

Supplement Table A:

Table A: The questionnaire used in this project. Other languages are available in the HTML file.

Original	
Questions	Answers

Educational Needs among Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPR) in Europe

Dear Participant,

you are invited to participate in a research study titled "2021 Update: Educational Needs among Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPR) in Europe. A survey initiated by the Educational Subcommittee of the EULAR (= European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology) Standing Committee of HP in Rheumatology, in collaboration with the EULAR Standing Committee of Education and Training (ESCET)." This study is being conducted by a team of international researchers.

This project is in line with EULAR's strategic objective, that by 2023, the EULAR School of Rheumatology (ESOR) "will be the leading provider of education in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs)". More than 5,000 participants are already enrolled in the online courses that ESOR provides. However, providing education is especially difficult for health professionals in rheumatology (HPR) as non-medical HPs include different professions (nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and others), with different needs regarding content and level of education (within and between countries in Europe). To be able to become the leading provider of education it is important to have information on the motivations and needs regarding education on the post-graduate level for HPR working in rheumatology across Europe.

Our survey was designed to investigate these questions. The survey consists of four sections: (1) a general section asking about demographic data; (2) a section asking about HPR' educational motivations and needs; (3) a section asking about barriers and facilitators to use offerings of EULAR; and (4) a section asking about experiences with the current offerings. Even if you do not know anything about EULAR or EULAR School of Rheumatology, we are interested in your opinion on the topic and ask you to fill in the questionnaire. There are no correct or incorrect answers since we are only interested in your personal perspective on this topic.

The whole survey will take you approximately 20 minutes to complete. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and you can withdraw at any time.

Your answers are anonymous, treated strictly confidentially, and only used for the purpose of this study. Source data of this study will be stored according to regulations for 10 years. No-one besides the study team will have access to the data.

Data collected, which will not be linked to any individual participant, may be published as research articles in print and/or online, and presented at conferences.

By clicking the 'next' button below, you agree to participate in this study, and that we may use your anonymous data for analyses. You can interrupt the questionnaire and come back later if you wish to do so.

Thank you very much for participating in this study.

If you have any questions, you can contact the study team at any time!
Email: valentin.ritschl@meduniwien.ac.at

Thank you!

Valentin Ritschl
Erika Mosor

Original	
Questions	Answers
Anne-Kathrin Rausch Osthoff Jeannette Cappon Andrea Marques Tanja Stamm Thea Vliet Vlieland	
What is your age in years?	
To which gender do you most identify with?	Male
	Female
	Prefer to self-describe:
	Prefer not to answer
In which country are you currently working?	Albania
	Andorra
	Armenia
	Austria
	Azerbaijan
	Belarus
	Belgium
	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Bulgaria
	Croatia
	Cyprus
	Czechia
	Denmark
	Estonia
	Finland
	France
	Georgia
	Germany
	Greece
	Hungary
	Iceland
	Ireland
	Italy
	Kazakhstan
	Kosovo
	Latvia
	Liechtenstein
	Lithuania
	Luxembourg
	Malta
	Moldova
	Monaco
	Montenegro

Original	
Questions	Answers
	Netherlands
	North Macedonia
	Norway
	Poland
	Portugal
	Romania
	Russia
	San Marino
	Serbia
	Slovakia
	Slovenia
	Spain
	Sweden
	Switzerland
	Turkey
	Ukraine
	United Kingdom
	Vatican City
	Other:
Is your professional focus mainly on ...	Adults
	Children and/or youth
What is your profession?	Bio/Clinical statistician
	Dietitian/Nutrition scientist
	Epidemiologist/Public Health specialist
	Movement scientist
	Nurse/nurse practitioner/specialist nurse
	Occupational therapist
	Pharmacist
	Physical therapist/ Physiotherapist
	Physician assistant
	Podiatrist
	Psychologist
	Social worker
	Other:
What is your profession?	Bio/Clinical statistician
	Dietitian/Nutrition scientist
	Epidemiologist/Public Health specialist
	Movement scientist
	Paediatric nurse
	Paediatric occupational therapist
	Pharmacist
	Paediatric physical therapist/physiotherapist

