The EULAR HP member directory
National HP member organisations of EULAR

Members:
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Romania
- Serbia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- UK

From June 2015:
- Portugal

Soon:
- Croatia
- Germany
- France
- Hungary
- Iceland

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National HP member organisations of EULAR
Member from June 2015
Guest representatives preparing for membership
Introduction

Becoming part of the Health Professional network of The European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) offers a wealth of opportunities to national health professional associations and their members.

EULAR represents the patient, health professional and scientific rheumatology societies of all the European nations. It endeavours to stimulate, promote and support high quality evidence-based research, as well as aid the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs). Within EULAR, national health professional associations work together to develop a range of activities through the Standing Committee of Health Professionals (HPs).

One of the priorities of EULAR is to strengthen this network. This directory is a tool to increase the level of knowledge about each other. It aims to help you interact more easily with member colleagues across the EULAR health professional family.

It tells you which people are in key positions and lists their contact details.

It provides a breakdown of organisational member specialties and lists their main activities.

This directory is here to help make connections easier!

As members, we offer you the opportunity to work alongside the EULAR Standing Committee of HPs, sharing expertise and helping to shape important topics relevant to the high quality care delivered by health professionals.

We aim to learn from each other and support countries within Europe to develop their health professional programmes of training, education and research – with the ultimate goal of providing optimal patient care.

EULAR makes a range of awards and bursaries available to European health professionals. Visit www.eular.org for information.

Each European country is represented by one inter-disciplinary HP organisational member, specialising in the care and treatment of people with RMDs.

We want to grow our membership and welcome applications from countries not yet included. We are here to support you through the application process. Will your national association be next?

If your country has no health professional association, you may wish to consider developing one. We offer guidance so that, in the future, you might be able to apply for EULAR health professional country membership.

For more information about becoming a member, contact Susan Oliver, Standing Committee Chair, at sue@susanoliver.com or Anthony Redmond, Chair Elect, at a.redmond@leeds.ac.uk

For more information about becoming a member, contact Susan Oliver, Standing Committee Chair, at sue@susanoliver.com or Anthony Redmond, Chair Elect, at a.redmond@leeds.ac.uk

This directory is available on the EULAR website. Visit www.eular.org
Health professionals in Austria

Österreichische Gesellschaft für rheumatologische Gesundheitsberufe (ÖGRG)

Secretarial Office
Boerhaavengasse 3/1/2, 1030 Wien, Austria

President
Ms. Margit Bruckner
margitbruckner@gmail.com

Treasurer
Ms. Rita Bugl

General Secretary
Ms. Martina Sadlonova

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Michaela Stoffer
michaela.stoffer@me.com

HP member structure
Number of members: 80

Health professional disciplines presented
Nurses 68 %
Occupational therapists 16 %
Physiotherapists 6 %
Psychologists 0 %
Social workers 0 %
Podiatrists 0 %
Nutritionists 6 %
Rheumatologist representatives 0 %
Patient representatives 0 %

Other professionals/representatives
Medical technical assistants 3 %
Others 1 %

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2012 and became a member of EULAR in 2013.

Website
Under construction.

Aims of the organisation
The association aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
The association has annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and is organising a specialisation course for health professionals in rheumatology.
Health professionals in Belgium

Belgian Health Professionals in Rheumatology vzw/asbl

Secretarial Office
Stuivenbergbaan 70, 2800 Mechelen, Belgium

President
Mr. Thijs Swinnen
Thijs.Swinnen@uzleuven.be

Vice-President
Ms. Marie Avaux

Treasurer
Ms. An Van Boxstael

General Secretary
Ms. Saskia Decuman

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Mr. Thijs Swinnen
contact@behpr.be

Additional contact person
saskia.decuman@rziv.fgov.be

HP member structure
Number of members: 60
(currently recruiting members)

Health professional disciplines presented
Nurses 40 %
Physiotherapists 30 %
Occupational therapists 20 %
Psychologists 0 %
Social workers 5 %
Podiatrists 5 %
Nutritionists 0 %
Rheumatologist representatives 0 %
Patient representatives 0 %

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2013 and became a member of EULAR in 2013. The board has a balance of Dutch and French speakers.

