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 2019-2020.

This group of enthusiastic young volunteers undertakes the participates in the organization of EMEUNET and its activities. Currently, the EMEUNET Working Group (WG) has over 50 members from 17 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.

Gonçalo Boleto and Casper Webers, on behalf of the Newsletter Subgroup

More information about EMEUNET can be found at [http://emeunet.eular.org](http://emeunet.eular.org)

You can also reach us through the following email [emeunet@eular.ch](mailto:emeunet@eular.ch)
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. He focuses his research on early diagnosis and long-term imaging outcomes of spondyloarthritis. Alexandre is the Chair of EMEUNET.

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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 of London. He is a Clinical Immunologist and obtained his PhD in Immuno-rheumatology in 2016 with a thesis on the involvement of Mast cells in Rheumatoid Arthritis. His current research focuses on the use of synovial biopsies to predict disease progression and treatment response in inflammatory arthritis. Felice is the Chair Elect of EMEUNET.

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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 past President of the Young Rheumatologists Committee of the Italian Society of Rheumatology (SIRyoung). Alessia is the past Chair of EMEUNET.

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THE EMEUNET SUBGROUP LEADERS
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Diederik De Cock, PhD Biomedical Sciences – Belgium

Diederik is a FWO postdoctoral fellow in the field of musculoskeletal epidemiology at the KU Leuven, Belgium. His main research area is rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Past work involved effectiveness of treatment strategies in early RA, focusing on pragmatic solutions for the patient. His current research interest are unmet needs in early RA and the use of «mHealth» in musculoskeletal diseases. Diederik is also leading the Belgian Biologic register TARDIS. He is the co-leader of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Simone Parisi, MD - Italy

Simone is a consultant rheumatologist at University Hospital “Città della Salute e della Scienza”, Turin, Italy. His major research interests include arthritis, connective tissue diseases and imaging. He has gained much experience in joint injection therapy, especially in the use of haemocomponents. He is a member of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Study Group of the Italian Society of Rheumatology and he is completing a training course at Epidemiology Unit of Italian Society of Rheumatology. Simone is the co-leader of the Social Media 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 his 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 a special interest in arthritis. Tue is the leader of the Education Subgroup.

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Francesca Ometto, MD, PhD – Italy

Francesca is a rheumatologist in the Veneto region in Italy. She collaborates with the University Hospital of Padova, Italy and with the Epidemiological Department of the Veneto Region. Her major research interests include rheumatoid arthritis, biological drugs and patient reported outcomes. Francesca is the leader of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Casper Webers, MD – The Netherlands

Casper is a rheumatologist in training and PhD candidate at the Maastricht University Medical Center, the Netherlands. His major research focus is spondyloarthritis (SpA). His past work involved gender-attributable differences and comorbidity in radiographic axial SpA, as well as socioeconomic outcomes, such as employment and sick leave. Currently, he is working on an economic evaluation of axial SpA. Casper is the leader of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Kim Lauper, MD – Switzerland, United Kingdom

Kim is a rheumatologist at the Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland and PhD student at the University of Manchester, UK. She completed her MD in 2018 focusing on cardiovascular events in rheumatic disorders in 2018. Her current major research interest is rheumatoid arthritis and epidemiology, particularly methodological issues, drug effectiveness and adverse events in real-world observational data. Kim is the leader of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Manouk de Hooge, MSc, PhD – The Netherlands, Belgium

Manouk is a post-doctoral researcher at the Center of Inflammatory Research of Ghent University and Rheumatology Department in Belgium. Her research focuses on spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and imaging. She completed her PhD on imaging in axial spondyloarthritis, under the supervision of Prof. Désirée van der Heijde at Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), The Netherlands. She is still involved in spondyloarthritis projects in the LUMC. Manouk is the co-leader of the Visibility & Global Affairs Subgroup.

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Julia Spierings, MD, MSc – The Netherlands

Julia is a PhD candidate and Rheumatologist at the department of Clinical immunology and Rheumatology of the University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands. Her research focuses on systemic sclerosis, in particular quality of health care and stem cell transplantation. Next to her work at the UMC Utrecht, she is a project coordinator at ARCH, a nationwide project that aims to improve health care for patients with rare autoimmune diseases. She is involved in international collaborations as the European Reference Networks and the European Scleroderma Trials and Research group. Julia is the co-leader of the Visibility & Global Affairs Subgroup.

