Dear young rheumatologists and researchers in rheumatology,

We are excited to present you a new issue of EMEUNews and to introduce the EMEUNET Working Group for 2018-2019.

This group of enthusiastic young volunteers undertakes the organizational role to facilitate the wider aims of EMEUNET. Currently, the EMEUNET Working Group (WG) has 50 members from 21 EULAR countries.

The application process is competitive and takes place annually in April-May. Applications are scored by the EMEUNET Steering Committee and a decision is made primarily on scientific merit, but also by national representation, age, and prior work done within EMEUNET or in national young rheumatologists’ associations.

If you would like to join the EMEUNET WG and be actively involved in our activities, keep an eye on emails from EMEUNET and do not miss our next call for applications! If you have already applied but have not been selected, this does not preclude you from applying again for the following year.

As we welcome our new WG members, we sadly have to say farewell to WG members leaving, following a period of generous offer and hard work. The EMEUNET family is deeply grateful for their ample efforts over the last years and wishes them all the best onwards. Finally, as usual, in this issue you will also find details about upcoming educational events of interest to EMEUNET members.

We hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and would be very happy to receive any comments or contributions for future issues.

Sarah Wade and Antonis Fanouriakis, on behalf of the Newsletter Subgroup

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

You can also reach us through the following email emeunet@eular.ch

www.facebook.com/EMEUNET
www.twitter.com/EMEUNET
http://www.linkedin.com
THE EMEUNET STEERING COMMITTEE
2018 - 2019

Alessia Alunno, MD, PhD – Italy

Alessia is assistant professor of rheumatology at the Rheumatology Unit, University of Perugia, Italy. Her main research interests are the pathogenic role of T lymphocyte subsets and the identification of novel autoantibodies in Sjögren’s syndrome, systemic lupus erythematosus, and rheumatoid arthritis. Alessia is a member of the EULAR Study Group on Sjögren’s syndrome, one of the social media advisors for Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases, and she currently leads the Young Rheumatologists Committee of the Italian Society of Rheumatology (SIRyoung). Alessia is the Chair of EMEUNET.

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Alexandre Sepriano, MD – Portugal, The Netherlands

Alexandre is a rheumatologist at Hospital Egas Moniz, Lisbon, Portugal and a PhD applicant at the Rheumatology Department, Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands, under the supervision of Prof. Désirée van der Heijde and Prof. Robert Landewé. He was a fellow of the Harvard Medical School - Portugal Program's Clinical Scholars Research Training (CSRT), where he received a 2-year intensive training in epidemiology and biostatistics. His research interests include the early diagnosis of spondyloarthritis and long-term imaging outcomes. Alexandre is the Chair-Elect of EMEUNET.

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Elena Nikiphorou, MBBS/BSc, FRCP, MD (Res), PGCME, FHEA – UK

Elena is a Clinical Researcher within the Academic Rheumatology Department of King’s College London and due to start a Clinical Consultant post at King’s College Hospital, London, UK. Her main research interests focus on inflammatory arthritis, multimorbidity and socio-economic determinants of disease outcomes. She also has a keen interest in medical education. She has undertaken her MD Research degree on structural outcomes in Rheumatoid Arthritis at University College London, where she previously also completed her medical studies and BSc in Physiology (First Class Hons). She is also currently undertaking a second research degree with a focus on spondyloarthritis outcomes, a PhD at the Leiden University Medical Centre, The Netherlands. Elena is the Past Chair of EMEUNET.

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THE EMEUNET SUBGROUP LEADERS  
2018 - 2019

**Diederik De Cock, PhD – Belgium, United Kingdom**

Diederik is an epidemiologist working either in Manchester, UK or Leuven, Belgium. Aside from his full time job of being a father and professional sport enthusiast, he is analyzing investigator-initiated trials in early rheumatoid arthritis, investigating unmet needs for patients with early rheumatoid arthritis and analyzing the safety of biologic treatment in established rheumatoid arthritis and juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Diederik is the co-leader of the Social Media Subgroup.