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Questions	Answers
	Physician assistant
	Podiatrist
	Psychologist
	Social worker
	Other:
What is your highest professional/academic qualification?	Certificate/Diploma, not equalling a Bachelor's degree
	Bachelor's degree or similar
	Master's degree or similar
	PhD
What is your working situation?	Hospital
	University hospital
	NGO (non-governmental organisation)
	Private practice/primary care
	Research institution
	Rehabilitation centre
	University
	University of Applied Sciences
	Home office/Home work
	Other:
Is your working situation specialised for children's/youth care?	Yes
	No
How many years of work/research experience in the field of RMDs do you have?	
How many hours a week do you spend on clinical patient care, research, education, organisational tasks (on average, over the past 12 months)?	Clinical patient care:
	Research/Education (students/professionals):
	Other, such as organisational tasks:
How many days did you spend in professional/formal training and/or education over the past 12 months?	If you planned a training but it was cancelled due to corona measures, can you please indicate how many days did you plan to spend in professional/formal training and/or education over the past 12 months?
How many children or youths did you see per week (on average) during the past 12 months?	1-5
	6-20
	More than 20
In your opinion, your current skills inunderstanding spoken English?
	...understanding written English?
	...speaking English?
Do you feel comfortable taking a course in English?	Yes
	No
	Don't know
Please indicate your own individual educational needs (in terms of clinical practice).	

Original	
Questions	Answers
Non-pharmacological treatment of RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Pharmacological treatment of RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Telehealth/eHealth (legal issues, reimbursement of consultations, communication from a distance, etc.)	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Assistive (technology) devices	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Diagnostic assessments in RMDs, e.g. ultrasound, Disease Activity Score	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Practice organisation and management (making business cases, performing practice audits, implementing guidelines, assessing and reporting on the quality of care, etc.)	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Evidence-based practice	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Personal professional development	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Communication skills	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Preventive medicine, including lifestyle intervention	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Other educational needs (in terms of clinical practice):	
Please indicate your own individual educational needs (in terms of theoretical knowledge)	
Aetiology of common RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Pathophysiology of common RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Epidemiology of common RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Clinical features of common RMDs, including their impact on all aspects of life	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Research methods and Data analysis	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Teach the teacher training	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Other educational needs (in terms of theoretical knowledge):	
Please indicate your own individual educational needs (in terms of theoretical knowledge)	
Aetiology of paediatric RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Pathophysiology of paediatric RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Epidemiology of paediatric RMDs	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Clinical features of paediatric RMDs, including their impact on all aspects of life	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Research methods and data analysis	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Teach the teacher training	Likert scale (1=no need, 5=large need)
Other educational needs (in terms of theoretical knowledge):	
Which RMDs are of most importance to you and should be addressed in courses?	
Inflammatory Arthritis (e.g. Rheumatoid Arthritis and Spondyloarthropathies)	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Osteoarthritis	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Connective Tissue Diseases (e.g. scleroderma, lupus)	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Fibromyalgia/chronic widespread pain syndromes	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Low Back Pain	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)

