

# eular

fighting rheumatic & musculoskeletal  
diseases together



Health Professionals in Rheumatology  
June 2017



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## EULAR Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPR)

For the purposes of involvement with EULAR activities a “Health Professional” will meet the following criteria:

- Is a professional involved in the care of people with musculoskeletal and related conditions
- Is not a registered medical practitioner
- Is eligible to be a member of the organization through which a country has become a EULAR HPR member



## The origins

<b>1987</b>	Unofficial Standing Committee of Allied Health Professionals established
<b>1989</b>	Standing Committee of HPR officially ratified by General Assembly
<b>1995</b>	Scientific Subcommittee, first Annual Research Grant, first Course Organising Grant, first Educational Visit Bursaries
<b>1997</b>	First EULAR Vice President of HPR
<b>2000</b>	HPR meetings incorporated in Annual European Congress of Rheumatology
<b>2006</b>	First membership of national HPR organisations: Switzerland and UK
<b>2013</b>	First Strategic HPR Winter Meeting
<b>2014</b>	HPR Educational Subcommittee
<b>2016</b>	School of Rheumatology, HPR classroom



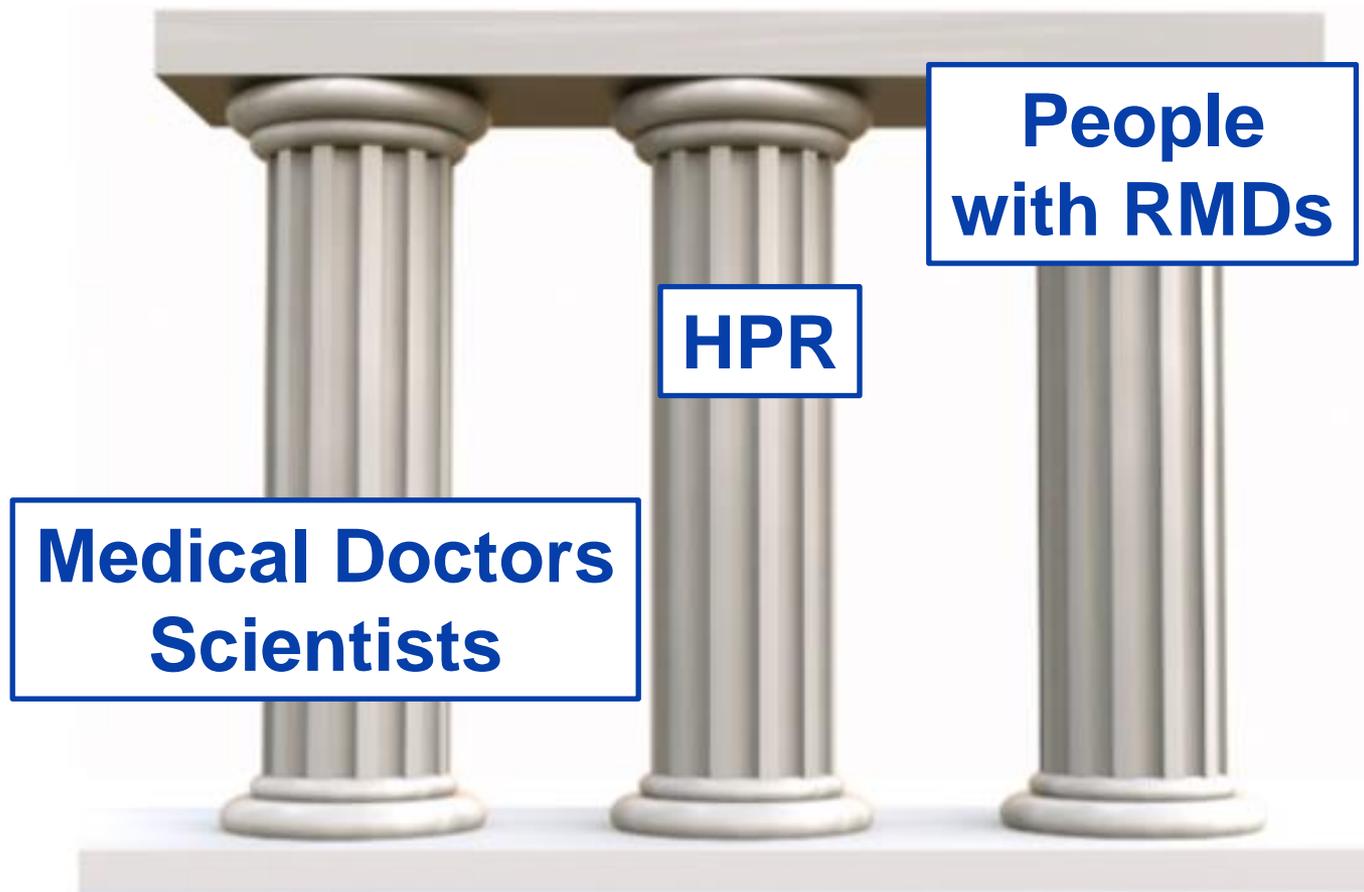
## EULAR HPR today

### Leadership

- Vice President: Prof. Tanja Stamm, Austria
- Chair of Standing Committee: Dr. Annette de Thurah, Denmark
- Chair elect of Standing Committee: Dr. Rikke Moe, Norway

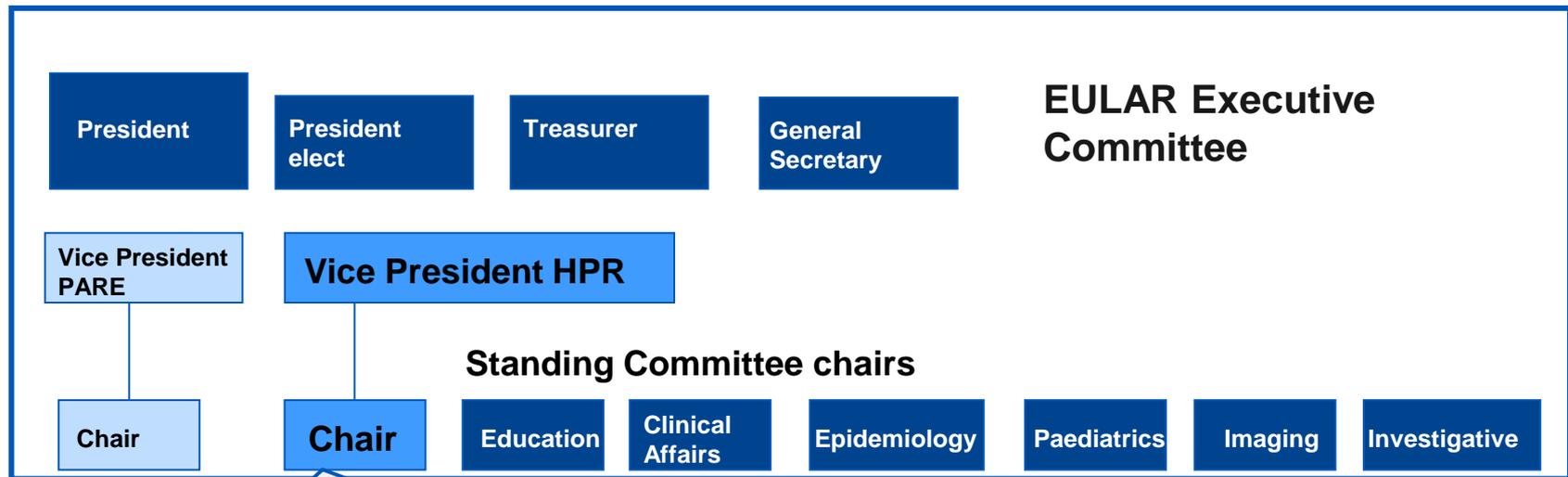


## EULAR – Three Pillars





## Structure of HPR within EULAR



**EULAR Standing Committee of HPR**

- 25 delegates from national member associations
- Educational Subcommittee
- Scientific Subcommittee
- Communications