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Stefano Alivernini, MD, PhD – Italy

Stefano is an academic researcher and consultant rheumatologist at the Fondazione Policlinico A. Gemelli IRCCS - Catholic University of The Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy. He got his PhD in Clinical Proteomics and his main areas of research are synovitis pathogenesis, epigenetics and personalized medicine. Stefano is a member of the Country Liaison Subgroup.

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Deshiré Alpizar-Rodriguez, MD, PhD – Mexico, Switzerland

Deshiré is an internal medicine physician and rheumatologist with a PhD in clinical research at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. Her major research interests include female reproductive factors, pre-clinical phases and risk factors for the development of rheumatic diseases, particularly rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus. Deshiré is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Diego Benavent, MD – Spain (NEW)

Diego is a 4th year rheumatology resident at Hospital Universitario La Paz in Madrid, Spain. He is the current European Junior Doctors (EJD) representative at UEMS-Rheumatology section. Aside from his activities regarding healthcare technology, his major interests are spondyloarthritis, patient-reported outcomes and musculoskeletal epidemiology. Diego is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Alvise Berti, MD – Italy (NEW)

Alvise is a consultant working in the Rheumatology Department at the Regional Hospital of Trento, Italy, and he is currently doing his PhD in Biomolecular sciences at the University of Trento, Italy. His major research focuses is vasculitis. His past work involved a better definition of the epidemiology of ANCA-associated vasculitis, the evaluation of the comorbidities (particularly the cardiovascular risk) and the identification of new possible biomarkers of disease activity. He is currently researching autoreactive B cells in ANCA-associated vasculitis and investigating the impact of respiratory manifestations in AAV. Alvise is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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James Bluett, MD, PhD – United Kingdom

James is a senior clinical lecturer and honorary consultant in rheumatology at the University of Manchester, UK, with an interest in strategies to improve treatment response in rheumatoid arthritis. In 2015 he completed his PhD investigating methotrexate adherence in rheumatoid arthritis and methotrexate-pneumonitis. He has presented his work at international conferences and collaborated internationally. He is the co-deputy director of the MSc Clinical Rheumatology at the University of Manchester. James is a member of the Newsletter subgroup.

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Gonçalo Boleto, MD, MSc – France, Portugal

Gonçalo is a fellow and researcher in the Department of Internal Medicine and Clinical Immunology, reference centre for rare systemic autoimmune diseases, at Pitié-Salpêtrière University Hospital, Paris, France. He is currently involved in the project FAI2R, a nationwide platform for rare autoimmune and autoinflammatory disorders. His major research interests include systemic sclerosis, vasculitis and rare autoimmune disorders. Gonçalo is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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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, PhD – Italy

Giulio is Assistant Professor of Medicine and Attending Physician at the Unit of Immunology, Rheumatology, Allergy and Rare diseases at San Raffaele University Hospital, Milan, Italy. He researches innate immunity and cytokines. He received his PhD from Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in the laboratory of Prof. Mihai Netea and Prof. Leo Joosten, and attained postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Prof. Charles Dinarello at the University of Colorado Denver, USA. Giulio is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Claire Daien, MD, PhD – France

Claire is Associate professor of Rheumatology in the department of Rheumatology of Montpellier Teaching hospital, France. Claire co-leads a translational research Lab group, working on rheumatoid arthritis pathophysiology. She is currently in charge of a phase IIa international clinical trial in RA patients with an innovative drug targeting transcriptional machinery. She was a member of Social Media subgroup in 2018-2019 and is currently 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 senior rheumatology registrar at “Laiko” hospital, Athens, Greece and holds an honorary research fellow position at the University of Glasgow. He graduated from Athens Medical School in 2007 and supported successfully his PhD thesis about phagocytosis and the role of cell-death in Sjogren syndrome (SS) and systemic lupus erythematosus, in 2014. He is co-author in publications, in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks, about SS, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis and IgG4-related disease. Currently, his main research interests include rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, spondyloarthritis and IgG4-related disease. George is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Chiara Giacomassi, MD, PhD – United Kingdom