Website
www.behpr.be

Main activities
The association attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day along with the local patient organisation. The association organises the annual congress for health professionals in rheumatology at the Belgian Congress of Rheumatology and is involved in national educational projects. As a co-opted member, the association takes part in the meetings of KBVR-SRBR, the national association for rheumatologists.

Aims of the organisation
To collaborate with:
• providers of non-medical rheumatological care – specifically with organisations which offer specialised and post-graduate training in rheumatology and multi-disciplinary co-operation in rheumatology with a view to the optimisation of the care of people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal disorders
• KBVR-SRBR (Belgian rheumatologists’ association), in particular with respect to training, post-graduate training, conventions and significant initiatives
• representative patient organisations found within rheumatology (eg. to develop patient empowerment programmes)
• EULAR Health Professionals (eg. to implement EULAR guidelines).

The president of the association
Thijs Swinnen is a physiotherapist by profession.
Health professionals in Bulgaria

Bulgarian Association of Health Professionals in Rheumatology

Secretarial Office
p.c. 1434, 240 Simeonovsko shose str., 1000 Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria

President
To be confirmed

Treasurer
Ms. Daria Stankova

General Secretary
Mr. Ivanichka Raykova-Markova

Liaison Officer with EULAR
To be confirmed

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of members:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health professional disciplines presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
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<td>Psychologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
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<td>Podiatrists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2010 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
Not available.

Aims of the organisation
The association aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic diseases to cooperate, to benefit from inter-disciplinary knowledge and to make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
The association has its annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.
Health professionals in Cyprus

Cosmosrheuma+

Secretarial Office
Onisilou 16, Apartment 1, Aglantzia, 2121 Nicosia, Cyprus

President
Mr. Costas Loulianos
lampadistis@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Mr. Leandros Iakovou

General Secretary
Ms. Maria Psilolichnou

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Mr. Costas Loulianos

Additional contact person
Maria Psilolychnou Neofytou
mariapsneo@yahoo.com

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of members:</th>
<th>44</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Nurses</td>
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<td>Occupational therapists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other professionals/representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speech therapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychotherapists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2012 and became a member of EULAR in 2013.

Website:
Not available.

Aims of the organisation
Cosmosrheuma+ aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
The association has annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation. Cosmosrheuma+ has planned various seminars and a multi-professional symposium for 2014. The main achievement has been the formation of an inter-disciplinary team which travels around Cyprus, visiting difficult-to-access locations to screen, test and educate people about rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

The president of the association
Costas Loulianos is a physiotherapist by profession
Health professionals in Czech Republic

Czech Association of Health Professionals in Rheumatology

Secretarial Office
Institute of Rheumatology, Na Slupi 4, 128 50 Prague 2, Czech Republic

President
Jana Korandova (until the end of 2014)
korandova@revma.cz
Hana Smucrova (from Jan 2015)
smucrova@revma.cz

Treasurer
Hana Vranova

General Secretary
Ms. Ivana Putova

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Jana Korandova

HP member structure

| Number of members: | 45 |

Health professional disciplines presented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Other professionals/representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory</td>
<td>18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygienists</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching staff</td>
<td>6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical trials assistants</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2010 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
http://cazr.phorum.cz/

Aims of the organisation
The association aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
The association has annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.

The future President of the association Hana Smucrova is an Occupation therapist by profession.


Health professionals in Denmark

Dansk interdisciplinært Reumatologisk Forum

Danish Interdisciplinary Forum (DIRF)

Secretarial Office
King Christian X’s Hospital, Toldbodgade 3, 6300 Graasten, Denmark

President
Ms. Jette Primdahl
jprimdahl@gigtforeningen.dk

Treasurer
Ms. Susan Therkelsen
susantherkelsen@yahoo.dk

General Secretary
Ms. Janni Lisander Larsen

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Jette Primdahl

Additional contact person
Annette de Thurah
annethur@rm.dk

HP member structure

| Number of members: | 123 |

Health professional disciplines presented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other professionals/representatives

| Research secretaries | 1% |

Members represent managers, researchers, the Danish rheumatism organisation and clinicians from primary and secondary health care.

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2009 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
www.gigtforeningen.dk/om+gigtforeningens+arbejde/eular/dirf

Aims of the organisation
To form an interdisciplinary network and create a platform for exchanging information, knowledge and inspiration to:
• contribute to professional collaboration nationally and internationally
• promote research and dissemination of results across professional boundaries
• increase interdisciplinary influence in EULAR.

