SPECIAL EDITION: EMEUNET SUB-COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES
Dear young rheumatologists and researchers in rheumatology,

We are delighted to present you with the new issue of EMEUNET News, entirely devoted to the EMEUNET Sub-Committees and their activities. The EMEUNET (The Emerging EULAR Network) is an exciting community that started its activities in 2009, emanating from one of the objectives set by EULAR – “Bring on board high quality, young generation contributors in all EULAR activities”. Since January 2021, EMEUNET has become one of EULAR Committees. Our work is divided within 6 Sub-Committees (uniting 55 active members from 20 countries) each focusing on a particular aspect of EMEUNET. Current Sub-Committees include Education, Country Liaison, Social Media, Visibility and Global Affairs, Peer Mentoring and Newsletter. EMEUNET Sub-Committees ensure the growth of EMEUNET and promote interaction and networking among members.

The call for applications for the EMEUNET Subcommittees for 2021-22 has just been launched! Stay tuned and apply to become a member of our dynamic team. If you have unsuccessfully applied in previous years, this does not preclude you from applying again this year. In this issue, you will also find details about upcoming educational events.

Maddalena Larosa and Mikhail Protopopov, on behalf of the EMEUNET Newsletter Sub-Committee
Dear EMEUNET members,
It is with great pleasure that we share with you some very important news: in January 2021, the new Statutes of the European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology (EULAR) have been approved by the EULAR Board. This represents a milestone in EMEUNET history, as we have been officially recognised in the EULAR Statute as the EMEUNET Committee. Our general structure will remain the same, however we will adapt to the structure of EULAR’s committees. One of the most relevant news is that the EMEUNET Chairmanship (Chair and Chair Elect/Past chair) is now part of the EULAR Council. This is the organ that provides the scientific guidance to EULAR’s activities. We were really to represent the EMEUNET community at the first EULAR council meeting held on the 1st of March 2021.

As for the actual EMEUNET committee, this will be formed by sub-committee chairs - known before as sub-group leaders - together with the Chairmanship – what we called before Steering Committee. Working group members will be part of EMEUNET sub-committees, represented below, what we knew before as sub-groups. More details on our structure can be found in our freshly published EMEUNET By-laws, but we are also working hard to update our website and we will keep you informed over time.

All in all, our work will continue as before and hopefully this important recognition will give us a boost of energies/enthusiasm which is really needed to get over these difficult times.

Yours,
The EMEUNET Chairmanship
Felice Rivellese, Kim Lauper, Alexandre Sepriano
Dear EMEUNET members,

we invite you to apply to become part of the EMEUNET Sub-committees!

Following the recognition of EMEUNET as a EULAR committee in January 2021, this is your chance to get on board and become part of the EMEUNET & EULAR family!

As a member of the EMEUNET sub-committees, you will have a chance to directly contribute to the core activities of EMEUNET & EULAR for 3 years.

We have 6 Sub-Committees (known before as sub-groups): **Education, Country liaisons, Social media, Visibility & Global Affairs, Newsletters, and Peer Mentoring**. To have more information on the activities of each sub-committee, please check out this newsletter on sub-committees and our website. Not sure which sub-committee you would like to join? Not to worry, you do not need to express a preference now, you will be able to choose later.

To apply, you should meet the following criteria:

1) be a registered EMEUNET member; (not a member? You can register [here](#)!)  
2) be aged < 40 at the time of the application;  
3) be resident in one of the member countries of EULAR;  
4) have an interest in research and/or education in rheumatology;  
5) be active in research, having at least 1 abstract as the first author in an international congress or 1 first authorship of manuscript in a peer-reviewed journal.

The application process is highly competitive. Selection is based on the motivation letter, scientific merit, prior contribution to EMEUNET activities (e.g. as a country liaison) as well as balanced gender and geographic representation.

Please be aware that if you applied in the past and we could not accept your application, you can re-apply now!

Please note that your motivation letter is a highly valued part of your application. You should use it to demonstrate your interest in furthering the aims of EMEUNET and to provide your views about the future directions and specific activities that EMEUNET should develop in the near future. With the growing EMEUNET activities on Social Media, interest/skills in this domain will be valued.

When applying, please consider that being part of an EMEUNET Sub-committee requires the commitment of time and energy on a regular basis.