Chiara is an NIHR Clinical Lecturer and Registrar in Rheumatology at Queen Mary University, London. Her major research interest is the role of skin inflammation in the onset of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). She completed her PhD at the Imperial College London studying a model of SLE-induced skin inflammation. Chiara is a member of the Social Media Subgroup

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Martin Greco, MD – Spain (NEW)

Martin has recently finished his rheumatology training at the Dr. Negrín University Hospital, Las Palmas, Spain. His main research interests focus on systemic autoimmune diseases, primarily systemic lupus erythematosus, antisynthetase syndrome, myositis, and Sjögren’s syndrome. He is especially interested in epidemiological studies, translational research, and application of personalized medicine. He currently benefits from a research grant to complete projects initiated during his training and is looking for a PhD position. Martin 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 Centre for Epidemiology Versus Arthritis at the University of Manchester, UK. James completed his PhD in November 2017, analysing data collected 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 (RMDs), psychological outcomes of having an RMD and poor outcomes beyond inflammation in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. 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 & Global Affairs Subgroup.

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Alla Ishchenko, MD – Belgium (NEW)

Alla works as a rheumatologist in a private hospital and as a part-time PhD fellow at the University of Leuven, Belgium. Her research is focused on psoriatic arthritis and the impact of metabolic factors on the course of the disease. She has a Level 2 competency in musculoskeletal ultrasound, and competencies in knee needle arthroscopy and in ultrasound-guided joint-injections and synovial biopsies. Her interests include musculoskeletal ultrasound, systemic diseases and spondylarthritis. Alla is a country liaison for Belgium and a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Lianne Kearsley-Fleet, MSc – United Kingdom (NEW)

Lianne is an epidemiologist working at the internationally acclaimed Centre for Epidemiology Versus Arthritis (formerly Arthritis Research UK Centre for Epidemiology), 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, using the UK biologics registers (including the BSRBR-RA, BCRD and BSpaR-ETN). Lianne is a member of the Social Media 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 in major organ affections of these diseases and 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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Charlotte Krausewitz, MD – Germany (NEW)

Charlotte is a fourth-year resident in the Division of Rheumatology at the University Hospital Bonn, Germany. Her recent works focused on large vessel vasculitis and connective tissue diseases. More particularly, she is studying the potential of autologous stem cell transplantation as a therapeutic option for systemic sclerosis. Charlotte is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Tadeja Kuret, MSc – Slovenia (NEW)

Tadeja is a PhD student at the Laboratory of Immunology, University Medical Centre in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Currently, she works as a research fellow at the Center of Experimental Rheumatology, University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland. Her major research interests include pathobiology and biomarkers of vasculitis, inflammation, acute phase response and genetics of rheumatoid arthritis. Tadeja is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Maddalena Larosa, MD – Italy

Maddalena is a rheumatologist in Italy. Currently, she is a 1st year PhD Student in Clinical and Experimental Sciences (Curriculum: Laboratoristic and Rheumatological Sciences) at University of Padova, Italy. Her major research interests include pregnancy and rheumatic diseases, systemic lupus erythematosus and other connective tissue disorders. Maddalena is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Mary Lucy Marques, MD – Portugal

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 recently did a research fellowship at the Rheumatology Department of Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands. She is a member of the Country Liaison Subgroup and a liaison to the Social Media Subgroup.

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Mariana Luís, MD – Portugal (NEW)

Mariana is a rheumatology fellow at the Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal. Her main research interests include epidemiology, systemic lupus erythematosus and overdiagnosis and overtreatment in rheumatology. She has been working on glucocorticoids side effects and the (over)use of antinuclear antibodies to screen for connective tissue diseases. She is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Daniele Mauro, MD, PhD – Italy, United Kingdom (NEW)

Daniele is a medical doctor who completed his PhD in Experimental Medicine and Rheumatology at Centre for Experimental Medicine and Rheumatology at the Queen Mary University of London (UK). He focused his study on the involvement of ubiquitination pathways on the immune system, and their impact on autoimmune rheumatic diseases, mainly systemic lupus erythematosus, Sjögren’s syndrome and rheumatoid arthritis. Since 2018 he is a trainee in Rheumatology in Italy where he is expanding his interests to the mucosal immunology and innate lymphoid cells in spondyloarthritis, working between the Universities of Palermo and Naples in Italy, and the Queen Mary University of London. Daniele is a member of the Newsletter and Visibility & Global Affairs Subgroups.