Main activities
An annual seminar with current topics in the field of rheumatology, a general assembly every two years, frequent newsletters to the members with information about EULAR and upcoming seminars, and representation at EULAR each year.

The president of the association Jette Primdahl is a nurse by profession.
The MSD-professionals of Finland, SUOMEN TULESAMMATILAISET R.Y.

**Secretarial Office**
Aallonkatu 2 c 21, 96200 Rovaniemi, Finland

**President**
Ms. Leena Harju-Autti
leena.harju-autti@shp.fi

**Treasurer**
Ms. Kirsti Ylikorkala

**General Secretary**
Ms. Mallu Rautio

**Liaison Officer with EULAR**
Ms. Leena Harju-Autti

**HP member structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of members:</th>
<th>50</th>
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**Health professional disciplines presented**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About the organisation**
The association was founded in 2013 and became a member of EULAR in 2013.

**Website**
Coming soon.

**Aims of the organisation**
The association aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

**Main activities**
The association has annual assembly meetings and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the Finnish Rheumatism Association. Hopes to attend EULAR Congresses in the future.
Irish Rheumatology Health Professionals Society

Secretarial Office
Rheumatology Department, Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin 12, Ireland

President
Mr. Derek Deely
derek.deely@olchc.ie

Treasurer
Una Martin
Una.Martin@hse.ie

General Secretary
Nora Verling
noratdel@gmail.com

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Derek Deely
derek.deely@olchc.ie

Additional contact person
Eileen O'Flynn
oflynnileen@yahoo.ie

HP member structure
Number of members: 67

Health professional disciplines presented
- Nurses: 46.3%
- Occupational therapists: 20.9%
- Physiotherapists: 20.9%
- Psychologists: 1.5%
- Social workers: 0%
- Podiatrists: 0%
- Nutritionists: 0%
- Rheumatologist representatives: 0%
- Patient representatives: 0%

Other professionals/representatives
- University lecturers: 4.5%
- Research nurses: 2.9%
- Post Grad. students: 1.5%
- Pharmacists: 1.5%

About the organisation
The association was founded in 1996 and became a member of EULAR in 2013.

Website
www.irhps.ie/

Aims of the organisation
To promote the optimal care of patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases throughout Ireland (both North and South) through multi-disciplinary and multi-centre representation, and to enhance the study of diseases which can compromise musculoskeletal function.

Main activities
The association has annual assembly meetings, scientific meetings and attends EULAR congresses, and it takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.
The Israeli Rheumatology Multi-Disciplinary Forum

Secretarial Office
8 Sachnin Abraham Street, Haifa 32981, Israel

President
Naomi Schultz
n_schultz@rambam.health.gov.il

Treasurer
Anita Chaimovitz

General Secretary
Mazal Solomon
mazaliso@tlvmc.gov.il

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ilana Abu
ilana.Abu@sheba.health.gov.il

HP member structure

Number of members: 37

Health professional disciplines presented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the organisation
The organisation was founded in 2013 and became a member of EULAR in 2014.

Website
Under construction.

Aims of the organisation
The organisation aims to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest recommendations for standards of care.

Main activities
The organisation has annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.
Health professionals in Italy

Associazione Italiana Operatori Reumatologici Professionali (AIORP)

Secretarial Office
Via Pirandello 82, 20099 Sesto San Giovanni / Milano, Italy

President
Ms. Guerrina Brizzi
guerrinabr@gmail.com

Treasurer
N/A

General Secretary
Mr. Luca Lombardi

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Tiziana Nava
gisreumatologia@gmail.com

Additional contact person
Ms. Sofia Bonafede
lasofiu@yahoo.it

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professional disciplines presented</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>30 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>4 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>50 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>1 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>0 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>0 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2003 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
www.gisreumatologia.com

Aims of the organisation
AIORP aims to create a multi-disciplinary network to empower health professionals specialised in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, and share the latest European recommendations locally to benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how. It promotes information and education for patients to improve their health.