If you require more info, do not hesitate to contact us at emeunet@eular.org, on twitter (@EMEUNET) or any other social media, or just ask one of the current sub-committees (working group) members or sub-committee chairs.

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**The deadline to send in your application is April 8th, 2021.**

To apply, send the following documents to: emeunet@eular.ch.

1) the application form;  
2) a recent 2-page CV including a photo;  
3) a signed letter of support from your Head of Department

We look forward to receiving your applications!
The aims of the Education Sub-Committee are to:

1) **Promote scientific and education exchange and knowledge.** This is accomplished through a number of activities on the EMEUNET website and social media. These include the monthly ‘What is New’ (WIN) highlighting 10 new publications in the field of rheumatology each month. The WIN contributions have since the end of 2019 been incorporated as part of the EMUNET podcast. The annual [EULAR-EMEUNET ambassador programme](https://www.eular.org/emeunet/ambassador-programme/) supports first-time attendees at the EULAR congress and matches them with an experienced member with similar interests. Further, EMEUNET is launching a new initiative for all rheumatologists called [#Rheum4Discussion](https://www.eular.org/emeunet/ambassador-programme/). The purpose of the initiative is to create a platform for interaction. The aim is that this will get more rheumatology related content on [#MedicalTwitter](https://www.eular.org/emeunet/ambassador-programme/).

2) **Promote educational opportunities and support for young rheumatologists/researchers working in the field of rheumatology in Europe and beyond.** This is done by obtaining reports for [EULAR courses and EULAR-endorsed courses](https://www.eular.org/emeunet/ambassador-programme/) via our ‘Roving Reporters’ with the aim to inform future applicants. The educational [calendar](https://www.eular.org/emeunet/ambassador-programme/) on the website provides a one-stop resource for a variety of courses during the year and is downloadable to your smart phone. We also coordinate bursaries for certain EULAR-endorsed courses and for other events.

3) **Provide opportunities for EMEUNET members to integrate in EULAR activities.** Every EULAR Task Force includes up to two EMEUNET members who participate and contribute in the shaping of EULAR recommendations. Candidates are chosen competitively on scientific merit coordinated by the Education subgroup. Additionally, we work closely with the EULAR Standing Committee for Education (ESCET) and the EULAR School of Rheumatology.
EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Tue Wenzel Kragstrup
Massimo Radin  Olena Zimba  Chris Wincup  Alla Ishchenko
Juan Molina  Mariana Luís  Blaž Burja

MARCH 2021
ACTIVITIES

«WHAT IS NEW»

January 2021

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS
Basic and Translational Research
January 2021

Detection of circulating highly expanded T-cell clones in at-risk individuals for rheumatoid arthritis before the clinical onset of the disease

Lamacchia C, et al.
(doi:10.1093/rheumatology/keaa790)

T cells are involved in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), as demonstrated by the presence of T-cell clones in the synovial tissue of affected patients. Furthermore, identical clones were found in different joints of the same patient, suggesting that they may come from periphery after activation and proliferation, that could occur, at least in part, outside of the joint.

EMEUNET is launching a new initiative for all rheumatologists called #Rheum4Discussion. The purpose of the initiative is to create a platform for interaction. The aim is that this will get more rheumatology related content on #MedicalTwitter. Anyone can tweet anything they like to discuss.
Please welcome the EMEUNET Podcast! Now you can get updated on educational content and research opportunities while doing the dishes or riding your bike. Find it on Spotify or your favorite podcast app. Let us know what you think to improve the user experience.

With so many training opportunities available (online and, hopefully very soon, offline) it can be difficult to know which ones best suit you and your needs. For that reason, ‘Roving Reporters’ are sharing their experiences, from ACR/EULAR exchange programme, to being a EMEUNET representative in a EULAR task force. By sharing their experiences and insights, other potential attendees/applicants will be able to assess whether the course/opportunity meets their own objectives. Find it on Spotify or your favorite podcast app. Let us know what you think to improve the user experience.
The Country Liaison Sub-Committee is the bridge between the EULAR | EMEUNET Committee and the Country Liaisons (CLs), which are our representatives at the national level. Our objectives are:

1. **To maintain an active CL network.** Our subcommittee establish fluid communication with CLs to support them on their tasks and receiving their feedback and try to put their proposals into practice. For this purpose, we send out periodic reminders and materials, organize regular Teleconferences, and are always available to give any required assistance.