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Juan Molina Collada, MD – Spain (NEW)

Juan is a consultant rheumatologist at Gregorio Marañón University Hospital, Madrid, Spain. His major research interests include the use of musculoskeletal ultrasound in spondyloarthritis and large vessel vasculitis. After finishing his training at La Paz University Hospital, Madrid, Spain, and a clinical attachment at The Kellgren Centre for Rheumatology, The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom, he is currently secretary of the Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Group of the Spanish Society of Rheumatology. Juan is a member of the Visibility & Global Affairs 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 received 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 of the Medical University of Vienna, Austria, where he worked on a project with Prof. Daniel Aletaha. Ivan is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Silvia Piantoni, MD, PhD – Italy (NEW)

Silvia is a Research Fellow at 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, she went to Geneva at the Centre Médicale Universitaire (CMU) to improve her skills in flow cytometry. Silvia is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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Mikhail Protopopov, MD, PhD – Germany

Mikhail is a junior researcher at the Med. Department of Gastroenterology, Infectiology and Rheumatology CBF, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. His major research interests include spondyloarthritis (SpA), imaging and outcomes research/epidemiology. His past work involved identifying predictors of radiographic progression factors influencing function in axial SpA. Currently, he is researching the use of different imaging methods to detect structural changes in axial SpA. He also explores factors influencing the radiographic progression in axial SpA. He is an associate member of ASAS. Mikhail is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Massimo Radin, MD – Italy (NEW)

Massimo currently works at the Multidisciplinary Centre for Immunopathology and Rare Diseases, Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences, University of Turin, Italy. He is a member of APS ACTION and previous fellow at University of Sao Paulo Hospital das Clínicas, Brazil. He is an assistant Professor at the University of Turin (Clinical Pathology course). He is currently enrolled in the PhD Programme in Complex Systems for Life Sciences, focusing on computational and experimental predictive modeling in connective tissue diseases. Massimo is a member of the Country Liaisons Subgroup.

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Andreas Ramming, MD – Germany

Andreas is a rheumatologist, attending physician and research group leader at the University Hospital Erlangen, Germany. His major research focus is arthritis and systemic sclerosis. His past work involved mechanisms of resolution of inflammation as well as fibroblast differentiation. Currently, he is investigating local tissue responses in RA, SpA and systemic sclerosis and in particular innate lymphoid cells. Andreas is peer-reviewer of several journals (Nature Medicine, ARD, A&R, etc.) and assistant editor of the Journal of Scleroderma and Related Disorders (JSRD). Andreas is a member of the Education Subgroup.

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Santiago Rodrigues-Manica, MD – Portugal

Santiago is a rheumatology fellow at the Hospital Egas Moniz and a researcher at CEDOC (NOVA University) in Lisbon, Portugal. His main scientific interests are outcomes research, imaging and epidemiology in RMDs. He enjoys challenges, travelling and learning new languages. Santiago is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Sebastián Rodriguez - García, MD – Spain

Sebastián is a rheumatologist and a PhD candidate at La Princesa University Hospital in Madrid, Spain. Currently, he is also pursuing a master’s degree in Epidemiology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. His research interests include pharmacoepidemiology and rheumatoid arthritis. His recent work involves the coverage and effectiveness of vaccination in immunosuppressed patients. Sebastián is a member of the Country Liaisons subgroup.

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Nadia Roodenrijs, MD – The Netherlands (NEW)

Nadia is a PhD candidate and rheumatologist in training at the University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Her main research interests include rheumatoid arthritis, synovial biopsies, epidemiology and pharmacology. Her PhD project focuses particularly on difficult-to-treat rheumatoid arthritis. Nadia is a member of the Visibility & Global Affairs Subgroup.

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Savino Sciascia, MD, PhD – Italy

Savino is a Consultant and Ass. Prof. at the Multidisciplinary Centre for Immunopathology and Rare Diseases, University of Torino, Italy. His major research interests include the management of patients with SLE and APS. He earned his PhD investigating mathematic models for risk assessment in patients with SLE in collaboration with the Lupus Unit, Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospital, King’s College, London, UK. He is a member of the Visibility & 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 Education Subgroup.