## Membership 2017: associations from 25 countries



Austria



Belgium



Bulgaria



Croatia



Cyprus



Czech Republic



Denmark



Finland



France



Germany



Hungary



Ireland



Israel



Italy



Malta



Netherlands



Norway



Poland



Portugal



Romania



Serbia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



United Kingdom



## The HPR Membership Directory





## HPR are part of the EULAR strategic plan 2017

Objective 1 – Research

Objective 2 – Education

Objective 3 – Congress

Objective 4 – Advocacy

Objective 5 – Standards of care

Objective 6 – Profile

Objective 7 – National relations



## HPR strategic objectives for 2017

### Strategic objective 1

By 2017, EULAR will have increased the quantity and quality of HP-led research projects and strengthened patient participation.

### Strategic objective 2

By 2017, EULAR will have strengthened education for patients and HP by developing tailored materials and improving access.

### Strategic objective 6

By 2017, EULAR will have developed and implemented a communication and PR strategy to address the individual needs of patients, physicians/researchers, health professionals, and corporate members.



## Specific HPR strategic objectives for 2017

- ✓ Compile an online course for education of HPR with a focus on nurses, physical and occupational therapists.
- Funding a minimum of 2 research projects aimed at the improvement of the quality/effectiveness of non-pharmacological care in RMDs
- ✓ Encourage local initiatives for establishing the foundation of 10 new national HPR organizations in rheumatology and thus enabling them to become official members of EULAR
- ✓ Establish at least 2 sets of evidence-based recommendations for the non-pharmacological management of common rheumatologic conditions
- Strengthen the communication with HPR in all European member states, including reaching out to non-English speaking HPs



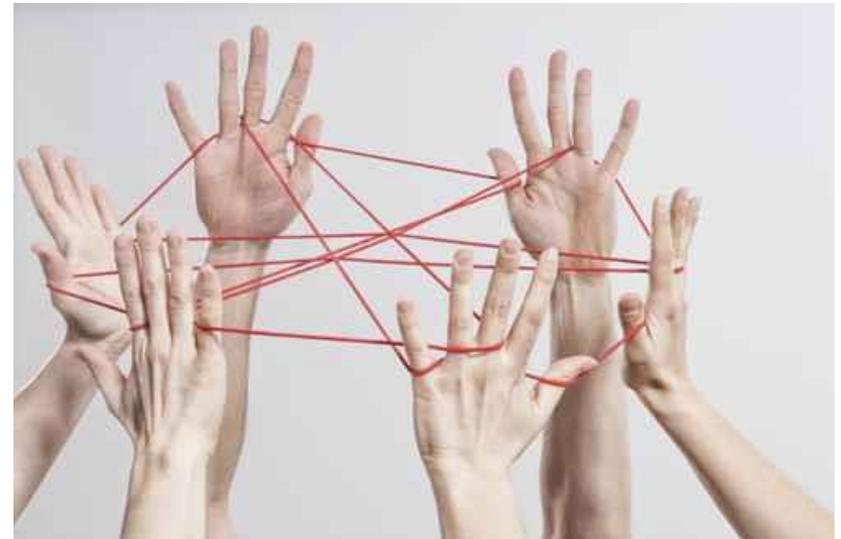
## Annual HPR Strategic Winter Meeting

- Joint annual meeting of the Educational and Scientific Subcommittees
- Held in December in a European city
- Discussion of strategic matters for HPR research, education and communication
- Development of action plan for the next twelve months
- Participants:
  - HPR leadership
  - Members of the two subcommittees
  - Selected Presidents of national HPR member associations



## HPR Scientific Subcommittee

- Works towards EULAR goals
- Strategic work related to
  - Research grant
  - EULAR projects
  - Congress
  - HPR programs (e.g. mentorship)





