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BHPR enews

British Health Professionals
in Rheumatology

February 2009

Don't forget Rheumatology '09

Please note: Places in the Primary Care session workshops on Tues 28 April are limited and must be pre-booked. Full details can be found at www.bsrconference.org.uk

BHPR response to MLX 356

BHPR has responded to public consultation (MLX 356): Proposal for amendments to medicines legislation to allow mixing of medicines in palliative care.

[Click here to view the consultation document](#)

[Click here to view BHPR's response](#)

Rheumatology Futures report

The Rheumatology Futures Project Group released its report on Perceptions of Patients and Professionals on Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) Care. It sets out, clearly, the variability of care and the challenges that we face to ensure that services for people with rheumatoid arthritis are improved and that patients get appropriate and timely treatment.

The Rheumatology Futures Group is a consortium of the main patient, professional and pharmaceutical organisations including BHPR, BSR, ARMA and RCN involved in RA care.

[Click here to view the report](#)

[Click here to view supporting evidence for the report](#)

Are you interested in submitting a session for EULAR 2010?

The AHP session submission process for the EULAR Congress 2010 in Rome has been launched. You are invited to send your applications until 30 April 2009.

[Click here for application form and guidelines](#)

Wanted: AHPs for an exciting new initiative

arc is recruiting volunteers to its USER stakeholder panel. We are keen to recruit AHPs working in the field of musculoskeletal diseases to join medics and patient representatives. This is a fantastic chance to influence our research agenda.

Commitment and enthusiasm are essential. Ideally, candidates should be available to attend 3 - 5 meetings a year in Manchester or London.

[Click here for more information about USER.](#)

If you are interested contact Dr Lisa Croucher at l.croucher@arc.org.uk.

NRAS RA self management programme

NRAS will be presenting information on their new RA self management programme at the BHPR conference in Glasgow on Wednesday 29 April 12.45 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.

The programme is being developed in collaboration with the Expert Patients Programme Community Interest Company and is currently being piloted in two locations. The session will include presentations from a nurse consultant who has delivered the 'dummy run' and one of the patients who attended that programme.

Any BHPR members interested in finding out more about the possibility of becoming tutors for this exciting new programme are welcome to come along.

arc launches report on complementary medicines

arc has launched a report aimed at helping people with arthritis through the minefield of complementary medicines. Complementary medicines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and fibromyalgia is based on scientific evidence from randomised controlled trials on 40 products, scoring them 1-5 for effectiveness.

Scoring the full 5 for effectiveness in RA is fish body oil, while capsaicin cream, made from chilli peppers, also notches up full marks for OA. However, two-thirds of products for RA were shown to be ineffective, and glucosamine sulphate, popularly used for OA, scored only three.

[Click here to access the full report](#)