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**Antonis Fanouriakis, MD – Greece, Germany**

Antonis is a rheumatologist, currently undertaking a research fellowship in the Charité University, Berlin, Germany. He has completed a MSc program in Molecular Medicine and his thesis on neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus, both at the University of Crete, Greece. His scientific interests focus on systemic autoimmune diseases, mainly the pathogenesis and treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus. Antonis is the leader of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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**Aurélie Najm, MD – France**

Aurélie is a rheumatology fellow at Nantes University Hospital, France. She is also a PhD student at the University of Biology of Nantes. Her main research interests include the immunopathology of synovial tissue in inflammatory arthritis, new therapeutics and prognostic markers in rheumatoid arthritis. Aurélie is the leader of the Global Affairs Subgroup and a member of the Education Subgroup.

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**Francesca Ometto, MD, PhD – Italy**

Francesca completed her PhD in 2018 and is now a rheumatologist at the University Hospital of Padova, Italy. Her major research interests include musculoskeletal diseases, mainly rheumatoid arthritis, biologic therapies and patient-reported outcomes. Francesca is the leader of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET SUBGROUP LEADERS

2018 - 2019

Felice Rivellese, MD, PhD – Italy, United Kingdom

Felice is a research fellow and honorary clinical fellow at the Department of Rheumatology of Queen Mary University, London, UK, with a long-term research interest in the involvement of mast cells in rheumatoid arthritis and a more recently developed interest in systemic lupus erythematosus and Sjögren’s syndrome. He is a clinical immunologist and obtained his PhD in Immuno-rheumatology in 2016. Felice is the leader of the Visibility Subgroup.

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Javier Rodríguez - Carrio, MSc, PhD – Spain

Javier is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Oviedo, Spain. His major research interests are focused on the role of the immune system in endothelial activation, lipoprotein dysfunction and subclinical atherosclerosis development in rheumatic autoimmune diseases, especially during very early stages. He gained international experience during a stay at the Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Initially involved in the Country Liaisons and Peer Mentoring subgroups, Javier is the leader of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Santiago Rodrigues - Manica, MD – Portugal

Santiago is a rheumatology fellow at the Hospital Egas Moniz, CHLO and a researcher at CEDOC (from NOVA University) in Lisbon, Portugal. His main scientific interests are outcomes research, imaging and epidemiology in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, He enjoys taking on new challenges, travelling and learning new languages. Santiago is the co-leader of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Marloes van Onna, MD, PhD – The Netherlands

Marloes is a rheumatologist at the Maastricht University Medical Center, The Netherlands. In 2015, she completed her PhD on early identification and referral of patients suspected of having axial spondyloarthritis. Her research focuses on spondyloarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and outcomes research. Marloes is the leader of the Education Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP
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Stefano Alivernini, MD, PhD – Italy

Stefano is an academic researcher and consultant rheumatologist at the Institute of Rheumatology of the Catholic University of The Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy. In 2011, he completed his research fellowship at the Institute of Infection, Immunity and Inflammation, University of Glasgow, UK and at the Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology, Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam. He completed his PhD at the University of Verona in 2013. His main research interests include pathogenesis of synovitis, epigenetics, and personalized medicine. Stefano is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Deshiré Alpizar - Rodriguez, MD – Switzerland

Deshiré is an internal medicine physician and rheumatologist. Her major research interests include female reproductive factors and rheumatic diseases, particularly rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus. She is currently completing a MD-PhD in clinical research at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. Deshire is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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James Bluett, MD, PhD – United Kingdom

James is a senior clinical lecturer, honorary consultant in rheumatology and co-deputy director of the MSc “Clinical rheumatology” at the University of Manchester, UK, with an interest in strategies to improve treatment response in rheumatoid arthritis. In 2015, He completed a PhD investigating methotrexate adherence in rheumatoid arthritis and methotrexate-pneumonitis. James is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Gonçalo Boleto, MD, MSc – Portugal, France