## Annual EULAR HPR Research Grant

- EULAR funding up to a maximum of EUR 30,000
- Deadline ~ December 15

### Recent grant topics:

- 2015: *Physical activity and aerobic capacity assessment - a survey among patients and health professionals in Sweden, Ireland, Denmark and Belgium*
- 2016: *Toward standardized reporting of most commonly used patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) to enhance comparability*
- 2017: *Cross-cultural adaptation and psychometric testing of work patient reported outcome measures in people with rheumatoid arthritis in the UK, Sweden and the Czech Republic*



## Our currently on-going projects

- The HPRs' approach to pain management in inflammatory arthritis and osteoarthritis  
*led by Prof. Rinie Geenen, NL - in liaison with ARHP*
- Development of recommendations/points to consider for physical activity in people with inflammatory arthritis and osteoarthritis  
*led by Prof. Karin Niedermann, CH*
- EULAR points to consider/recommendations for the HPs' prevention and management of osteoporotic fractures  
*led by Dr. Emmailie Hurkmans, B, NL and Prof. Tanja Stamm, A*
- Development of EULAR Recommendations/Points to Consider for the generic core competencies of HPR  
*led by Prof. Thea VlietVlieland, NL and Prof. Annamaria Iagnocco, I*



# Annual European Congress of Rheumatology

- Dedicated HPR Congress Program
  - Scientific and practical HPR sessions
    - Proposed full sessions
    - Abstract/poster sessions
  - Joint sessions with patients (PARE)
  - Joint sessions with rheumatologists/researchers
- Standing Committee meeting for member delegates
- Sub Committee meeting, Study group meetings, meeting with ARHP
- Networking with HPs, patients, researchers from around the world





## EULAR Travel bursaries

- For first/presenting author of oral or poster presentations
- Free registration (including one year free subscription to the ARD)
- Three nights hotel accommodation (single use), booked by EULAR
- Cash amount of 350 EUR for travel and living expenses
- Deadline March 31



## EULAR Awards for HPR

### **EULAR Abstract Award**

- Three Abstract Awards to the first authors of HPR abstracts submitted to the EULAR Annual European Congress
- Winners selected by HPR of EULAR Scientific Committee based on quality

### **EULAR Meritorious Service Award**

- Award for outstanding lifetime achievements in rheumatology
- Originally for rheumatologists and researchers only
- Since 2016 also for HPR



## HPR Educational Subcommittee

The subcommittee currently focuses on six areas:

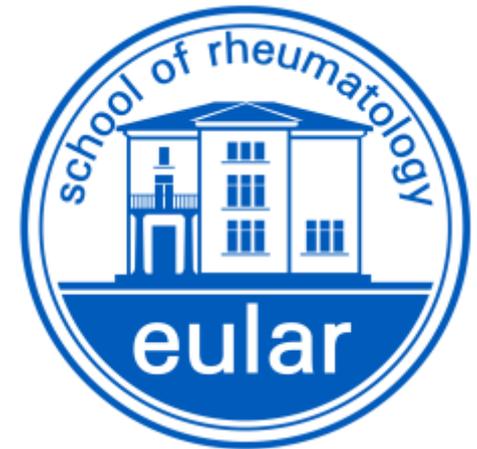
- Identification of HPR educational needs
- A comprehensive and evidence-based core curriculum which articulates with the wider EULAR strategy and maps on to the varying needs of HPR in EULAR
- A tiered competency framework to allow assessment and, as appropriate, certification against agreed standards
- A creative plan for maximizing access to and uptake of the resources provided by EULAR
- A formal implementation plan for the strategy and associated materials
- An evaluation of the uptake and impact of the strategy



## HPR in the EULAR School of Rheumatology

The pre-eminent provider and facilitator of high-quality education for physicians, health professionals in rheumatology, and people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases

- EULAR Online Course for HP
- EULAR Teach the Teacher Course for HP
- (held 3 times)
- EULAR HP Recommendations for:
  - The role of the nurse in inflammatory arthritis
  - The core non-pharmacological management of hip and knee osteoarthritis
  - Patient education for patients with inflammatory arthritis
  - Points to consider for health professionals undertaking musculoskeletal ultrasound for RMDs





