

Biennial report

Study Groups

Title of the study group: Work Rehabilitation in People with RMDs Study Group

Study Group Leader's name: Dr Yeliz Prior

Date of annual report submission: 30 March 2020

Summary of last year's activities

This Eular Study Group (SG) had its first meeting in Madrid, in June 2019. Twelve HPRs across eight different countries have attended the meeting and discussed current projects they are working on in their prospective countries and potential for international collaborations to support current work, and ideas for new projects the SG could pursue. There was an ongoing collaboration between the UK, Sweden and Czech Republic to develop and test Work Patient Reported Outcomes that are linguistically and culturally adapted, which is funded by the EULAR Health Professionals grant, which is still in progress. We have been planning to conduct a Eular member countries survey on what work support and rehabilitation services rheumatology/ msk services currently offer. We have been also planning to encourage potential health professionals to apply for the Eular Study Visit grant with a view to visit and shadow those countries delivering work rehabilitation in clinical practice as a way to promote interest in this area through our Study Group e-poster and professional networks. However, our study group member's research and clinical priorities are currently fast changing, due to widespread outbreak of Covid-19 amongst the member states. Number of ongoing studies into work outcomes and work rehabilitation have been put on hold as there is widespread work absence due to national lock downs and many rheumatology services are suspended/ redeployed in acute medical wards and community services to support healthcare systems. Therefore, we are currently in discussions as to how we can continue to work and communicate as a study group on such projects to achieve our objectives.