

ADVANCES IN... REAL-LIFE RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

The Respiratory Effectiveness Group Newsletter

REG Continues to Build Momentum

Season's greetings from the REG team; The REG Working Groups have provided a significant boost in momentum for the organisation in the second half of the year, with some high profile publications (see page 6) and the formation of two new Working Groups - one looking to develop a Severe Asthma Registry and the other looking into Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA). The Working Group updates within this edition demonstrate the high volume of valuable activity happening across the REG network with some exciting global projects due to launch in the coming months.

The output of the organisation will be a primary focus of the **REG Summit 2017**. The theme for the event is *What Lies Ahead? Translating the Value and Potential of Real-Life Evidence* and as well as being an excellent forum to share views and ideas, the summit will provide a platform to showcase all of the many achievements of the organisation and our valued Collaborators. We have organised a number of eminent speakers to attend the event with the aim of generating further debate and opening up future opportunities for research to address the key issues in respiratory medicine. You can read more about the plans

for the 2017 REG Summit, to be held in London at the end of March 2017, including the call for abstracts, in this issue (see page 3)

We have also been busy examining the many research needs within the field and, working with Executive Committee research leads Nicolas Roche and Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich, have compiled a list of statements to articulate what we at REG see as the key requirements and issues within the field in order to clarify our strategic goals. Read more about the research needs and our new research search engine on page 8.

All of the REG team are committed to continuing the current momentum we have achieved and we look forward to sharing more good news with you shortly. Until then we wish you all a peaceful and prosperous new year and look forward to working with you in 2017 and beyond.



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Find out more about the next REG Summit, due to be held in London in March next year, focussed on the theme of What Lies Ahead?

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A comprehensive list of all the latest REG publications

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Research Review

Find out about the new research matchmaking engine on the REG website

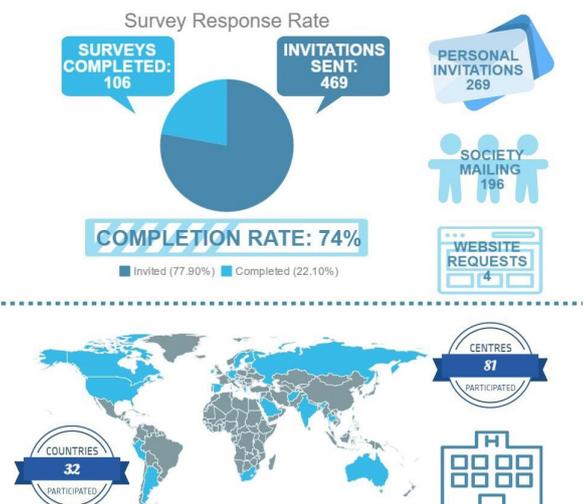
pp 8

Global Study: Characterising ILD Diagnostic Practice

The IPF/ILD Working Group *Global Characterisation of ILD Diagnostic Practice* study launched in November 2016. The rationale for the study is that the licensing of efficacious IPF therapies has resulted in increased focus on the need for earlier and accurate IPD (and ILD) diagnosis. The working group proposed an IPF diagnostic agreement study at the first meeting of the group at the ATS in 2015 but also agreed that to design a meaningful agreement study, more information is required on how ILDs are diagnosed in everyday routine care both within and outside the known specialist centres. To this

end, an e-survey was developed to characterise diagnostic practice around the world. The survey was developed and reviewed by the working group and secured ethics approval. REG has been working with identified continental and national representatives to develop local language versions of the survey and develop mailing lists.

To date, the survey has been sent out to over 400 individuals across the globe and has received over 100 responses. See the Working Group update (pp.5) for further details and more information on the work of the group



REG Summit 2017

The 2017 REG Summit will take place in London from 31 March to 1 April, 2017.

The theme of the summit is *What Lies Ahead? Translating the Value and Potential of Real-Life Evidence*.

The Summit is a unique opportunity for supporters and collaborators to share ideas and speak openly about opportunities to advance respiratory research and patient care. The event will take place over two days at the **Sheraton Heathrow Hotel** and will include a mixture of informative and interactive sessions.

PROGRAMME

Friday 31st March 2017

09.45 - 10.00	Welcome Address	
10.00 - 11.00	What Lies Ahead... Solutions to Services Under Pressure?	(Chair:Walter Canonica)
10.00-10.15	Precision medicine begins with adherence	(Eric van Ganse)
10.15-10.30	Stratification to target resource and deliver efficiencies	(Dermot Ryan)
10.30-10.45	Registries to streamline referral pathways: COPD	(Joan B. Soriano)
10.45-11.00	Discussion: Barriers and REG-supported solutions to global registries and intelligent CDSS	
11.10 - 12.00	Oral Abstract Session 1A: <i>Epidemiology & Future Risk</i>	
11.10 - 12.00	Oral Abstract Session 1B: <i>Patient-centricity</i>	
12.05 - 12.50	What Lies Ahead... Will emerging therapies realise their potential?	(Chair: Demosthenes Bouros)
	Part 1: The Changing Face of IPF	
12.05-12.20	Landmark trials, emerging therapies and real-life evidence requirements	(Luca Richeldi)
12.20-12.35	Glimpsing the future - data visualisation on a global scale	(George Washko)
12.35-12.50	Discussion: real-life research and technology opportunities in IPF.	
12.50 - 13.50	Lunch, Posters and Exhibits	
13.50 - 14.55	What Lies Ahead... Will emerging therapies realise their potential?	(Co-Chair:Nemr Eid & George Christoff)
	Part 2: Immunotherapy and Biologics	
13.50-14.10	Immunotherapy: real-life promises and challenges	(TBC)
14.10-14.25	Biologics for Asthma: The Future is Here	(Stephen Holgate)
14.25-14.40	Biologics for Asthma: Realities and Deception	(Peter Barnes)
14.40-14.55	Discussion: trial and reality disconnects, the value proposition for biologics and important evidence gaps.	
15.00 - 15.50	Oral Abstract Session 2A: <i>Safety and Adverse Events</i>	
15.00 - 15.50	Oral Abstract Session 2B: <i>Cost-Effectiveness</i>	
15.50 - 16.30	Break, Posters and Exhibits	
16.30 - 17.15	DEBATE: e-cigarettes - a ticking time bomb NOT a silver bullet	(Chair:Joan B. Soriano)
	PRO: e-cigarettes are a silver bullet	(Esteve Fernandez)
	CON: e-cigarettes are a ticking time bomb	(TBC)
18.15 - 22.00	Evening Networking and Dinner Event	