Main activities
The association attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation. In 2014 it participated in the Resolution on World Psoriasis Day and the EULAR European Parliament election campaign. The association collaborates on different projects, such as the promotion of health-enhancing physical activity in rheumatoid arthritis, in a comparative study between Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden, and work groups, such as the foot and ankle study group. AIORP organises an annual national multi-disciplinary workshop within an annual scientific international congress by the Italian Association of Physiotherapists.
Health professionals in the Netherlands

Netherlands Health Professionals in Rheumatology (NHPR)

Secretarial Office
Leiden University Medical Center, PO Box 9600, Room CO-47, 2300 RC Leiden, Netherlands

President
Prof. Joost Dekker
j.dekker@vumc.nl

Treasurer
Esther Sleijster

General Secretary
Gerdien ten Cate
secretarisnhpr@hotmail.com

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Prof. Joost Dekker
j.dekker@vumc.nl

Additional contact person
Wilfred Peter
w.peter@reade.nl

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2005 and subsequently became a member of EULAR.

Website
www.nhpr.nl/

Aims of the organisation
• Provision of the highest quality, evidence based care by health professionals.
• Contributing to physical, mental and social functioning, and quality of life for patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

Main activities
Providing education in rheumatology for professionals to secure expertise; developing a scientific programme at the annual national rheumatology congress; providing a platform for national and international collaboration (EULAR).

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of members:</th>
<th>450</th>
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Health professional disciplines presented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>55 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists/health sciences</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
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The president of the association Joost Dekker is a psychologist by profession.
Health professionals in Norway

Norwegian Interdisciplinary Organisation in Rheumatology (NIOR)

Secretarial Office
National Resource Center for Rehabilitation in Rheumatology (NKRR),  
Dept. of Rheumatology, Diakonhjemmet Hospital, PO Box 23, Vinderen,  
No-0319 Oslo, Norway

President
Rikke Helene Moe
rikmoe@gmail.com

Treasurer
Ingvild Bø

General Secretary
Kjersti Grønning

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Rikke Helene Moe

Additional contact person
Kjersti Grønning
kjersti.gronning@hist.no

HP member structure
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Number of members:</td>
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Health professional disciplines presented
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>1</td>
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Other professionals/representatives
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health secretaries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>22</td>
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</table>

About the organisation
NIOR was established in 2008, and admitted as an official member of EULAR in 2009.

Website
https://sites.google.com/site/revmanettverk/home

Main activities
The association has regular assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.

Aims of the organisation
NIOR’s main goals are to:
• be a multidisciplinary information network
• establish contact and contribute to collaboration between health professionals
• encourage professional development within the field of rheumatology in Norway
• increase health professionals’ influence in EULAR
• encourage international collaboration.

The president of the association
Rikke Helene Moe is a physiotherapist by profession.
Polish Society of Health Professionals in Rheumatology

The president of the association Prof. Anna Kuryliszyn-Moskal is a rheumatologist and physical medicine & rehabilitation specialist by profession.

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Health professionals in Poland

Secretarial Office
Department of Rehabilitation Medical University of Bialystok, M. Skłodowska-Curie 24A Street, 15-089 Bialystok, Poland

President
Prof. Anna Kuryliszyn-Moskal
akury@umb.edu.pl

Treasurer
Ms. Zoﬁa Dzieciol

General Secretary
Dr. Sylwia Chwiesko-Minarowska
sylwia.chwiesko@umb.edu.pl

Liaison Ofﬁcer with EULAR
Prof. Anna Kuryliszyn-Moskal
akury@umb.edu.pl

Additional contact person
Dr. Sylwia Chwiesko-Minarowska
sylwia.chwiesko@umb.edu.pl

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HP member structure
Number of members: 24

Health professional disciplines presented
Nurses 9 %
Occupational therapists 0 %
Physiotherapists 33 %
Psychologists 0 %
Social workers 0 %
Podiatrists 0 %
Nutritionists 0 %
Rheumatologist representatives 33 %
Patient representatives 0 %

Other professionals/representatives
Speech therapists 4 %
Phoniatrists 4 %
Physical medicine & rehabilitation specialists 17 %

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About the organisation
The association was founded in 2013 and became a member of EULAR in 2014.

Website
Not available.