Gonçalo is a trainee in rheumatology and clinical immunology in Reims University Hospital, France. His research focuses on the safety of biologics in rheumatoid arthritis and the pathophysiology of systemic sclerosis with a specific interest in experimental inflammation-driven fibrosis. Gonçalo is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP

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Olga Brzezińska, MD, PhD – Poland

Olga is working in the Department of Internal Medicine and the Rheumatology Clinic at the University of Lodz, Poland. She completed her PhD at the University of Lodz where she investigated infectivity among the elderly, multi-morbidity and mechanisms of the immune system's aging. Her research focuses on molecular markers and risk factors of early arthritis, destabilisation of DNA in autoimmunity, as well as, public health research. She is highly skilled in capillaroscopy and other imaging techniques. Olga is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Blaž Burja, MD – Slovenia

Blaž is a PhD student at the Department of Rheumatology, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia. His major research focus is on systemic sclerosis, with a particular interest in metabolic and epigenetic dysregulation, aiming to unveil new anti-fibrotic treatment strategies. Upon completion of his PhD, he will start specialist training in rheumatology. Blaž is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Giulio Cavalli, MD – Italy

Giulio is an attending physician and research fellow in the Unit of Immunology, Rheumatology, Allergy and Rare Diseases, San Raffaele Hospital and University of Milan, Italy. His major research interests include inflammation, the interleukin-1 family of molecules, and the genetic risk of developing autoimmunity. He is currently completing a PhD in inflammation at Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Giulio is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Claire Daien, MD, PhD – France

Claire is Associate Professor of Rheumatology at Montpellier Hospital, France. Her clinical and basic science research focuses on rheumatoid arthritis. She leads a translational research group on rheumatoid arthritis and the relationships between diet, microbiota and immunity. Claire is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP
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Manouk de Hooge, MSc, PhD – Belgium, The Netherlands
Manouk is a post-doctoral researcher at the Inflammatory Research Centre at the Ghent University, The Netherlands. Her research focuses on spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and imaging. She completed her PhD on imaging in axial spondyloarthritis, under the supervision of Prof. D van der Heijde at Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands. She is still involved in spondyloarthritis projects in the LUMC. Manouk is a member of the Visibility Subgroup.

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Katie Druce, PhD – United Kingdom
Katie is a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Manchester, UK, currently working on the QUAlity of life, Sleep and rheumatoid ARthritis (QUASAR) study. Her PhD focused on the relationship between pain and fatigue in rheumatoid arthritis and she remains keenly interested in patient-reported outcomes. Katie is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Achilleas Floudas, PhD – Greece, Ireland
Following completion of his undergraduate Biology studies at the University of Crete, Greece, Achilleas received a PhD by the Institute of Molecular Medicine of Newcastle University, UK. Shortly after, Achilleas received an Irish Research Council fellowship and has recently joined the Molecular Rheumatology lab of Prof. Ursula Fearon at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. His research is currently focusing on the role of T and B cells at the site of inflammation in rheumatoid arthritis, and the effect of hypoxia on the function of these cells. Achilleas is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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George Fragoulis, MD, PhD – Greece
George is a rheumatology registrar at “NIMTS” hospital, Athens, Greece. His main research interests include rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis, Sjögren’s syndrome and IgG4-related disease. His PhD thesis related to phagocytosis and the role of cell-death in Sjögren’s syndrome. He holds an honorary research fellow position at the University of Glasgow, UK, carrying out research focused on inflammatory arthritis. George is member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP

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Chiara Giacomassi, MD, PhD – United Kingdom

Chiara is a clinical fellow in internal medicine and rheumatology at Northwick Park Hospital, London, UK. She recently completed a PhD in Immunology at Imperial College, London. Her main research interests include complement in skin and systemic autoimmunity. Chiara is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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James Gwinnutt, PhD – United Kingdom