2. **To promote and disseminate EULAR | EMEUNET and its initiatives.** By supporting our CLs we can reach young rheumatologists, researchers and allied professionals in every country and attract to become members and to participate in the activities we develop. Our CLs are supposed to disseminate the information we send them among their colleagues in their country. They also develop national activities meant to increase the visibility and adherence to EMEUNET and report back on so we can boost their visibility through our website and Social Media channels. For assist in this task, we produce and maintain a repository of materials that are constantly updated and with their help, we obtain translations to further increase the possibilities of reaching more potential new members.

3. **To Increase the visibility of CLs and their actions.** We give more visibility to he work of our CLs by posting them on our website, social media channels and our annual newsletter, where we also highlight their promotional activities and those who had an outstanding performance.
ACTIVITIES

Production and translation of advertising materials

- Materials are constantly updated based on CLs feedback.
- Flyers are translated into different languages with the help of CLs and members of the working group.

Website updating and some advertising

- Periodically there are new CL appointments and we receive feedbacks from CL promotional activities that we post on our website.
- We maintain an updated list and a map with all of our CLs to increase their visibility.

Monthly Newsletter

- We prepare a monthly newsletter to be distributed to the CLs including their activities in different countries, current EULAR | EMEUNET initiatives and tips for keeping with their tasks.

Annual EULAR | EMEUNET newsletter in collaboration with the Newsletter SC

- Every March, the CL newsletter is released.
- In this newsletter, performed in alliance with the NLSC, all CLs are introduced, their work is acknowledged, and we introduce the ones with and outstanding work.
Since 2014, we organize every year the **Country Liaison meeting** during EULAR Congress. Last year was the first online meeting with a record participation. This a good opportunity for CLs to meet each other, share their work, discuss the difficulties they found for performing their task and propose new ideas to be held during the next year.

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Lianne is an epidemiologist working at The University of Manchester, UK. Her research focus is safety and effectiveness of biologic therapies for use in children and adults with juvenile idiopathic arthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. She is particularly interested in young adults with rheumatic diseases and their long-term outcomes.

Simone is a rheumatologist at Turin University Hospital, Italy. He is a member of the MSK Ultrasound Study Group and Epidemiology Unit of the Italian Society of Rheumatology. His main research interests are inflammatory arthritis, connective tissue diseases and US-guided interventional joint procedures.

The aim of the EMEUNET Social Media Sub-Committee is to spread all information concerning EMEYNET or ongoing activities of rheumatologic interest across different channels:
- **Website**
- E-mails
- **Facebook**
- **Twitter**
- **LinkedIn**
- **YouTube**
- **Podcast**

The core of all EMEUNET-related information can be found on our website, [www.emeunet.eular.org](http://www.emeunet.eular.org). The site has been online since June 2012, and has been expanding ever since. On our homepage, you can find announcements of interesting conferences, useful courses and exchange programmes, updates with information about registrations to conferences and bursaries, links to educational content and job offers. However, the website is more than just an information channel. We prepare special educational content, such as “**What is New**” section according to disease and “**Imaging quizzes**” showing fascinating musculoskeletal images and associated diagnoses. Moreover, as a logged-in member, you are granted full access to the whole content of the website, including all Newsletters, contacts to EULAR Centers of Excellence, and the database of EMEUNET members. It is especially designed for the needs of young rheumatologists and researchers in the field of rheumatology, being the only webpage to collect and gather such a broad range of information about rheumatology worldwide!
EMAILS

As an EMEUNET member, you will receive regular e-mail updates (job offers, courses, and many more) and our EMEUNET Newsletters (Press Review, EULAR and ACR Do Not Miss and Highlights, among others). You will never miss an opportunity! Email us at emeunet@eular.ch

FACEBOOK & TWITTER

In 2014, we also launched our EMEUNET Facebook and Twitter platforms to maximize contact with both members and non-members, providing quick up-to-date information to the rheumatology community. Our main goals are promoting EMEUNET visibility and its goals, through reaching out to all rheumatologists and researchers in rheumatology across the world. Facebook and Twitter are readily accessible and very intuitive platforms, where you can follow all ongoing activities, deadlines, and projects while they are actively taking place!