Aims of the organisation
The society promotes the development of patient care, knowledge and research development in the field of rehabilitation in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

Main activities
The society organises educational meetings, conferences and attends EULAR congresses.
Health professionals in Portugal

Associação Portuguesa dos Profissionais de Saúde em Reumatologia (APPSReuma)

Secretarial Office
Sede da Secção Regional Centro da Ordem dos Enfermeiros,
Avenida Bissaya Barreto, nº185, código postal 3000-076 Coimbra, Portugal

President
Lurdes Barbosa
mljfb@sapo.pt

Treasurer
Rafaela Trincão
rafcarrao@gmail.com

General Secretary
Joaquim Coutinho
joaquimcoutinho@netcabo.pt

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Lurdes Barbosa
mljfb@sapo.pt

Additional contact person
Ricardo Ferreira
rferreira@reumahuc.org

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2014 and will became a formal member of EULAR in 2015.

Website
Not available – planning to construct in 2015.

Aims of the organisation
The organisation aims to empower health professionals specialising in RMDs; promote co-operation among health professionals working in the area of rheumatology; update health professionals on recommendations for the treatment of people with RMDs; improve the research in the area of rheumatology held by health professionals.

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professional disciplines presented</th>
<th>Number of members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main activities
The association will have annual assembly meetings. At least one representative of the Association will attend the EULAR Congress and will take part in the annual assembly. The association will be present at the celebration of World Arthritis Day organised by the local patient organisation and, in future, will organise and promote new events.
Romanian Association of Medical Partners for Rheumatology (RAMPR)

Secretarial Office
Societatea Romana a partenerilor medicali pentru reumatologie, Sf. Maria Clinical Hospital, 1st floor Secretariat, 37-39 Ion Mihalache Blvd, 1st District Bucharest, Romania

President
Ms. Cristina Ioan
ioancristina2004@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Ms. Daniela Mariana Nastase

General Secretary
Ms. Elena Alina Moise

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Cristina Ioan

Additional contact person
Ms Daniela Vasile
danadenis17@yahoo.com

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2010 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
www.srreumatologie.ro/asistenti

Aims of the organisation
The organisation promotes the personal development and customised education of professional partners in rheumatology; targets the excellence in the care of patients with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases; increases the societal recognition of all the partners involved in complex management of patients with RMDs.

Main activities
Annual assembly meetings, specific activities in co-operation with patient organisations, research symposiums and education seminars.

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professional disciplines presented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of members:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The president of the association Cristina Ioan is a rheumatology registered nurse by profession.
Serbian Association of Health Professionals in Rheumatology (SAHPR)

Secretarial Office
Institute of Rheumatology, Resavska 69, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

President
Ms. Svetlana Zekovic
svetlanazekovic57@gmail.com

Treasurer
Ms. Jelica Misic

General Secretary
Ms. Martina Sadlonova

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Svetlana Zekovic

Additional contact person
Ms. Tatjana Milic
tanjicamilic@yahoo.com

HP member structure

| Number of members: | 126 |

Health professional disciplines presented

| Nurses | 66 % |
| Occupational therapists | 1.5 % |
| Physiotherapists | 12.5 % |
| Psychologists | 0 % |
| Social workers | 0 % |
| Podiatrists | 0 % |
| Nutritionists | 0 % |
| Rheumatologist representatives | 0 % |
| Patient representatives | 0 % |

Other professionals/representatives

| Laboratory technicians | 16 % |
| X Ray technicians | 4 % |

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2009 and became a member of EULAR in 2010.

Website
Under construction.

Aims of the organisation
SAHPR aims to empower health professionals specialising in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
SAHPR organises its annual assembly meetings. It is represented in EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation. The main achievement is the formation of an inter-disciplinary team for educating, screening and treating people about rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases. SAHPR organises seminars for patients and medical staff which contribute to the better understanding of the course of diseases and the way we manage them.
Health professionals in Spain

OPENREUMA

Secretarial Office
Avda Presidente Carmona, 10 bis 1A, 28020 Madrid, Spain

President
Ms. Jenny de la Torre-Aboki
delatorre_jen@gva.es

Vice-President
Dr. Loreto Carmona
loreto.carmona@inmusc.eu

General Secretary
Mr. Antonio I. Torralba Gómez-Portillo

Liaison Officer with EULAR
Ms. Jenny de la Torre-Aboki

Additional contact person
Loreto Carmona
loreto.carmona@inmusc.eu

HP member structure
Number of members: 8

Health professional disciplines presented
- Nurses: 37.5%
- Occupational therapists: 0%
- Physiotherapists: 0%
- Psychologists: 25%
- Social workers: 0%
- Podiatrists: 0%
- Nutritionists: 0%
- Rheumatologist representatives: 25%
- Patient representatives: 12.5%

About the organisation
The association was founded in 2012 and became a member of EULAR in 2013.

