumatology. Indeed, educational offers related to rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases are one of the key strategic areas of EULAR. We seek to design an up-to-date high-quality educational program for rheumatologists and health professionals catering to their immediate and changing needs. EULAR strives to offer courses and educational materials that cover niches or complement already existing training opportunities and products. EULAR Standing Committee on Education and Training (ESCET) is the forum within EULAR to develop and support training and education in rheumatology.

Over time EULAR has developed a broad educational program which today includes courses, both physical and electronic, rheumatology textbooks, DVDs demonstrating diagnostic and treatment practices, as well as workshops and young rheumatologist sessions scheduled at the annual EULAR congress. In addition, EULAR provides various forms of education and training grants to individuals. The EULAR on-line courses reached an all time high number of registrations in 2014 and we aim for an even higher number of participants this year.

This commitment to Education and Training was recently reiterated in the new EULAR strategic objectives until 2017 which include providing educational resources for health professionals and patients as well as innovative learning methods based on e-learning. Importantly, EULAR has spelled out for the first time a vision towards a EULAR certification process for specific knowledge, expertise and skills for physicians, health professionals and patient representatives.

This brochure gives you a quick overview of the individual courses and programs available from EULAR today. For updated information and registration, please visit the EULAR website (www.eular.org) where new courses are announced. This year the 2nd edition of the EULAR Textbook on Rheumatic Diseases will be launched during the Rome Congress.

We hope that you will find this brochure helpful and that EULAR contributes to your further education in rheumatology.

“Education and training are one of the key strategic areas of EULAR”

Prof. Ingrid Lundberg

Chair EULAR
Standing Committee on Education and Training
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EU LAR ULTRASOUND COURSE

Newly established this year: the MSUS Competency Assessment process, consisting of 2 levels of competency:

- **Level 1:** Minimum competency necessary to perform full rheumatologic MSUS examination without supervision, which will be achieved after passing the exam of the advanced EU LAR US Course and receiving a EU LAR certificate.

- **Level 2:** Competency necessary to teach MSUS, which will be achieved after passing the exam of the EU LAR Course for US Trainers and receiving a EU LAR certificate.

The **Basic** level ultrasound courses can be offered as EULAR courses as well as by various local organisers throughout the year. Some of the local courses are awarded EULAR scientific endorsement if they fulfil the standard requirements set in the EULAR guidelines for endorsed courses. Details for these course offers can be found on the EULAR website (www.eular.org/edu_courses_endorsement.cfm).

The **intermediate** course aims at consolidating standardised MSUS scanning methods according to EULAR guidelines, as well as describing and identifying musculoskeletal lesions/abnormalities by ultrasound and knowing the role of MSUS in different musculoskeletal pathologies (inflammatory, degenerative and/or traumatic). The standardised approach in the study of the various anatomic regions as well as the future development of US technique and its role as a research tool is discussed.

The **advanced** course focuses on difficult issues within MSUS and emerging research fields in MSUS (contrast enhanced, 3D, quantification of inflammation). This includes time for discussion with expert rheumatologists and radiologists in MSUS.

These courses take place prior to the annual EULAR congress in the same city.

**Bursaries:** In 2015, EULAR grants 20 bursaries each at 750 EUR to young rheumatologists to cover part of the attendance fee.

**Next courses:** Rome, Italy, 7 - 10 June 2015  
London, UK, 5 - 8 June 2016

**Further information:**  
www.eular.org/edu_course_ultrasound.cfm
EULAR ULTRASOUND TRAINER COURSE

EULAR offers an annual training programme for ultrasound trainers in rheumatology who have attended the advanced EULAR Ultrasound Course or gained similar experience. The course is mainly addressing rheumatologists who are planning to organise an ultrasound course under the auspices of EULAR and aims at improving teaching skills for both lectures and hands-on ultrasound workshops. Participants will also learn how to organise an ultrasound course and evaluate the skills of sonographers. This course is part of the EULAR competency assessment, level 2.

The course takes place prior to the annual EULAR congress in the same city.

Next courses:  Rome, Italy, 7 - 8 June 2015
               London, UK, 5 - 6 June 2016

Further information:  www.eular.org/eular_ultrasound_trainer_course.cfm

EULAR EPIDEMIOLOGY COURSE

Epidemiological research has become an essential tool in the study of the aetiology, prognosis, treatment and natural history of rheumatic diseases and in assessing health effects in populations; outcomes research is also very important in clinical research. This course is aimed at selected young rheumatologists, health professionals in rheumatology and researchers with some experience in epidemiology/clinical trials/outcomes research. Admission is competitive based upon qualifications. The main goal of the course is to increase the interest, knowledge and skills of young researchers in epidemiology and stimulate critical thinking in the design and reading of research studies. The course further focuses on interactive learning and practical training, as reflected in the time dedicated for discussion and workshops.