James is a post-doctoral research associate working at the Arthritis Research UK Centre for Epidemiology at the University of Manchester, UK. In 2017, he completed his PhD on long-term outcomes over 20 years from a cohort of patients with rheumatoid arthritis recruited to the Norfolk Arthritis Register. His current research interests include long-term outcomes in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, psychological outcomes of having a rheumatic disease and socioeconomic disparity in treatment and outcomes of patients with these conditions. James is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Megan Hanlon, BSc – Ireland

Megan completed her BSc in Biomedical, Health and Life Sciences in the University College Dublin, Ireland, in 2016. She subsequently joined Prof. Fearon's molecular rheumatology group in Trinity College, Dublin, under an Irish Research Council PhD scholarship in the same year. Her main research interests include macrophage immunometabolism and dysregulation within the inflamed synovium. Megan is a member of the Visibility Subgroup.

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Peter Korsten, MD – Germany

Peter is a board-certified rheumatologist and attending physician at University Medical Center Göttingen, Germany. His research focuses on systemic autoimmune diseases, primarily systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, sarcoidosis and inflammatory myositis. He has a special interest on the effect of these diseases on major organs and their epidemiology. He has been working as a junior methodologist for a European Respiratory Society Task Force on Sarcoidosis Treatment. Peter is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Tue Wenzel Kragstrup, MD, PhD – Denmark

Tue graduated from the Medical School at Aarhus University, Denmark, in 2010, while also spending time at Sydney University Hospital, Australia. He did his internship in Copenhagen and PhD at the Department of Biomedicine at Aarhus University and Department of Immunology at Stanford University, USA. He is currently working as a rheumatology fellow and part time Associate Professor in Immunology in Aarhus. His research focuses on the immunological mechanisms of immune-mediated inflammatory diseases, with special interest in arthritis. Tue is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Maddalena Larosa, MD – Italy

Maddalena is a rheumatology resident at the Division of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine-DIMED at University of Padova, Italy. She is due to complete her training rheumatology fellowship in December 2018. Her research interests include systemic lupus erythematosus, connective tissue diseases, pregnancy and rheumatic diseases and antiphospholipid syndrome. Maddalena is a member of the Education and Country Liaisons Subgroups.

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Kim Lauper, MD – Switzerland, United Kingdom

Kim is a board-certified internist, rheumatology fellow and researcher at the Geneva University Hospital, Geneva, Switzerland. Her research focuses on rheumatoid arthritis and epidemiology, particularly on comorbidities, methodological issues, drug effectiveness and adverse events in real-world data. She will begin a postgraduate research program in Manchester in November 2018, under the supervision of Prof. Kimme Hyrich at the Arthritis UK Centre of Epidemiology. Kim is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Tue Wenzel Kragstrup, MD, PhD – Denmark

Katja Lakota, PhD – Slovenia

Katja holds a post-doctoral position in the Immunology Laboratory, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia and is Assistant Professor at FAMNIT, University of Primorska, Slovenia. Her main research interests are acute phase responses in rheumatic diseases and fibrosis development in systemic sclerosis. Katja is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Maddalena Larosa, MD – Italy

Maddalena is a rheumatology resident at the Division of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine-DIMED at University of Padova, Italy. She is due to complete her training rheumatology fellowship in December 2018. Her research interests include systemic lupus erythematosus, connective tissue diseases, pregnancy and rheumatic diseases and antiphospholipid syndrome. Maddalena is a member of the Education and Country Liaisons Subgroups.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP

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Mary Lucy Marques, MD – Portugal, The Netherlands

Mary Lucy is a rheumatology fellow at the Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal. Her major research interests include spondyloarthritis and osteoporosis. She is currently doing a research fellowship at the Rheumatology Department of Leiden University Medical Centre, Leiden, The Netherlands. Mary Lucy is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Ivan Padjen, MD, PhD – Croatia

