

## Biennial report

### Study Groups

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**Title of the study group:** Study Group for Risk Factors for RA

**Study Group Leaders' name:** Dr Diane van der Woude (Leiden University Medical Centre) & Prof Karim Raza (University of Birmingham)

*Prof Raza replaced by Prof Andrew Cope (King's College London) from September 2018*

**Date of annual report submission:** 25th March 2019

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## SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

### EULAR 2017 in Madrid

Friday 16 June 2017 from 17:00 to 19:00

This meeting provided a timely update of pre-RA cohorts, with a focus on studies of environmental and genetic risk factors, and symptom complexes.

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| 17:00 – 17:10 | Introduction and welcome from the Study Group Chairs   |
| 17:10 – 17:40 | Raphaelle Seror, University of Paris<br><i>The ENVI-RA study to investigate environmental risk factors and gene-environment interaction in the development of RA</i> |
| 17:40 – 18:10 | Samantha Hider Keele University<br><i>Symptoms of inflammatory arthritis in the community</i>  |
| 18:10 – 18:30 | Robin ten Brinck, Leiden University<br><i>The Leiden perspective on early identification of arthritis</i>  |
| 18:30 – 18:50 | Marian van Beers-Tas, University of Amsterdam<br><i>Symptoms in persons at risk for RA</i>   |
| 18:50 – 19:00 | Wrap-up and discussion of future possibilities by the chairs   |

### EULAR 2018 in Amsterdam

Thursday 14 June 2018 from 17:00 to 19:00 hours

This meeting focused on presenting new wet lab data highlighting immune and inflammatory pathways linked to disease.

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| 17:00 | Introduction and welcome (chairs)  |
| 17:10 | Wouter Bos (Amsterdam)<br><i>e-Health and research opportunities</i>   |
| 17:30 | Mike Holers (Denver)<br><i>Omega-3 FA pathway and RA risk</i>  |
| 17:50 | Dagmar Scheel-Toellner (Birmingham)<br><i>FcRL4+ B cells: a link between mucosal and joint inflammation?</i> |

- 18:10 Uli Scherer (Leiden)  
*N-linked glycans in the variable domain of ACPA-IgG mark the development of Rheumatoid Arthritis*
- 18:30 Marieke ter Wee & Dirkjan van Schaardenburg (Amsterdam)  
*pre-RA and work problems & new insights from SPARRA*

**Other activities:**

- Preparation of the EULAR guideline/consensus statement on autoantibody testing (Lead: Pier-Luigi Meroni), including study group participants.
- The submission to EULAR of guidelines for performing trials in pre-RA/arthritis patients (Lead: Paul Emery)
- Completion of recruitment of study subjects to the APIPPRA RA prevention study (December 2018); multiple study group participants have been involved. Follow up of study participants continues, with data expecting to readout Q2 2021.

**Related publications:**

Stack RJ, Nightingale P, Jinks C, Shaw K, Herron-Marx S, Horne R, Deighton C, Kiely P, Mallen C, Raza K; DELAY study syndicate. Delays between the onset of symptoms and first rheumatology consultation in patients with rheumatoid arthritis in the UK: an observational study. *BMJ Open* 2019;9:e024361.

Simons G, Stack RJ, Stoffer-Marx M, Englbrecht M, Mosor E, Buckley CD, Kumar K, Hansson M, Hueber A, Stamm T, Falahee M, Raza K. Perceptions of first-degree relatives of patients with rheumatoid arthritis about lifestyle modifications and pharmacological interventions to reduce the risk of rheumatoid arthritis development: a qualitative interview study. *BMC Rheumatol* 2018;2:31.

van der Woude D, van der Helm-van Mil AHM. Update on the epidemiology, risk factors, and disease outcomes of rheumatoid arthritis. *Best Pract Res Clin Rheumatol* 2018;32:174-187.

Verheul MK, Böhringer S, van Delft MAM, Jones JD, Rigby WFC, Gan RW, Holers VM, Edison JD, Deane KD, Janssen KMJ, Westra J, Brink M, Rantapää-Dahlqvist S, Huizinga TWJ, van der Helm-van Mil AHM, van der Woude D, Toes REM, Trouw LA. Triple Positivity for Anti-Citrullinated Protein Autoantibodies, Rheumatoid Factor, and Anti-Carbamylated Protein Antibodies Conferring High Specificity for Rheumatoid Arthritis: Implications for Very Early Identification of At-Risk Individuals. *Arthritis Rheumatol* 2018;70:1721-1731.

van Beers-Tas MH, Ter Wee MM, van Tuyl LH, Maat B, Hoogland W, Hensvold AH, Catrina AI, Mosor E, Stamm TA, Finckh A, Courvoisier DS, Filer A, Sahbudin I, Stack RJ, Raza K, van Schaardenburg D. Initial validation and results of the Symptoms in Persons At Risk of Rheumatoid Arthritis (SPARRA) questionnaire: a EULAR project. *RMD Open* 2018;4:e000641.

van Steenberg HW, Aletaha D, Beart-van de Voorde LJ, Brouwer E, Codreanu C, Combe B, Fonseca JE, Hetland ML, Humby F, Kvien TK, Niedermann K, Nuño L, Oliver S, Rantapää-Dahlqvist S, Raza K, van Schaardenburg D, Schett G, De Smet L, Szűcs G, Vencovský J, Wiland P, de Wit M, Landewé RL, van der Helm-van Mil AH. EULAR definition of arthralgia suspicious for progression to rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2017;76:491-496.

**Successful grant applications involving members of the study group:**

Members of the study group were successful in securing funding from the EU Innovative Medicines Initiative for the Rheuma Tolerance for Cure (RTCure) project.