Bursaries:  EULAR grants 10 bursaries

Next course:  Berlin, Germany, 3 - 4 July 2015

Further information:  www.eular.org/edu_course_epidemiology.cfm

“The Ultrasound TiT course is addressing rheumatologists who are planning to organise an ultrasound course under the auspices of EULAR”
EULAR POSTGRADUATE COURSE

This course will be running for the 16th time in 2015. Traditionally, this very popular refresher and intensive course in clinical and experimental rheumatology is taught by a highly regarded faculty of European experts in a very interactive and cordial environment to ensure a stimulating experience of learning and exchange. Due to popular demand, this course stays shortened to 3 and a half days to accommodate the busy work schedules of participants.

The course gives an update on risk factors and disease mechanisms in rheumatic diseases as well as on treatment and possibilities to prevent disease. We will also give an update on basic immunology in context of rheumatic diseases and development of new therapies. The diseases that will be discussed are both common inflammatory as well as non-inflammatory rheumatic diseases and rare diseases.

Some examples of topics:
- Risk factors and treatment of RA, spondyloarthropathies and osteoarthritis
- Disease mechanisms and how to treat patients with SLE
- Systemic sclerosis and inflammatory myopathies
- Autoinflammatory diseases/vasculitis/pregnancy

The course aims at the following target audience:
- Fellows/residents in rheumatology (particularly those preparing for certifying examinations and those who are registered for the EULAR on-line course on Rheumatic Diseases)
- Clinician scientists in rheumatology
- Newly certified rheumatologists as well as more experienced rheumatologists who need to remain up-to-date in rheumatology and immunology

Bursaries: EULAR grants 20 bursaries

Next course: Prague, Czech Republic, 18 - 21 October 2015

Further information: www.eular.org/edu_course_postgraduate.cfm

Participant’s comment:
“Highly informative, well organised and up to the mark. Thanks again EULAR for your wonderful work.”
EULAR CAPILLAROSCOPY COURSE

The course is offered every 2 years. It is structured for progressive learning, training and testing. The EULAR course on NVC, after 11 years of experience (first on 2004), has been successfully tested for both beginners and already trained operators in microcirculation investigations, by over 600 participants from almost 50 different countries.

Participants will be fully involved in interactive theoretical and practical capillaroscopic sessions (Learning and Testing sessions) engaging a large number of rheumatic patients. Updated clinical sessions concerning the diagnostic/prognostic value of NVC in diseases such as systemic sclerosis and the effects of targeted therapies on microcirculation and immune-inflammatory reaction will represent a stimulating gym based on large clinical cases discussion.

In particular, reading and scoring (manual and automated systems) of the videocapillaroscopic images of living patients will be discussed and their predictive value to identify possible clinical complications (i.e. digital ulcers in systemic sclerosis, lung involvement etc.) will be analyzed including in the paediatric population. Recent international studies reported (CAP study) about new predictive models based on capillaroscopic analysis. Practical evaluation of the peripheral blood flow by laser doppler and LASCA imaging and skin ultrasound (US) evaluation will be also available and will be combined with the severity of the videocapillaroscopic images (patterns) in living patients.

Bursaries: EULAR grants 10 bursaries
Next course: Genoa, Italy, 2016
Further information: www.eular.org/edu_course_capillaroscopy.cfm
EULAR SCIENTIFIC ENDORSEMENT

In addition to its own branded educational course program, EULAR invites other courses and scientific meetings in the field of rheumatology and MSUS to apply for "EULAR scientific endorsement" according to predefined rules related to the quality of the content, the qualifications of the faculty and the rigor of the course evaluation. To this end, EULAR views scientific endorsement as an opportunity to positively influence the quality of rheumatology training in Europe.

Further information: [www.eular.org/edu_courses_endorsement.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_courses_endorsement.cfm)

COURSE ON SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

The course on SLE, taking place every two years, targets young rheumatologists and fosters international collaboration among experts. It offers advanced knowledge and skills. The attendees learn about the major clinical, pathogenetic and therapeutic aspects of SLE. Much time is devoted to the clinical discussion of personal experience in the management of SLE patients while participants are encouraged to discuss their own difficult clinical cases. The sessions also include practical exercises and case discussions to improve the clinical skills of the attendees.