Ivan has recently finished his rheumatology training at the University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Croatia, where he also completed his PhD in 2016. His main interests include epidemiology and outcome research in systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis. Ivan spent six months of his training at the Department of Rheumatology, Medical University of Vienna, Austria, where he worked under the supervision of Prof. Daniel Aletaha. Ivan is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Simone Parisi, MD – Italy

Simone is a consultant rheumatologist at the University Hospital “Città della Salute e della Scienza”, Turin, Italy. His major research interests include arthritis, connective tissue diseases and imaging. He is a member of the Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Study Group of the Italian Society of Rheumatology. He is also completing a training course at the Epidemiology Unit of the Italian Society of Rheumatology. Simone is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Mikhail Protopopov, MD, PhD – Russia, Germany

Mikhail is a junior researcher at the Department of Gastroenterology, Infectiology and Rheumatology, Charité University, Berlin, Germany. His major research interests include spondyloarthritis, imaging, epidemiology and outcomes research. Mikhail, originally from Russia, completed his PhD at Kazan State Medical University. He is an associate member of ASAS classification criteria for spondyloarthritis. Mikhail is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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THE EMEUNET WORKING GROUP
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Polina Putrik, MD, PhD – Russia, Australia
Polina is a post-doctoral researcher at Monash and Deakin Universities, Australia, working on health system sustainability and health literacy in rheumatic diseases. She completed her PhD under the supervision of Prof. Annelies Boonen and Dr. Sofia Ramiro, focusing on epidemiology of rheumatic diseases, socio-economic inequities in the disease outcomes and the role of access to innovative medications (such as biologic DMARDs) in these inequities. Currently, Polina is also undertaking a MSc in Statistics in Hasselt University, Belgium. Polina is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.
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Andreas Ramming, MD – Germany
Andreas is a rheumatology resident and research group leader at the University Hospital of Erlangen, Germany. His research focuses on translational research, especially signaling pathways in chronic inflammatory arthritis and fibrotic diseases. He is a member of the EULAR education team, participating in authoring the EULAR Online Course on systemic sclerosis. Andreas is a member of the Education Subgroup.
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Andrea Regel, MD, PhD – Germany
Andrea is a resident of internal medicine and rheumatology, currently working at St. Anna Hospital, Herne, Germany. Her research focus is axial spondyloarthritis. In 2017, she completed her PhD in axial spondyloarthritis at the Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. Andrea is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.
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Sebastián Rodriguez - García, MD – Spain
Sebastián is a rheumatology fellow at the Hospital Clínic, Barcelona, Spain. His research interests include pharmacoepidemiology and rheumatoid arthritis. He is currently undertaking a PhD in vaccination in patients with immune-mediated diseases at the University of Barcelona, and also a MSc in Epidemiology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Sebastián is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.
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Valentin Sebastian Schäfer, MD – Germany 🇩🇪
Valentin is a specialist in internal medicine and rheumatology. He is currently the head of the Department of Rheumatology and head of the Ultrasound Clinic at the University Hospital Bonn, Germany. His major research interest include musculoskeletal ultrasound, imaging in large vessel vasculitides and polymyalgia rheumatica. He is passionate about mentoring his group, especially his PhD students. Valentin is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.
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Karen Schreiber, MD – Denmark, United Kingdom 🇩🇰 🇬🇧
Karen is a clinical research fellow at the Thrombosis and Haemostasis Centre, ‘St Thomas’ Hospital, London, UK, and a Rheumatology trainee in Gråsten, Denmark. She graduated from Aarhus University in Denmark and is currently undertaking a PhD at the Universities of Copenhagen and London. Her main interests are thrombosis and pregnancy complications in antiphospholipid syndrome and systemic lupus erythematosus. She is a member of the British Society for Rheumatology (BSR) working group and recently received the Eberhard F. Mammen Young Investigator Award. Karen is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.
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Savino Sciascia, MD, PhD – Italy 🇮🇹
Savino is a consultant immunopathologist and Assistant Professor at the University of Turin, Italy. His major research interests include the management of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus and antiphospholipid syndrome. He completed his PhD on thrombotic risk assessment in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus, in collaboration with the Lupus Unit, Guy's and St Thomas’ Hospital, London, UK. Savino is a member of the Global Affairs Subgroup.
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Maliha Shaikh, MBChB, MRCP – United Kingdom 🇬🇧
Maliha is a specialist trainee in rheumatology and internal medicine in north London and a clinical research fellow at Cambridge University Hospital, UK. Her clinical and research interests are focused around pain mechanisms in musculoskeletal disease, complex regional pain syndrome, and rheumatoid arthritis. She is the North East and Central London trainee representative within the British Society of Rheumatology. Maliha is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.
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Julia Spierings, MD, MSc – The Netherlands
Julia is a rheumatologist and PhD candidate at the University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Her major research focus includes systemic sclerosis, autologous stem cell transplantation and health care organization. Julia is also a project member of ARCH (Arthritis Research and Collaboration Hub), a nationwide project to improve health care for patients with rare systemic autoimmune diseases. Julia is a member of the Global Affairs Subgroup.
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Simon Stones, BSc (Hons) AMRSB – United Kingdom
Simon is an award-winning patient leader and doctoral researcher in child and family health at the University of Leeds, UK. Simon’s research interests involve applied health research, where Simon focuses on supported self-management of paediatric rheumatological conditions. He is a member of the Young PARE working group and EULAR patient research partners network. Simon is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.
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Sarah Wade, PhD – Ireland
Sarah is an Arthritis Ireland Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. In 2017, she completed her PhD at University College Dublin, under the supervision of Prof. Douglas Veale and Prof. Ursula Fearon. Her main research interests include synovial inflammation, dysregulated angiogenesis, pro-inflammatory micro-environments and energy metabolism. Sarah is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.
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Casper Webers, MD – The Netherlands
Casper is a PhD candidate at the Maastricht University Medical Center, The Netherlands. His major research focus is on axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA). His past work involved gender-attributable differences in radiographic axSpA and willingness-to-pay for biologics. Currently, he is researching socioeconomic outcomes, such as employment and sick leave, and economic evaluations of axSpA. He is also involved in a Dutch registry for SpA. In 2019 he will commence specialist training in rheumatology. Casper is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.
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Chris Wincup, BSc (Hons), MBBS, MRCP – United Kingdom