LINKEDIN

In October 2016, we also launched our profile on LinkedIn, to reach a broader audience, especially those who are not engaged in Twitter or Facebook.
YOUTUBE – EMEUNET TUBE

In May 2015, we started the YouTube channel EMEUNET TUBE, wherein you can watch interviews with top-class rheumatologists, as well as short video introductions about our different subgroups, to further explore EMEUNET. We are extending our video section constantly, hosting video interviews about research topics and top papers in the field and newsletter editorials. Also, if you are not sure whether you are interested in our popular Mentor-Mentee meetings, you can find video reports about these events there.
PODCAST

In February 2020, in collaboration with the Education Subgroup, we launched the EMEUNET Podcast channel, where you can listen to recently published scientific news and interviews with high-level rheumatologists. We are constantly updating and enriching our audio section, to allow all colleagues to stay updated even in a simple and functional way. You can find us on major podcast platforms, including Spotify!

To keep it simple….

Our ultimate goal is to set the grounds for the key concept of EMEUNET: to keep every young rheumatologist in the world informed and involved in educational, clinical, and research activities.

If you have any information you think might be interesting for us to publish, please do not hesitate to contact us via any of our Social Media platforms or by email (emeunet@eular.ch).

We are always happy to receive any comments/suggestions you may have!
Mikhail is a junior researcher at the Med. Department of Gastroenterology, Infectiology and Rheumatology CBF, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. He has completed his PhD in the Kazan State Medical University, Russia. His major research interests include spondyloarthritis, imaging and outcomes research/epidemiology. Mikhail is an associate member of ASAS.

The EMEUNET Newsletter Sub-Committee has a goal of spreading all the information that is considered useful to young rheumatologists and researchers in our community.

Every year, 11 newsletters are released, bringing the freshest news to the EMEUNET, covering all EMEUNET activities (e.g. introducing all Sub-Committee Members, Country Liaisons, and by presenting the various activities of the EMEUNET subgroups).

EMEUNews also covers major rheumatology meetings (ACR and EULAR), with the selections of Do Not Miss abstracts and the Highlights of abstracts and activities. The theme of the Special issue varies on an annual basis: the 2020 version has covered several young international rheumatology societies, and is a great example of collaboration between young colleagues in the rheumatology community.

In collaboration with EULAR, EMEUNET has established a Press Review and Journal Club newsletter as part of the EULAR School of Rheumatology and an addition to the EULAR / EMEUNET Twitter Journal Club. These issues are published every 4 months and provide an overview of the recently published papers in the area of rheumatology. They also bring two selected papers in focus: one selected by Twitter Community Vote for the Twitter-based Journal Club, and an EMEUNET Paper of the Month voted for by our members and featuring a video interview with one of the paper’s authors.

In addition to the contents mentioned above, all newsletters provide information on upcoming educational events, courses, grant opportunities and other new initiatives.

Over the years, the newsletters have become an important activity of EMEUNET. They are an essential part of the “voice” of EMEUNET, promoting EMEUNET visibility and engaging the community.
MEMBERS

Mikhail Protopopov

Diego Benavent

James Bluett

Achilleas Floudas

George Fragoulis

Tadeja Kuret

Maddalena Larosa

Mary Lucy Marques

Maria Sokolova

Fabian Proft
EMEUNET Newsletters are published monthly to provide the overview of EMEUNET activities, to highlight the most emerging publications in the sphere of rheumatology and to provide the coverage of the biggest events (EULAR and ACR annual Congresses). The Newsletters are distributed by email mass-mailing to all EMEUNET registered members and also advertised on EMEUNET Social Media. Every Sub-Committee member is responsible for coordinating at least 1 Newsletter per year. Editorials of the Newsletter are available to everyone, access to full text requires registration.
ACTIVITIES

EULAR-EMEUNET Twitter Journal Club

Together with the EULAR Faculty, Newsletter Subgroup performs regular EULAR-EMEUNET Twitter Journal Club Sessions (3-4 per year).

- 1-hour-long Twitter discussions with the authors of the pre-selected newly published papers
- Candidates for the JC are pre-selected in advance by the faculty, final selection is made by voting on Twitter.