Bursaries: EULAR grants 10 bursaries
Course: Pisa, Italy, 3 - 8 May 2015
Next course: 2017
Further information: [www.eular.org/edu_course_sle.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_course_sle.cfm)

EUROPEAN WORKSHOP FOR RHEUMATOLOGY RESEARCH (EWRR)

The European Workshop for Rheumatology Research (EWRR) gathers European investigators, in particular young researchers, in order to provide a meeting opportunity, exchange data and organize collaborating links. The main topics of the workshop include the most important areas of interest in rheumatology with a cross interest also in other specialties.

Bursaries: EULAR grants 42 bursaries
Workshop: 5 – 7 March 2015
Next workshop: 2016
Further information:
[www.eular.org/edu_course_ewrr.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_course_ewrr.cfm)
EULAR ON-LINE COURSES 2015

In recent years, EULAR has made substantial efforts and investment in developing e-learning opportunities. All EULAR courses, as electronic ways of continuous medical education in rheumatology, are managed by a scientific course committee responsible for the structure and content of the courses and for ensuring regular quality control and advancement. Our teams of expert authors are regularly reviewing and updating the courses to keep up with the newest developments in the field. Our current online course offer includes a comprehensive full course as well as a number of targeted courses for the specialist.

EULAR ON-LINE COURSE ON CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISEASES

Each module consists of:

• a main review text including learning objectives, pictures, summary points and key references
• at least two in-depth discussions expanding on clinical problems
• two interactive clinical cases with questions and answers
• assessment questions at the end of each module

All modules derive from the full length EULAR on-line course on Rheumatic Diseases. The course starts each September and is designed for nine months (with a possible extension). Participants finish with an on-line exam and, upon passing, receive a EULAR certificate. The course is not only aimed at rheumatologists, but equally at internists, nephrologists, dermatologists, neurologists, pulmonologists and immunologists.

Course fee: EUR 100
Next course: 21 September 2015
(registration is open until end of October 2015)
Further information: www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ctd.cfm

“To date more than 2000 students from all over the world have taken or are taking the course”
EULAR ON-LINE COURSE ON RHEUMATIC DISEASES
The full version course covers the entire field of rheumatology and consists of fifty illustrated modules. Each module, covering a specific topic, corresponds to approximately seven to eight hours of study for the student, totalling around 336 hours of educational training.

Each module consists of:
- a main review text including learning objectives, pictures, summary points and key references
- at least two in-depth discussions expanding on clinical problems
- two interactive clinical cases with questions and answers
- assessment questions at the end of each module

Updates are being provided on a yearly basis. The course starts each September and is designed for two years with a possible extension of one year. The topics change every two weeks but allow participants individual pacing if needed. Participants finish with an on-line exam and, upon passing, receive a EULAR certificate. To date more than 2000 students from all over the world have taken or are taking the course.
Teachings and skills are targeted to suit a level of knowledge appropriate for the final years of training as a rheumatologist.

Course fee: EUR 100
Next course: 7 September 2015
(registration is open until end of November 2015)
Further information: www.eular.org/edu_online_course.cfm

“All EULAR online courses cost only EUR 100
All courses start in September.”
EULAR ON-LINE COURSE ON SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS

This on-line course consists of ten modules dealing with physiopathology, clinical aspects and management of this complex disease.

Each module consists of:
• a main review text including learning objectives, pictures, summary points and key references
• at least two in-depth discussions expanding on clinical problems
• two interactive clinical cases with questions and answers
• assessment questions at the end of each module

Updates are being provided on a yearly basis. The course starts each September and is designed for nine months (with a possible extension). Participants finish with an on-line exam and, upon passing, receive a EULAR certificate. The course is not only aimed at rheumatologists, but also at internists, nephrologists, dermatologists, neurologists, pulmonologists and immunologists.

Course fee: EUR 100
Next course: 21 September 2015
(registration is open until end of October 2015)
Further information: www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ssc.cfm

EULAR ON-LINE INTRODUCTORY ULTRASOUND COURSE

This on-line course offers seven modules of theoretical basic skills on musculoskeletal ultrasound (MSUS) showing different joint sites, in healthy subjects and in rheumatic diseases, using a wide variety of images and video clips.