Chris is a clinical research fellow and honorary rheumatology registrar at University College London, UK. His major research interests include the pathogenesis and treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus and other connective tissue diseases. His current research focus is centred on investigating mitochondrial dysfunction in lupus. Chris is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Md Yuziful Md Yusof, MBChB – United Kingdom

Yuz is an NIHR-funded doctoral research fellow and a final year specialist registrar in rheumatology at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, UK. His major research interests include systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), Sjögren's syndrome, B-cell therapies, interferonopathy, clinical trials and personalized medicine. He is completing a PhD in personalizing biologic therapies in at-risk and established SLE at the University of Leeds. Yuz is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Polona Žigon, MSc, PhD – Slovenia

Polona is an analyst researcher at the University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia. Her research interests include epidemiologic and diagnostic studies of systemic autoimmune diseases, mostly systemic lupus erythematosus, antiphospholipid syndrome and vasculitis. She completed her MSc and PhD on the role of antiprothrombin antibodies in antiphospholipid syndrome, at University Medical Centre Ljubljana and Hokkaido University, Japan. Polona is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

FAREWELL TO EMEUNET LEADERS 2017-18

Sofia Ramiro, MD MSc PhD
EMEUNET Chair 2016-17
EMEUNET Past-Chair 2017-18

Mary Canavan, PhD
Co-leader of Social Media Subgroup 2017-18

Richard Conway, MD
Leader of Newsletter Subgroup 2017-18

Meghna Jani, MBChB MRCP MSc PhD
Leader of Education Subgroup 2017-18

Marie Kostine, MD
Leader of Global Affairs Subgroup 2017-18

Paul Studenic, MD
Co-Leader of Social Media Subgroup 2017-18
THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!
FAREWELL TO EMEUNET WORKING GROUP MEMBERS 2017-18