EMEUNET Paper of the Month

- EMEUNET Paper of the Month selected by a public vote from the list of the papers pre-selected by EMEUNET Sub-Committees members.
- The authors of the winning article are interviewed, 15-minute-long interviews are published on EMEUNET YouTube Channel.
Silvia, is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology Unit, Department of Clinical and Experimental Sciences of the ASST Spedali Civili and University of Brescia (Italy). Her translational research focuses on the involvement of T and B lymphocytes in autoimmune diseases and in particular, in rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus and systemic sclerosis. During her PhD Course in Immunology, she moved to Geneva at the Centre Médicale Universitaire (CMU) to improve her skills in flow cytometry.

The Peer Mentoring Sub-Committee aims to provide young rheumatologists and researchers with a wide range of mentoring options to interact with mentors and leading clinicians/researchers in the field of rheumatology. It also encourages the exchange of ideas and networking between peers providing an opportunity to get in touch with rheumatologists and researchers with similar research interests.

Ongoing projects of the Peer Mentoring Sub-Committee:

1) **Peer Review Mentoring Program** for Rheumatology Journals: To train EMEUNET members as reviewers for scientific journals in rheumatology under the supervision of senior reviewers. This program is organised in collaboration with the editorial offices of Ann Rheum Dis and RMD Open.

2) **Mentor – Mentee meetings** at international conferences (ACR and EULAR): Informal meetings between EMEUNET members and experts in the field of rheumatology to discuss career plans, research options, training etc. under an informal atmosphere.

3) **Research institute database**: To promote research collaborations between EMEUNET members and research institutes in Europe. Along with the official list of the EULAR Centres of Excellence, and EULAR Centres of Imaging we provide information on a list of various high quality centres around Europe that are available to enable exchange of research projects and also to enhance the mobility and international experience of young rheumatologists and researchers.

4) **PostDoc Mentoring Program**: A pioneer program for early career researchers aimed at providing mentoring to cover a number of aspects of the research and career development: how to lead projects, build networks, evolve into a senior researcher and general career advice.
PEER MENTORING SUB-COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Silvia Piantoni

Arani Vivekanantham

Peter Korsten

Lise Verhoef

Claire Daien

Ertugrul Cagri-Bolek

Alvise Berti

Steven Zhao

Charlotte Krausewitz

MEMBERS

MARCH 2021
THE MENTOR-MENTEE MEETINGS AT e-EULAR 2020
Dr Caroline Ospelt & Dr Diane van Der Woude

THE MENTOR-MENTEE MEETINGS AT e-ACR 2020
Prof Betty Diamond & Prof Pedro Machado
EMEUNET Peer Review Mentoring Program for Rheumatology Journals

Since its first edition in 2012, this innovative program has received enormous attention from the whole EMEUNET community and beyond, and it has been continuously expanding with 26 mentors and more than 100 EMEUNET members having participated. Since 2017, the program involves the two EULAR/BMJ rheumatology journals (Ann Rheum Dis and RMD Open). This brought new top-level mentors and a broader selection of research topics, as well as a higher number of available places. The sixth edition has been launched in 2020.

The experience from the EMEUNET Peer Review Program has been recently reported in a viewpoint article and a podcast in RMD Open. In this article, we have summarized the main characteristics of the program, the outcomes of the last editions and the recent improvements implemented.

Do not miss the opportunity to engage in scientific state-of-the-art discussions with leading experts and receive invaluable training in peer review. Stay tuned to our social media platforms and newsletters and apply to upcoming editions! For any questions related to this program, please contact emeunet.peer.review@gmail.com
A recent survey conducted among EMEUNET members revealed that there is a need for mentoring during the early career stages (see also the recent article on this). As a result, in 2018, the EMEUNET Peer Mentoring Sub-Committee launched the EMEUNET PostDoc Mentoring Program. This program is a pioneering initiative in Europe. The third edition started in 2020.

It offers mentoring to young postdoctoral researchers from senior, leading experts in the field. To guide the mentoring process, the program follows an Individual Development Plan, which collates the expectations and aims of the mentees and identifies areas where the mentor could provide guidance. It is based on a flexible scheme of communication between mentor and mentee during a 12-month time frame.