Each module consists of:
• a main review text with video clips and/or photos
• two in-depth discussions expanding on clinical problems
• two interactive clinical cases with questions and answers
• assessment questions at the end of each module

Updates are being provided on a yearly basis. The course starts each September and is designed for seven months. Participants finish with an on-line exam and, upon passing, receive a EULAR certificate. Knowledge and skills are targeted at the level felt to be appropriate for European rheumatologists who would like to acquire a basic theoretical knowledge on MSUS. Participants may later decide to continue with the training program by attending EULAR MSUS courses and/or MSUS courses with EULAR endorsement. This course is an integral part of the EULAR US competencly assessment programme (see page 5).

Course fee: EUR 100
Next course: 28 September 2015
(registration is open until end of October 2015)
Further information: www.eular.org/edu_course_ultrasound.cfm
EULAR ON-LINE COURSE IN PAEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY

The EULAR on-line course in Paedicatric Rheumatology, written in cooperation with PReS, Paediatric Rheumatology European Society, targets knowledge and skills to be suitable for:

- The rheumatologist with an interest in paediatrics
- The paediatrician with an interest in paediatric rheumatology
- The introductory phase of going into a specialty

This one year course consists of 10 modules, corresponding to roughly 50-80 hours of study. Written by a group of leading European paediatric rheumatologists, it offers a view of all aspects related to rheumatic diseases in children and adolescents, including their impact on the growing body and the differential diagnosis with other paediatric disorders. The course is updated once a year to keep up with the newest developments. Students are able test their knowledge after each module. A final online examination is offered once a year and a certificate issued by EULAR if passed. The course is automatically extended for one more year if the modules are not completed or exam is not passed.

**Course fee:** EUR 100

**Next course:** 14 September 2015

(registration is open until end of October 2015)

**Further information:** [www.eular.org/edu_online_course_paediatric.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_paediatric.cfm)

NEW - ON-LINE COURSE FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

This EULAR on-line course for Health Professionals is aimed at health professionals (HPs) who play an important role in the management of rheumatic conditions: e.g. nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists and psychologists. It consists of 8 modules: 4 disease-specific modules (one on RA, one on OA, one on Fibromyalgia and one on regional musculoskeletal pain syndromes) and 4 generic modules (assessment and evaluation; interventions; psychosocial approaches and evidence-based practice). Care is given to integrate the multi-disciplinary perspective of the treatment of rheumatic diseases.

**Course fee:** EUR 100

**Next course:** 14 September 2015

(registration is open until end of October 2015)

**Further information:** [www.eular.org/edu_online_course_hpr.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_hpr.cfm)

“EULAR course participants can purchase the EULAR Textbook on Rheumatic Diseases for the special price of EUR 70.”
THE EULAR BOOKSHELF

EULAR TEXTBOOK ON RHEUMATIC DISEASES

NEW: 2nd edition of the EULAR Textbook on Rheumatic Diseases

Book price: EUR 100, available at the EULAR Congress, BMJ booth
Special price for EULAR course participants: EUR 70
Information and online sale: www.eular.org/edu_textbook.cfm

EULAR TEXTBOOK ON SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS

This comprehensive textbook encompasses all aspects of scleroderma, from localized to systemic forms, and from pathophysiology to recent advances in evidence-based treatment. Derived directly from the update of the EULAR On-line course on Systemic Sclerosis and written by experts from EULAR/EUSTAR, the ten chapters deal with different organ systems and cover the management of particular conditions, including life-threatening situations and pregnancy. This textbook is an essential reference for any health professional involved in the treatment of patients with systemic sclerosis.

Book price: EUR 70, available at the EULAR Congress, BMJ booth
Special price for EULAR course participants: EUR 50
Information and online sale: support@bmjgroup.com

MUSCULOSKELETAL ULTRASOUND IN RHEUMATOLOGY

The “Essential Applications of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound in Rheumatology” assists you in using musculoskeletal ultrasound to diagnose and monitor the progression of rheumatoid arthritis, vasculitis and other rheumatic and soft tissue disorders.

Further information: www.eular.org/edu_publications.cfm

ATLAS OF CAPILLAROSCOPY IN RHEUMATIC DISEASES

The “Atlas of Capillaroscopy in Rheumatic Diseases” is a modern, updated and physiologically based book containing a large discussion of clinical cases. The reader will learn to understand the capillaroscopic findings that characterize the most important rheumatic diseases.

Further information: www.eular.org/edu_publications.cfm
EULAR TRAINING DVDs

EULAR and its standing Committee on Education and Training want to support general practitioners in their efforts by developing and providing good quality learning tools such as interactive online DVDs on physical examination of the musculoskeletal system.

