



CENTER FOR MEDICAL STATISTICS,
INFORMATICS AND INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA
Institute of Outcomes Research

To Professor Bernard Combe
Editor-in-Chief, RMD Open

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Univ.-Prof. Dr. Tanja Stamm
Head of the Institute

Vienna, 11-Nov-2020

Dear Prof. Combe,

Please find enclosed the manuscript “Young people’s perspectives on patient-reported outcome measures in inflammatory arthritis: results of a multi-centre European qualitative study from a EULAR Task Force”. This project was conducted under the auspices of the EULAR Standing Committee of Clinical Affairs (ESCCA) and the manuscript has been revised and endorsed by the EULAR Executive Committee.

For the first time, we explored the perspectives and preferences of young people with inflammatory arthritis in four European countries on patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs). While qualitative studies commonly use small sample sizes, we included 53 participants and conducted 12 qualitative focus groups, until data saturation was reached, to ensure broad coverage of experiences. Also for the first time, a qualitative approach was adopted to inform a EULAR project task force.

Our study showed that the PROMs we currently use in clinical practice and research do not fully cover the needs of young people with inflammatory arthritis. Modifications and additions would be necessary. Personalized and targeted disease activity and impact assessment, specific to certain groups of people, might be a promising future approach in outcomes research.

We certify that the work described has not been published previously, that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that its publication to ARD is approved by all authors.

We have no conflict of interest to declare related to this work. All authors have taken an active part in the study and take responsibility for its contents.

Sincerely yours,

Erika Mosor and Tanja Stamm