Title of the study group: EULAR Study Group on SLE

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Summary of last year’s activities

1. The Study Group on SLE held its annual meeting during EULAR 2017 in Madrid (15/06/2017). A total of 42 members attended the meeting, including fellows / junior rheumatologists interested in SLE. The Study Group discussed completed and ongoing research and teaching activities. It was emphasized the need to include in the next meetings time slots dedicated junior physicians and faculty members in order to present their ideas on collaborative projects.

2. European Lupus Meeting 2017 (Düsseldorf, Germany). The 11th European Lupus Meeting was organized by Prof. Matthias Schneider in Düsseldorf, March 21-24, 2017. It was a very successful meeting with more than 700 registered attendees and included interesting presentations on a number of clinical and research topics in SLE. A novel aspect of this meeting was the ‘fish bowl’ interactive discussions between mentors and fellows on hotly debated topics such as fatigue, use of steroids etc.

3. Haematological SLE Project. Under the lead of Dr. Yule Savuz, the Study Group undertook a collaborative, multicentre project to evaluate the impact of treatments and the long-term outcome of SLE patients with haematological manifestations. So far, involved partners have collected data from 159 SLE patients and preliminary results were presented at the recent European Lupus Meeting 2017.

4. EULAR recommendations. Ten years after the publication of the first EULAR recommendations on the management of SLE, the Study Group on SLE has undertook its revision based on culminating evidence from observational studies and randomized controlled trials. To this end, a task force of experts from several European countries has been assembled and has voted for the major topics of interested to be considered for the systematic literature review. The results of the literature review will be presented in late May and an abstract has been submitted to the EULAR 2018.