Website
www.openreuma.es

Aims of the organisation
The association aims to empower health professionals specialising in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases to co-operate, benefit from inter-disciplinary know-how and make use of the latest European recommendations for good care.

Main activities
The association has its annual assembly meetings, attends EULAR congresses and takes part in the celebration of World Arthritis Day with the local patient organisation.

The president of the association Jenny de la Torre-Aboki is a nurse by profession.
Secretarial Office  
c/o Swedish Rheumatism Association, Box 12851, 112 98 Stockholm, 
Sweden
President  
Ms. Anne-Marie Norén  
anne-marie.noren@sll.se  
Treasurer  
Ms Inga-Mai Wängberg  
inga-mai.wangberg@vgregion.se  
General Secretary  
Li Alemo-Munters  
li.alemo.munters@ki.se  
Liaison Officer with EULAR  
Ms. Anne-Marie Norén  
Additional contact person  
Ms. Margit Neher  
margit.neher@liu.se

About the organisation  
The association was founded in 1989 and became a member of EULAR in 2007.

Website  
www.sverefo.nu/

Aims of the organisation  
SveReFo aims to:
• promote the informal exchange of information between professionals
• provide contact between groups who are interested in similar projects
• promote multi-disciplinary research and development activities
• give financial support for multi-disciplinary projects
• promote international cooperation.

Main activities  
National educational meetings are arranged every year. General assembly meetings are held once every two years. Scholarships are distributed every year both to support professional progress in rheumatology, and to promote inter-professional collaboration.

HP member structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professional disciplines presented</th>
<th>Number of members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologists</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Swedish Rheumatology Forum (SveReFo)

The president of the association  
Anne-Marie Norén is a  
physiotherapist by profession
Health Professionals in Rheumatology Switzerland (hpr)

**Secretarial Office**
Roosstr. 58, 8105 Regensdorf, Switzerland

**President**
Dr. Karin Niedermann
karin.niedermann@zhaw.ch

**Treasurer**
N/A

**General Secretary**
N/A

**Liaison Officer with EULAR**
Dr. Karin Niedermann

**Additional contact person**
Vreni Ulli
v.ulli@bluewin.ch

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HP member structure</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of members:</strong></td>
<td>60</td>
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**Health professional disciplines presented**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social workers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatologist representatives</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient representatives</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other professionals/representatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Medicine (MD)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**About the organisation**
The association was founded in 2006 and became a member of EULAR in 2006.

**Website**
www.hpr-switzerland.ch

**Aims of the organisation**
The organisation aims to support health professionals working with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, and to foster evidence-based practice and inter-disciplinary care in rheumatology.

**Main activities**
Organising education, and preparing relevant information and publications from the field (symposium, website); supporting networking among members, and with national and international organisations including EULAR.
British Health Professionals in Rheumatology (BHPR)

**Secretariat Office**
Bride House, 18-20 Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EE, United Kingdom

**President**
Dr. Michael Backhouse
m.r.backhouse@leeds.ac.uk

**Treasurer**
Dr. Mel Holden

**Chief Executive**
Ms. Laura Guest

**Liaison Officer with EULAR**
Dr. Michael Backhouse

**Contact person**
Michelle Hughes
mhughes@rheumatology.org.uk

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**HP member structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professional disciplines represented</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatrists</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutritionists</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other professionals</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of members:** 530

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**About the organisation**
The association was founded in 1985 and became a founding member of EULAR’s Standing Committee for Health Professionals in 1989.

**Website**
www.rheumatology.org.uk/BHPR

**Aims of the organisation**
BHPR aims to promote excellence in the treatment of people with arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions and to support those delivering it.

**Main activities**
BHPR:
- develops and promotes standards of excellence through enabling clinical leadership, production of NICE accredited guidelines, and leading a national audit of care in early inflammatory arthritis
- improves awareness and understanding of RMDs through public awareness campaigns, promoting the role of the MDT, and influencing policy and national stakeholders through targeted engagement
- supports our members continuing professional development through an annual three-day conference, a range of online and physical courses, and provision of a leading international journal.