Mike Becker

Ana Ortiz

Katrin Thorarinsdottir

Francesco Carubbi

Yesim Ozguler

Anne Margrethe Troldborg

Jan Leihe

John Pauling

Valentina Vardanyan

Anna Olwicz-Gawlik

Tânia Santiago

Joanna Zalewska
SEPTEMBER 2018

European Congress of Immunology
- When and Where: 2 – 5 Sep 2018, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Website: https://www.eci2018.org/home/

EULAR Endorsed Course: Paediatric Musculoskeletal Basic Ultrasound Course
- When and Where: 2 – 4 Sep 2018, Lisbon, Portugal
- Website: https://tinyurl.com/y9r347t4

25th European Paediatric Rheumatology Congress (PReS) 2018
- When and Where: 5 – 8 Sep 2018, Lisbon, Portugal
- Website: http://www.pres.eu/pres2018/

37th Scandinavian Congress of Rheumatology
- When and Where: 5 – 8 Sep 2018, Helsinki, Finland
- Website: http://www.scr2018.fi

Course on Sonoguided Interventions and Procedures in Musculoskeletal Diseases
- When and Where: 12 – 14 Sep 2018, Barcelona, Spain
  - Website: https://tinyurl.com/Sonoguide

8th EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy
- When and Where: 13 – 15 Sep 2018, Genoa, Italy
- Website: https://esor.eular.org/theme/lc_eular/layout/enrol.php?id=14

27th International Complement Workshop 2018
- When and Where: 16 – 20 Sep 2018, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- Website: https://www.complement.org/icw-2018
THE EULAR ON-LINE COURSES

All EULAR courses, as electronic ways of continuous medical education in rheumatology, are managed by a scientific course committee responsible for the structure and content of the courses and for ensuring regular quality control and advancement. Teams of expert authors are regularly reviewing and updating the courses to keep up with the newest developments in the field.

REGISTRATION OPEN SINCE END OF JUNE 2018 – CLOSING ON 30 NOVEMBER 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Registration and More Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th EULAR On-line Course on Rheumatic Diseases</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course.cfm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>10th EULAR On-line Course on Connective Tissue Diseases (CTD)</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ctd.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ctd.cfm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>8th EULAR On-line Course on Systemic Sclerosis (SSc)</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ssc.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_ssc.cfm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7th EULAR On-line Introductory Ultrasound Course</td>
<td>7 months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_msus.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_msus.cfm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>5th EULAR / PReS On-line Course in Paediatric Rheumatology</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_paediatric.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_paediatric.cfm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th EULAR On-line Course for Health Professionals</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_hpr.cfm">https://www.eular.org/edu_online_course_hpr.cfm</a></td>
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The EULAR On-line Courses on Rheumatic Diseases, CTDs, SSc and US are also available as APP

THE OPINION OF TWO PARTICIPANTS:

"Ultrasonography is essential for the training of Rheumatologists and represents a key aspect of patient’s evaluation. The EULAR On-line Introductory Ultrasound Course offers theoretical basic skills on musculoskeletal ultrasound in rheumatic diseases as well as in healthy subjects. The high quality of contents as well as the experience of the Faculty are the two main reasons to join this course. Moreover, the website is straightforward and very easy to use. Upon passing the final examination, EULAR releases a certificate. This course is very useful for Rheumatologists who would like to acquire a basic theoretical knowledge on musculoskeletal ultrasound."