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Osteoporosis	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Other RMDs that should be addressed:	
Which RMDs are of most importance to you and should be addressed in courses?	
Paediatric auto inflammatory diseases	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA)	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Juvenile Dermatomyositis (JDM)	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (Juvenile)	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Chronic pain	Likert scale (1=no importance, 5=high importance)
Other RMDs that should be addressed:	
What types of courses are you interested in/do you prefer?	Live (on site/face-to-face) Live (online) Recorded online (without time constraints) Other: I have no preference
What length of course are you interested in/do you prefer?	One day or less 1-2 days 3-5 days Other: I have no preference
Which language would you prefer?	English National language Other: I have no preference
Which provider would you prefer?	Organised by ESOR/EULAR/PreS (online) Organised by ESOR/EULAR/PreS (on site, in your country) Organised by ESOR/EULAR/PreS (on site, NOT in your country) Organised by national organisations, trained by ESOR/EULAR/PreS (online) Organised by national organisations, trained by ESOR/EULAR/PreS (on site, in your country) Other: I have no preference
Would you prefer discipline-specific and/or multidisciplinary courses?	Discipline-specific Multidisciplinary: HPR from various professional backgrounds

EULAR = European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology
 ESOR = EULAR School of Rheumatology
 PreS = Paediatric Rheumatology European Association

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	Multidisciplinary: HPR from various professional backgrounds and rheumatologists
	I have no preference
Please indicate the degree to which the following items are barriers to participating in educational offerings.	
I am NOT aware of EULAR educational offerings.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
I am NOT interested in EULAR educational offerings.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
The costs for EULAR annual congress are too high (course, travel accommodation; congress fee HPR=185-265 Euro).	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
The costs for EULAR online course for HPR are too high (course fee 150-200 Euro).	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of time/getting no opportunity for EULAR online course at work.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of time for EULAR online course during free time/leisure time.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of support from rheumatologist(s) for participation in an EULAR online course.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of support from managerial staff for EULAR online course.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of mastering the English language.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Unavailability of computers, laptops or tablets for online offerings.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of internet connection needed to follow the EULAR online course.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Content of offerings does not match with my educational needs of HPR in my country.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
The level of the EULAR School of Rheumatology offerings do not match with my knowledge (too low or too advanced courses).	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
I do not know what the content of the offerings is.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Educational offerings are not accredited by the national professional organisation.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Lack of motivation; taking part in education has no expected benefit for an HPR in my country, e.g. due to lack of career perspective.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
I can do the same offerings in my own country, therefore do not need offerings from EULAR.	Likert scale (1=no barrier, 5=major barrier) Not applicable
Other barriers:	
Please indicate whether or not you are familiar with EULAR and its offerings.	
Have you ever heard of EULAR?	Yes No I am not sure
Are you aware of EULAR HPR travel/training bursaries?	Yes No

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Questions	Answers
	I am not sure
Are you aware of "Teach the Teacher Course" offered by EULAR School of Rheumatology?	Yes No I am not sure
How did you hear about EULAR School of Rheumatology?	Website Social media Newsletter Conference/EULAR annual congress Other: I am not sure
Have you ever attended one of the EULAR School of Rheumatology courses?	Yes No I am not sure
Do you want to tell us any positive experiences in relation to the EULAR School of Rheumatology course(s) you attended?	
From your perspective, what could be improved for the EULAR School of Rheumatology course(s) you might attend in the future?	
Have you ever visited the EULAR/ EULAR School of Rheumatology communication platforms? (website, social media, newsletter, conference, ...)	Yes No I am not sure
Have you ever participated in a EULAR annual congress meeting?	Yes No I am not sure
How often did you participate in a EULAR annual congress meeting?	1-2 time(s) 3-5 times More than 5 times
How much money could be spent on your participation in the EULAR annual congress meeting (travel, accommodation, and congress fee)?	Up to a maximum of 500 € 500 € up to 1000 € More than 1000 €
To what extent are you interested in a free subscription to the Journal Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases, which comes with the registration to the annual EULAR congress?	Not interested Very interested
Have you ever heard of the EULAR School of Rheumatology?	Yes No I am not sure
Are you aware of courses offered by the EULAR School of Rheumatology?	Yes No I am not sure
Is there anything else you would like to tell us?	

Ending Page

Thank you for completing this questionnaire!

We would like to thank you very much for helping us.

Original	
Questions	Answers

Your answers were transmitted, you may close the browser, window or tab now.