Are you a Post-Doc researcher in rheumatology and need a mentor to support your academic growth? Take advantage of this unique program and apply for coming editions! For any questions related to this program, please contact mentoring.emeunet@gmail.com
Manouk is a PostDoc researcher at the Inflammatory Research Centre at the Ghent University in Belgium. Her focus is on imaging in spondyloarthritis and psoriatic arthritis. In addition, she assesses imaging reads for clinical trials and cohort studies. Manouk is the current Leader of Young ASAS.

The Visibility & Global Affairs Sub-Committee has as main aim to increase awareness around the world about EMEUNET as an organization and the projects we do. We The tasks of this Sub-Committee are:

1. **To promote EMEUNET.** Over the years we have expanded our activities, involving other (young) organisations and working together on projects with other EMEUNET Sub-Committees (Newsletter, Country Liaison and Social Media subcommittees).

2. **To increase EMEUNET visibility among young rheumatologists and researchers within the Reumatology society.** This task is tackled mainly by organising networking events and disseminate information EMEUNET at our booth at the EULAR. During the COVID-19 pandemics, Visibility & Global Affairs Sub-Committee contributed to maintaining the contact between the EMEUNET members using digital platform organizing eNetworking meeting and Virtual Reality events. During the 2021 Visibility & Global Affairs Sub-Committee launched a series of a scientific event to foster the scientific interaction and collaboration among the WG members.

3. **To develop interactions between young specialist organisations.** We collaborate with different organisations: the Young Nephrologists’ Platform (YNP), the Paediatric Rheumatology European Society Emerging Rheumatologists and Researchers (PReS EMERGE), the ECTS Academy, young PANLAR and APLAR and the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology Junior Members (EAACI JM).

4. **To interact and collaborate with PARE and Young PARE.** A better understanding of the views and needs of (young) people living with musculoskeletal and rheumatic disease is essential.
ACTIVITIES

Manouk de Hooge

Martin Greco  James Gwinnutt  Daniele Mauro

Nadia Roodenrijs  Savino Sciascia
2020 has been a tough year. Due to unprecedented circumstances, both EULAR and ACR 2020 annual meetings were virtual. However, EMEUNET didn’t give up on its traditions. During EULAR 2020, EMEUNET members had the chance to meet and interact with other colleagues worldwide in a virtual two-floors pub with an open bar, music, ballroom, tabletop game, and more. After this terrific success, during the ACR 2020, EMEUNET members met in a virtual conference venue filled with round tables ideal for the interaction.

VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT AT EULAR 2020

STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT NETWORKING EVENT AT EULAR 2021

COLLABORATIONS
EULAR continues to provide valuable content and guidance for clinicians and patients with Rheumatic Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs) around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Access the **EULAR COVID-19 Repository for clinicians** - a dedicated space for clinicians and patients where all COVID-related resources and guidelines are concentrated.

- **EULAR guidelines:**
  - COVID-19 Clinic visit guidelines
  - EULAR provisional recommendations for the management of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases in the context of SARS-CoV-2

- **Factors associated with COVID-19-related death in people with rheumatic diseases**

- **Plain Language Summaries of the COVID-19 Global Rheumatology Alliance**

- **EULAR - COVID-19 Reporting database for rheumatologists and other clinicians.**
  - The EULAR - COVID-19 Database is a European pediatric and adult database to report on outcomes of COVID-19 in patients with RMDs. It has been updated with Module 2 – reports on cases of vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 of patients with RMDs are now being collected. The page also contains national registries.

- **Information on vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 in patients with RMDs:**
  - EULAR December 2020 View points on SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in patients with RMDs by Prof. Johannes Bijlsma.
  - EULAR PARE Webinar on COVID-19 and vaccination in RMD patients: What we know so far

Recently the **EULAR points to consider on pathophysiology and use of immunomodulatory therapies in COVID-19** have been published in Annals of Rheumatic Diseases. They summarize information that has been gathered so far on available treatment options and pathogenic mechanisms in COVID-19, based on published studies. These are the points to consider for finding optimal management options in patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection.
UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

APRIL 2021

EULAR Health Economics in Rheumatology Webinar
- When and Where: 12 Apr 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://esor.eular.org/enrol/index.php?id=284