## EULAR Online Course for the HPR

- Aimed at nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists
- 8 modules:
  - 4 disease-specific: RA; OA; fibromyalgia; regional musculoskeletal pain syndromes
  - 4 generic: assessment and evaluation; interventions; psychosocial approaches; evidence-based practice
- Integration of multi-disciplinary perspective of the treatment of rheumatic diseases
- Course fee: EUR 115
- Course starts in September each year



## HPR Educational Visits Programme

- 10 bursaries per year for educational visits of HPR
- Objective
  - To improve the standard of research and care among HPR
  - To foster collaboration across clinical institutions in Europe
- Amount of bursary varies between EUR 750 and 1,500
- Application deadlines are 31 March and 30 September each year



## HPR Study Groups (SG)

= groups of people committed to activities and scientific networking on a specific topic under EULAR endorsement

- Nurse Research and Strategy SG
- Clinical Nurse SG
- Physical Activity and Therapeutic Exercise SG
- Psychology SG
- Foot and Ankle SG
- SG on Patient Education



## HPR engagement in European public affairs

- Participation in EULAR Public Affairs Group defining and managing EULAR public affairs and lobbying activities on European level
- Participation in EULAR Annual Public Affairs Conference in Brussels dealing with a specific topic each year and attended by high-level EU politicians and leaders
  - 2014: Analysing how to reduce the Access Barriers to Health Care for People with Chronic Diseases in Europe. Challenges, good practices and policy options for people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases
  - 2015: Towards more integrated health care in Europe. Strengthening patients` access to cross-border care and enhancing health professionals` mobility
  - 2016: Reducing the burden of chronic diseases in the workplace. New policies for better working conditions and the retention of ill people at work
- Participation in national public affairs events or activities organised by patient organisations in collaboration with EULAR PARE



## World Arthritis Day, 12 October



- Global awareness raising and action day.
- EULAR takes a leading role in promoting international activities for and on that day.
- Each year WAD is intended to promote a different aspect of living with a rheumatic or musculoskeletal disease and encourage action.
- Topic 2017:





## Our collaboration with the American ARHP

- Goal
  - Join efforts to improve the health of people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases through high quality health care science and clinical practice
- Current activity
  - Joint congress sessions
  - Collaboration in developmental project
  - Participation of HP in the ACR/EULAR exchange program



## For more information on EULAR HPR

EULAR  
website

EULAR on  
your favorite  
social media  
channels

**eular**  
fighting rheumatic & musculoskeletal diseases together

Search

Who we are | What we do | How we work | Education | Public affairs | Calendar | Intranet

EULAR aims to be a pre-eminent provider and facilitator of high-quality education offerings for physicians, health professionals in rheumatology, and people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

### EULAR News

- EULAR Brussels Conference 2016**  
Reducing the burden of chronic diseases in the workplace is the title of the next Brussels conference on 12 October. Follow live from Brussels on this website. #EULARBrussels2016  
[Check all details](#)
- Apply now for a EULAR HP research grant**  
Every year EULAR funds one health professional (HP) research project in the field of RMDs that is in line with the mission, objectives and goals of EULAR. Projects will be funded up to a maximum of EUR 30,000.  
[Apply here](#)
- Get ready for EULAR Congress 2017**  
Check out all information you need to attend our next congress 14-17 June in Madrid, Spain. #EULAR2017 registration and abstract submission start on 1 October.  
[Check the congress website](#)
- WHO recognises the importance of promoting musculoskeletal health**  
WHO Europe recognises the importance of promoting musculoskeletal health to prevent and treat the greatest cause of disability in Europe. Support the Call for Action and sign our e-petition.  
[Sign our e-petition](#)

[www.eular.org](http://www.eular.org)



## For more information on EULAR HPR

### Read the HP Newsletter





Thank you for your  
attention !

[www.eular.org](http://www.eular.org)