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David Simon, MD – Germany (NEW)

David is a Rheumatology trainee at the Rheumatology and Immunology Department of the University Hospital Erlangen, Germany. His main research focus is on arthritis and enthesitis in RA and PsA patients and on the transition from risk collectives (psoriasis / ACPA positive individuals) to clinically manifest rheumatic disease. With the help of experimental imaging techniques, he made an important contribution to a better understanding of the pathogenesis of enthesitis and arthritis in chronic inflammatory joint diseases. David is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Simon Stones, BSc (Hons) – United Kingdom

Simon is an award-winning patient advocate and consultant. He is also a PhD candidate in child and family health at the University of Leeds, UK. His research interests include supported self-management of musculoskeletal diseases by children and their families, as well as public involvement in research. Simon is a trustee of Fibromyalgia Action UK and RAiISE and is the President of the European Network of Fibromyalgia Associations. He is a member of the Social Media Subgroup.

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Chris Wincup, BSc (Hons), MBBS, MRCP – United Kingdom

Chris is a PhD candidate and rheumatology registrar at University College London, UK. His primary research interest is in systemic lupus erythematosus and his work currently focuses on abnormalities in iron metabolism and mitochondrial dysfunction. Chris is a member of both Education and Social Media Subgroups.

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Md Yuzailful Md Yusof, PhD – United Kingdom

Yuz is a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Academic Clinical lecturer within the Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine, University of Leeds, UK, and Acting Up consultant rheumatologist. His major research interests include B cell therapies, SLE, primary Sjogren’s syndrome, outcome measures, clinical trials and personalised medicine. Yuz is a member of the Newsletter Subgroup.

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Polona Zigon, 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 SLE, APS and vasculitis. She did her PhD and Master's at University Medical Centre Ljubljana and Hokkaido University, Japan. Polona is a member of the Social Media and Education Subgroups.

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Olena Zimba, MD, PhD – Ukraine (NEW)

Olena has been involved in rheumatology research since 2005 and got her PhD degree in 2010. She works as Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at the Danylo Halytsky Lviv National Medical University in Ukraine. Her scientific interests relate to systemic vasculitis. Olena serves as an Associate Editor for Rheumatology International, Archives of Rheumatology and as a Social Media Editor for the J Korean Med Sci (Seoul) and EMEUNET Country Liaison Officer for Ukraine. Olena is a member of the Peer Mentoring Subgroup.

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THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

FAREWELL TO EMEUNET LEADERS 2018-2019

Elena Nikiphorou - MBBS/BSc, FRCP, MD, PGCME, FHEA
EMEUNET Chair 2017-2018
EMEUNET Past-Chair 2018-2019

Antonis Fanouriakis – MD
Leader of Newsletter Subgroup 2018-2019

Aurélie Najm - MD
Leader of Global Affairs Subgroup 2018-2019

Marloes van Onna - MD, PhD
Leader of Education Subgroup 2018-2019

Javier Rodríguez - Carrio, MSc, PhD
Leader of Peer Mentoring Subgroup 2018-2019
THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