Starting with the level of undergraduate students, two DVDs are available on the EULAR website for free download.

1. **Principles of the musculoskeletal history and examination**

   The first DVD covers the key principles and techniques involved in the enquiry and examination of a person with musculoskeletal symptoms. It is useful for students who are just starting their musculoskeletal or general medicine clinical skills course.

   ![principles of the musculoskeletal history and examination](image)

2. **The GALS screen**

   The second DVD is dedicated to the GALS examination (G=gait, A=arms, L=legs, S=spine) and takes some 16 minutes to study. Analysis of the GALS represents a comprehensive clinical overview of the patient complaining of musculoskeletal symptoms and is an efficient start to learn the physical examination of the rheumatic patient.

   ![the GALS screen](image)

Further information: [www.eular.org/edu_training_dvd.cfm](http://www.eular.org/edu_training_dvd.cfm)
EULAR EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

TRAINING BURSARIES FOR YOUNG RHEUMATOLOGISTS
Every year, in spring and autumn, EULAR awards up to ten training bursaries to applicants from European countries for clinical or laboratory work (3-6 months) at an institution in another European country. The objective is to improve the standard of research and care and to foster collaboration across rheumatology, clinical and research institutes in Europe. The amount of the bursary depends upon the length of stay. Only persons who work predominantly in the field of rheumatology are eligible for training bursaries. Based on their final report, participants may be given the opportunity to present their results in a dedicated abstract session during the next EULAR Congress.

Further information: www.eular.org/edu_scientific_training_bursaries.cfm

EDUCATIONAL VISITS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN RHEUMATOLOGY
On a yearly basis EULAR awards up to 10 bursaries for educational visits to health professionals (EULAR HP definition does not include medical doctors) working in the field of rheumatology. The objective is to improve the standard of research and care in health professions in rheumatology and to foster collaboration across clinical institutions in Europe. The amount of each bursary varies between EUR 750 and 1500.

Further information:
www.eular.org/health_professionals_educational_visits.cfm
Every year during the EULAR Congress young fellows have the opportunity to choose from a variety of lectures especially geared to their needs. In 2015, these lectures are offered:

**Educational Sessions for young Rheumatologists:**

- **Training of rheumatology across Europe**  
  Wednesday 10 June 2015 15:00  
  Room 10 C

- **Science bites: 10 arthritis abstracts and 10 systemic inflammation abstracts selected by score**  
  Wednesday 10 June 2015 17:00  
  Room 10 C

- **International experience**  
  Thursday 11 June 2015 13:45  
  Room 10 C

- **Being a researcher in the rheumatology world**  
  Thursday 11 June 2015 15:45  
  Room 10 C

- **Evidence based medicine. To design and understand clinical trials and meta-analysis**  
  Friday 12 June 2015 13:45  
  Room 10 C

- **The art of writing**  
  Friday 12 June 2015 15:45  
  Room 10 C

- **Strategic decisions in a career**  
  Saturday 13 June 2015 8:30  
  Room 10 C

- **The art of teaching rheumatology**  
  Saturday 13 June 2015 12:00  
  Room 10 C
EULAR AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL CONGRESS

ABSTRACT AWARDS
EULAR presents twelve Abstract Awards to the first authors of six clinical and six basic science abstracts that are submitted to the EULAR Annual Congress. Winners are selected by the EULAR Scientific Programme Committee based on the quality of the abstracts’ scientific content. EULAR also grants three awards for submitted abstracts by health professionals as first authors.

Further information: www.congress.eular.org
EMEUNET

EMEUNET, the Emerging EUlar NETwork, is a EULAR working group of young clinicians and researchers in rheumatology promoting education, research, widening collaborations and integrating with EULAR activities.

The principle objectives of EMEUNET include the development of a European-wide network of young, emerging rheumatologists and rheumatology researchers, enabling continued excellence in research, and promoting and facilitating a comprehensive higher educational platform for all rheumatology trainees.

Further information: http://emeunet.eular.org

As this brochure shows, EULAR offers a wide range of educational products, aside from its annual congress. Colleagues, willing to help in this effort to bring clinical and scientific advances to the people are welcome to contact Gabriela Kluge (gabriela.kluge@eular.org) from the EULAR Secretariat. EULAR encourages participation and offers various possibilities. These possibilities include involvement within the EULAR Standing Committee on Education and Training or in different working groups dealing with the products and courses mentioned above. In addition good education ideas are always welcome at EULAR and most appreciated!
“New”

First launch during the EULAR 2015 Congress in Rome

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