EULAR Immunology Webinar
- When and Where: 13 Apr 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://esor.eular.org/enrol/index.php?id=282

Clinical Immunology Society Annual Meeting
- When and Where: 14-17 Apr 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://cis.clinimmsoc.org/education/meetings/am21

EULAR Immunology Webinar
- When and Where: 16 Apr 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://esor.eular.org/enrol/index.php?id=274

British Society for Rheumatology Annual Conference
- When and Where: 26-28 Apr 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://www.rheumatology.org.uk/events-learning/conferences/annual-conference

65th Japan College of Rheumatology Annual Conference
- When and Where: 26-28 Apr 2021, Kobe, Japan (Hybrid Event)

OARSI 2021
- When and Where: 29 Apr – 1 May 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://2021.oarsi.org/

MAY 2021

Digital European Calcified Tissue Society Annual Congress 2021 (ECTS 2021)
- When and Where: 6-8 May 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://www.ects2021.org/

Australian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting
- When and Where: 21-23 May 2021, Sydney, Australia (Hybrid Event)
- Website: https://www.araconference.com/

12th International Congress on Autoimmunity
- When and Where: 28 May – 1 Jun 2021, Virtual Event
- Website: https://autoimmunity.kenes.com/
UPCOMING EULAR WEBINARS

**EULAR Health Economics in Rheumatology Webinar**

**Date & Time:** Monday, 12 April 2021, 17:30 – 19:10 CEST

**Description:** The webinar aims to address the dramatic need for rheumatologists, health professional working in the field of rheumatology and people living with rheumatic diseases to be aware of the economic issues around the impact and the care of rheumatic diseases. The presentations will develop why and how active participation of professionals and patients may facilitate the development of more optimal rheumatology care across Europe (and other continent) and larger access to therapeutic innovation.

**Target audience:** This is an educational activity targeting people working in the field of rheumatology as well as people affected with rheumatic conditions. The webinar aims to make a non-expert audience more familiar with rheumatic disease economic impact as well as economic assessment of therapeutic innovations.

**Scientific Organisers:** Bruno Fautrel (France), Francis Guillemin (France)

**Speakers:** Annelies Boonen (Netherlands), Bruno Fautrel (France), Francis Guillemin (France), Maarten de Wit (Netherlands), Manuela Joore (Netherlands), Sabine Grimm (Netherlands)

**Program:** available online

**Venue:** Online, esor.eular.org

**Course fee:** Free of charge

**Registration:** You will need to login to your EULAR School of Rheumatology account to register. If you do not have a School account, you will need to create one before registering. After you have logged in, click on the "Enrol me" button to register for the webinar.
**EULAR Immunology Webinar**

**UPCOMING EULAR WEBINARS**

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, 13 April 2021, 18:00 – 20:00 CEST

**Description:** This is a webinar on ‘hot topics’ in Immunology structured as a Q&A session. Experts will answer pre-requested burning questions in different immunology topics and provide insights on new research avenues and future perspectives.

**Target audience:** This webinar targets young rheumatologists or rheumatology trainees, internal medicine specialists or basic science researchers working in the field of rheumatology. It is highly recommended to have intermediate knowledge of immunology and to have a strong interest in translational research focusing on rheumatic diseases.

**Scientific Organisers:** Alessia Alunno (Italy), Hans-Ulrich Scherer (Netherlands), Marie-Elise Truchetet (France)

**Speakers:** Dirk Elewaut (Belgium), Mariola Kurowska-Stolarska, (United Kingdom), Xavier Mariette (France), René Toes (the Netherlands)

**Program:** [available online](#)

**Venue:** Online, esor.eular.org

**Course fee:** Free of charge

**Registration:** You will need to login to your EULAR School of Rheumatology account to register. If you do not have a School account, you will need to create one before registering. After you have logged in, click on the "Enrol me" button to register for the webinar.
**UPCOMING EULAR WEBINARS**

**EULAR Epidemiology Webinar**

**Date & Time:** Friday, 16 April 2021, 13:00 – 14:15 CEST

**Description:** This is a webinar on an update in Epidemiology in COVID times. Relevant results on COVID data in patients with RMDs obtained from the EULAR-GRA COVID registry will be presented. A special focus will be given to methodological aspects of research in COVID, particularly to bias in the context of observational studies, and how to overcome it. Research in the context of a pandemic has its specificities and adaptations must be done to ongoing studies and to studies starting. A summary of these will be presented as well as the experience shared with some ongoing studies. In the end we will have time for a fruitful and methodological discussion.