FAREWELL TO

EMEUNET WORKING GROUP MEMBERS 2018-2019

Katie Druce
Katja Lakota
Polina Putrik

Andrea Regel
Valentin Schäfer
Karen Schreiber

Sarah Wade
| **SEPTEMBER 2019** | **AFLAR 2019: 9th African League of Associations for Rheumatology**  
| When and Where: 6 – 8 Sep 2019, Mauritius  
| Website: [http://aflar.net/2018/01/15/about-mauritius/](http://aflar.net/2018/01/15/about-mauritius/)  
| **38th Annual Meeting of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society**  
| When and Where: 12 – 14 Sep 2019, Antwerp, Belgium  
| Website: [https://ebjis19.org/](https://ebjis19.org/)  
| **International Genetics of Ankylosing Spondylitis Consortium, IGAS Conference**  
| When and Where: 12 – 14 Sep 2019, Versailles, France  
| **OCTOBER 2019** | **Intermediate Ultrasound Course & Paediatric Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course**  
| When and Where: 3 – 5 Oct 2019, Antalya, Turkey  
| **5th International Symposium Intra Articular Treatment**  
| When and Where: 3 – 5 Oct 2019, Lisbon, Portugal  
| Website: [https://www.isiat2019.com/](https://www.isiat2019.com/)  
| **9th Advanced Academic Rheumatology Review Course**  
| When and Where: 11 – 14 Oct 2019, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
| Website: [https://course.adarrc.org/](https://course.adarrc.org/)  
| **3rd EULAR Registers and Observational Drug Studies (RODS) Meeting**  
| When and Where: 18 – 19 Oct 2019, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
| **European Large Vessel Vasculitis Imaging Course (EULVIC)**  
| When and Where: 18 – 19 Oct 2019, Innsbruck, Austria  
| Website: [https://www.eulvic.eu/](https://www.eulvic.eu/)  
| **2nd Global Update in Joint Imaging Pathology & Orthopaedic Surgery Congress**  
| When and Where: 19 – 20 Oct 2019, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
| Website: [http://penangmskrad.com/](http://penangmskrad.com/)  
| **7th Annual Meeting of the International Cytokine & Interferon Society**  
| When and Where: 20 – 23 Oct 2019, Vienna, Austria  
| Website: [https://vienna.cytokinesociety.org/](https://vienna.cytokinesociety.org/)  
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THE EULAR ONLINE 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 2019 – CLOSING ON 30 NOVEMBER 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th EULAR Online Course on Rheumatic Diseases</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th EULAR Online Course on Connective Tissue Diseases (CTD)</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st EULAR Online Course for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd EULAR Online Course on Imaging in RMDs</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th EULAR Online Course on Systemic Sclerosis (SSc)</td>
<td>9 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th EULAR Online Introductory Ultrasound Course</td>
<td>7 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th EULAR / PReS Online Course in Paediatric Rheumatology</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th EULAR Online Course for Health Professionals</td>
<td>9 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit the EULAR School of Rheumatology for more information and registration

THE OPINION OF TWO PARTICIPANTS:

“Ultrasonography is essential for the training of Rheumatologists and represents a key aspect of patient’s evaluation. The EULAR Online 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 Online 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.”
EMEUNET ON COURSE

EMEUNET is testing a new initiative for rheumatologists taking the EULAR online courses called #EMEUNETonCourse. The purpose of the initiative is to create a platform for interaction while taking one of the EULAR online courses. The idea is that this will make learning more effective for the course attendants and at the same time get more rheumatology related content on #MedicalTwitter.

The initiative is grounded on Twitter. Anyone can Tweet anything with relevance to one of the EULAR online courses they are taking. E.g. a summary to help others, special clinical pearls, controversies for debate etc. The hashtags used are the same as the name of the course, e.g. hashtag for the EULAR online course on rheumatic diseases (the 2-year course based on the EULAR Textbook on Rheumatic Diseases) is #EULARonlinecourseOnRheumaticDiseases. Further, the hashtag #EMEUNETonCourse is used in all Tweets. Other hashtags can be used to specify the chapter or topic of the Tweet.

See https://emeunet.eular.org/eular_online_courses.cfm for more information!

Because courses contain copyright content, it is stressed that all posts should comply with normal copyright regulations, e.g. do not post anything without proper citations and do not copy paste content from the courses.
CALL FOR EMEUNET MEMBERS:
EMERGE / EMEUNET COOPERATION GRANT

The EMERGE/EMEUNET Cooperation grant, supported by PReS and EULAR, is a research grant meant to facilitate interactions between young rheumatologists from adult and paediatric care, and to develop joint research projects that can help to improve the quality of life and care for people living with rheumatic or musculoskeletal disease across the lifespan. The total grant amount is 20,000 Euros.

Young rheumatologists or researchers active in the field of rheumatology, who are below the age of 40 and are member of EMEUNET or EMERGE, are eligible. The project team should include at least one paediatric and one adult rheumatologist, from at least three different institutions in Europe.

The deadline for application is September 15th, 23:59 CET
More information can be found here.
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.

EMEUNET members with interest in methodology and previous experience in EULAR Task Forces can also have the opportunity to become junior methodologists. For further information, please contact emeunet.education@gmail.com

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 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!

Complete this quick and easy survey to help us improve and grow: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWPM2H2. 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

www.facebook.com/EMEUNET
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https://www.linkedin.com
EMEUNET Tube