

Beyond Rheumatology. A new challenge devoted to the advancement of knowledge in all rheumatology-related fields

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Beyond Rheumatology is the new official Journal of CREI (Collegio dei Reumatologi Italiani), a scientific society that brings together outpatient care centers and hospitals rheumatologists. The aim of the Journal is to build a platform for high-quality scientific exchange between the different experts in the real life. It will be focused on publishing new discoveries on diagnostic, prognostic, clinical, and therapeutic topics about rheumatology and allied conditions.

Indeed, rheumatology is a multidisciplinary branch of medicine concerned with the study of a wide range of disorders that affect joints, muscles, bones, connective tissues, skin, eyes, and systemic inflammatory conditions, that can have a significant impact on healthcare systems, being one of the most common causes of disability and work-related absences. In addition, patients with rheumatologic diseases have been found to be at increased risk of developing a variety of comorbid conditions like malignancies, cardiovascular disease, infections, kidney, lung and gastrointestinal diseases, and depression.

Therefore, *Beyond Rheumatology* is addressed to a wide array of physicians, rheumatologists, immunologists, orthopedics, endocrinologists, rehabilitation doctors, dermatologists, radiologists, and other clinical specialists working directly for the management of rheumatology diseases and their comorbidities.

Moreover, *Beyond Rheumatology* will be the leading journal of the following Italian scientific societies connected to the rheumatological field:

REUMA-IMAGING, a meeting point between rheumatologists and radiologists;

ANTLAGE (Associazione Nazionale per la Terapia Intra-articolare dell'Anca con Guida Ecografica), an association gathering several experts -Rheumatologists, Internists, Radiologists, Orthopedists, Physiatrists, and Sports Physicians, involved in the intra-articular treatment of the various joint diseases, especially the hip;

GUIDA (Società Italiana per la Gestione Unificata ed Interdisciplinare del Dolore muscolo-scheletrico e dell'Algodistrofia), a society that promotes research related to musculoskeletal pain and algodystrophy by organizing cultural activities and developing study trials and guidelines;

SIGR (Società Italiana di GastroReumatologia), that endorses training and study in the field of epidemiology, prevention, experimental and clinical pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment of gastroenterological and rheumatological diseases and their relationship;

CORA (Controversies in Rheumatology and Autoimmunity), an international meeting that features major and short debate sessions, abstract presentations, scientific lectures, presentations of difficult clinical cases discussed by top experts about old and new autoimmune syndromes.

G.I.BIS (Gruppo Italiano per lo studio dei Bisfosfonati), that promotes research concerning the activity of bisphosphonates; they organize clinical research and cultural activities on bisphosphonates and related diseases;

ASON (Associazione Specialisti Osteoarticolari Nazionale), an association of Orthopedics, Physiatrists and Rheumatologists operating throughout the national territory to make available the wide experience derived from the activity of outpatient specialists.

CREI is collaborating with the above Italian scientific associations as well as the patient's associations to increase the societal perception of the burden of rheumatic diseases and to help the decision makers to enhance treatments for rheumatic patients. The Journal will publish a range of article categories: systematic reviews, RCTs, cohort studies, data from registries, pilot studies, preliminary data, short communications, expert opinions and commentaries, letters to the editor, case reports, and case series. We want to pay particular attention to the data coming from real life; evidence from treatments used in the real-world setting can help integrating data and information achieved in randomized controlled trials, thus establishing a broad picture of a medication's place in everyday clinical practice. The significance of real-world evidence is also to provide stakeholders with valuable data about the safety and effectiveness of a medication in large, heterogeneous populations. One among our aims is to apply the most appropriate

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analytical tools in order to extract relevant information from real data and to provide useful information for clinicians as well as for regulatory considerations. Our international Editorial Board will ensure a high-quality peer review by skilled experts in the field. Each manuscript will firstly be screened by the Editors-in-Chief for suitability. All manuscripts deemed suitable for peer review will be assigned to at least two authoritative referees. Our editorial policy will be to present articles that are not only reporting concrete evidence, yet are also anticipatory or prescriptive, describing evidence-based innovative best practices for advancing the field of

rheumatology diseases in Europe and globally. We intend this Journal to provide the most complete and reliable source of information about current developments in the field and to have a balanced view, providing opportunities for everyone to contribute.

We urge you to consider submitting your next research article about the topic to our new journal.

Wish us good luck, and join us!

The Editors-in-Chief

Dr. Angelo De Cata

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