**Target audience:** This webinar is targeting young rheumatologists, health professionals or statisticians. EMEUNET members are thus within the target audience.

**Scientific Organisers:** Laure Gossec (France), Pedro Machado (UK), Sofia Ramiro (Netherlands)

**Speakers:** Kimme Hyrich (UK), Laure Gossec (France), Pedro Machado (UK), Sofia Ramiro (Netherlands)

**Program:** available online

**Venue:** Online, esor.eular.org

**Course fee:** Free of charge

**Registration:** You will need to login to your EULAR School of Rheumatology account to register. If you do not have a School account, you will need to create one before registering. After you have logged in, click on the "Enrol me" button to register for the webinar.
EULAR | EMEUNET’s “Improve your poster presentations!” webinar – recording available soon

The EULAR | EMEUNET Webinar “Improve your poster presentations”, hosted by Felice Rivellese, Sebastián Rodriguez-García, Manouk De Hooge, starring Catherine Haines and Loreto Carmona, was held on March 16th at 8 pm (CET) and was a great success. The webinar aimed to aims to provide tools for creating posters from scratch and present them at scientific congresses. It was designed as an interactive exercise where attendants could share their views and doubts with the faculty.

The recording will be available shortly on our YouTube channel!
EULAR 2021 virtual again

June 2\textsuperscript{nd} – 5\textsuperscript{th}, 2021

EULAR has decided to hold the EULAR 2021 Congress virtually again to protect everyone's health and safety. For more information, read the message by the EULAR President Ian McInnes.

The EULAR European Congress of Rheumatology comprises the major event in the calendar of world rheumatology. The EULAR 2021 Virtual Congress will address a wide range of topics including clinical, translational and basic science. Sessions dedicated to People with Arthritis and Rheumatism in Europe (PARE), Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPR) will feature prominently.

Registration for the EULAR Virtual CONGRESS is now open

View the EULAR 2021 Congress Scientific Programme (web version)

Final programme (PDF)
All over Europe, COVID-19 cases have been rapidly increasing again. This has mainly been driven by the younger population. @EMEUNET is starting a call to action to join the social media campaign: #wearamask. The aim of this is to raise awareness for the need to wear a mask and follow social distancing to slow the infection rate of COVID-19 and “flatten the curve”. Through our social media channels, we want to spread the message, especially to the younger population, to slow down the infection rates and therefore protecting vulnerable groups like elderly people and people with RMD’s and to reduce the amount of hospitalized COVID-19 patients. Therefore, EMEUNET will be sharing pictures and videos of its members wearing a mask and sharing important messages of who they are wanting to protect. We encourage all of you to join in! Share your photos and messages marking them with the #wearamask hashtag, and do not forget to endorse the @EMEUNET Twitter or @EMEUNET Facebook account!

Check out a message from our Chair Felice Rivellese on our Youtube channel!
EMEUNET PODCASTS!

Are you too busy to read the whole Newsletter? Do you want to keep updated about the main EMEUNET activities and save time?

With our Podcasts, you can get updated while on the go, with extracts of the recent newsletters, highlights of the most recent publications in the field of Rheumatology, selected for you by EMEUNET members (What Is New), interviews and review of other EMEUNET activities.

**Where to listen:**

Anchor  Apple Podcasts  Breaker  Google Podcasts  Overcast  Pocket Casts  Radio Public  Spotify

**SHARE YOUR IDEAS!**

Over the years EMEUNET has developed several projects covering different topics and areas of interest. However, we always appreciate any suggestions and welcome new ideas to expand on what we currently offer to EMEUNET members. Make your voice heard and share your ideas with us!

For additional suggestions and ideas, just write down some lines to summarize your proposal and send it either via email at emeunet@eular.ch or through our website (http://emeunet.eular.org/contact_us.cfm). Don’t forget to provide your contacts so we can come back to you for additional details!

More information about EMEUNET can be found at http://emeunet.eular.org

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EMEUNET Tube

EMEUNET Podcast