"I attended the EULAR On-line Introductory Ultrasound Course. It is a well structured basic course on ultrasonography that is divided in different modules according to the different anatomical sites. Each module includes specific exercises and the final test. I found this course very interesting and it provided me with a complete overview of ultrasonography in rheumatology. I would recommend this course as to me it was overall more useful and formative compared to some different on-site courses I previously attended."
19TH EULAR POSTGRADUATE COURSE

With its postgraduate course, EULAR seeks to update the professional knowledge of young rheumatologists from around the world, whilst giving the participants the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and experiences. Target participants are fellows/residents in rheumatology, clinician scientists in rheumatology, and newly certified rheumatologists, as well as more experienced rheumatologists who need to remain up-to-date in rheumatology and immunology. The EULAR postgraduate course is a unique 2 ½ day refresher, "crash course", in clinical and experimental rheumatology taught by a selected faculty of European experts in a very interactive and cordial environment. Participants have the opportunity to meet experts in an informal setting, and to network with trainees and rheumatologists from all over the world. The course includes a number of interactive workshop sessions and participants can choose which to attend.

Note: There will be an extra, free day of lectures on 04 October, which is courtesy of the Hungarian Association of Rheumatologists (HAR) as they are celebrating their 90th birthday in 2018.

Next EULAR Postgraduate Course will take place on

1-3 October 2018 in Budapest, Hungary

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

For more information and to register: https://esor.eular.org/theme/lc_eular/layout/home/course.php?id=23

THE OPINION OF A PARTICIPANT:

Being a young trainee in Rheumatology, this was my first contact with the EULAR professors. I found it quite exciting to meet face to face with all those people whose names you read daily on scientific papers. Lectures go from classical themes to newly emerging issues, sometimes in a quite provocative way. Workshops address either clinical and scientific subjects in a very practical and straightforward manner that you will not find in books. So be ready to take notes, you will thank them later when writing an article or dealing with a difficult case. You are invited to question the speakers during their lectures but also to raise your own issues in the meet the professor sessions. This last one was actually my favourite. You can bring to the table any subject you would like to see debated in a truly brainstorming session.

So, if you are currently working on a project and want to hear different perspectives and opinions, or if you are planning to start one and need some inspiration, this is the time and place to do it. Bursaries are available and provide a unique opportunity to present and discuss your own clinical case with the leading experts on the subject in a relaxed family atmosphere. You also have the chance to meet and exchange experiences with other colleagues from all across the globe. I think the course is suitable for all ages and career levels and indeed you can find all types of participants. You can come and learn from scratch or just update your knowledge. I ended up doing a little bit of both and couldn’t be more satisfied with the experience. For my part, I definitely intend to return in my last year as a trainee.

Mariana Luis, 18th EULAR Postgraduate Course, 2017
The official EMEUNET calendar is now up and running on our website http://emeunet.eular.org/calendar.cfm

In 2016 EMEUNET launched a new initiative to have a shared calendar of events and deadlines. We decided to use google, as it offers the advantage of allowing synchronization with computers and mobile devices.

The calendar is fully customizable and members can decide to get notifications by email or on the mobile.

To follow this calendar and transfer it into your calendar manager in any device (laptop, tablet, phone), please see the instructions here.

If you are an apple user, we have been informed that in some cases, possibly after a system update), the synchronization is lost. If this happens, you will need to set again the synchronization at this address https://www.google.com/calendar/iphone
eSelect
Here you can find detailed instructions on how to synchronize apple devices with the google calendar.

The EMEUNET calendar has been up and running for a year, with the aim to ensure that our members would never loose a deadline or a conference! We hope you have found it useful. If you have any comment or suggestion please let us know by sending an email to emeunet@eular.ch
JOIN EULAR TASK FORCES AND COMMITTEES

Young investigators of EMEUNET are an integral part of all task forces and committees working on new EULAR recommendations. This is a wonderful chance for EMEUNET to increase its visibility and for you to accelerate your academic career.

The last call came in May from the EULAR Task Force on prevention and management of osteoporotic fractures

Take a look at emails from EMEUNET and find the opportunity most suitable for you!

SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

Over the years EMEUNET has developed several projects covering different topics and areas of interest. However, we 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!

It is easy, 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

www.facebook.com/EMEUNET
www.twitter.com/EMEUNET
http://www.linkedin.com