Saturday 1st April 2017

08.45 - 09.45	DEBATE: Triple Therapy: To TT or Not to TT?	(Chair: Bernardino Alcazar Navarrete)
08.45-09.05	PRO: The case for Triple Therapy in COPD	(Joergen Vestbo)
09.05-09.25	CON: The argument against Triple Therapy in COPD	(Guy Brusselle)
09.25-09.45	Discussion: Is there an inevitable drift?	
10.00 - 11.05	Oral Abstract Session 3A: <i>Validation and Quality</i>	
10.00 - 11.05	Oral Abstract Session 3B: <i>Devices and Technology</i>	
11.05 - 11.20	Research Presentation Awards	
11.20 - 12.20	What lies ahead... Will the flowers of innovation bloom or die?	(Chair: Omar Usmani)
	Seeds of Success	
11.20-11.35	Virtual reality to improve real-life: asthma management	(Andrew McIvor)
11.35-11.50	Predicting the future - sentinel networks	(Walter Canonica)
11.50-12.05	Avoiding rocky ground: addressing barriers to implementation	(John Blakey)
12.05-12.20	Discussion: REG's role in guiding and shaping respiratory technologies	
12.20 - 13.30	Closing Remarks, followed by lunch	



REG Summit 2017

Submission of Abstracts

Abstract submissions are invited from 3 October - 31 January 2016. We welcome proposals for both oral and poster abstracts which relate to our overall theme of consolidating quality and value in real-world respiratory research. To tie in with the overall theme of the conference, the abstracts will be separated into the following six broad categories: Epidemiology and Future Risk; Safety and Adverse Events; Validation and Quality; Cost-Effectiveness; Devices and Technology and Patient-Centric Approaches. Abstracts can be submitted online via the REG website on the 2017 REG Summit page.

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT
www.effectivenessevaluation.org/Abstract

Working Group & Project Meetings

A number of Working Group and project meetings will take place during Summit 2017. These will take place on Thursday 30th March, prior to the Summit and on Saturday 1st April in the afternoon, following the close of the event. Currently requested meetings:

- Adherence Working Group
- Technologies Working Group
- Severe Asthma Registry project
- Progressive Fibrotic Lung Disease study
- Executive Committee Meeting

If you would like to request a meeting, please contact:
enquiries@effectivenessevaluation.org

Supporters

There are many ways in which you can support the REG Summit 2017, from sponsoring the event to exhibiting at the meeting. You can also support the research activities of our Working Groups by way of a grant and contribute to the discussions as well as accessing their expertise. The Summit is a unique opportunity for supporters and collaborators to share ideas and speak openly about opportunities to advance respiratory research and patient care. For more information and to discuss how you can get involved in the REG Summit 2017, please contact:
enquiries@effectivenessevaluation.org

Scientific Committee

We are delighted to confirm that the 2017 Summit will be supported by an eminent committee of REG Collaborators:

- Alan Kaplan
- Nemr Eid
- George Christoff
- Bernardino Alcazar Navarette
- Joan B. Soriano
- Omar Usmani

The committee are supported by Walter Canonica as the Events Lead on the REG Executive Committee.

We have been working with the committee to shape the programme; committee members are also providing invaluable support in chairing a range of plenary sessions and will have responsibility for the review of all submitted abstracts.

The 2016 REG Summit benefitted significantly from the input of the committee and we look forward to working with with the new team for the successful delivery of the 2017 event.

SUMMIT 2017 REGISTRATION FEES

	Up to 27 January, 2017	28 January to 31 March, 2017
REG Collaborator	FREE	FREE
Industry	£550 (GBP)	£650 (GBP)
Health Practitioner	£350 (GBP)	£450 (GBP)
Full-time academic	£350 (GBP)	£450 (GBP)
Full-time student	£250 (GBP)	£350 (GBP)
Social Enterprise	£350 (GBP)	£450 (GBP)

Registration fees must be paid prior to the event. Fees are non-refundable but registration may be transferred on request.

REGISTER FOR SUMMIT 2017
www.effectivenessevaluation.org/Register

VENUE

Sheraton Heathrow Hotel,
 Colnbrook Bypass,
 West Drayton, UB7 0HJ, UK

Accommodation can be booked via REG at the time of registering.
 NB: Registration and accommodation fees must be paid prior to the event.



Working Group Updates

ACOS Working Group

The group met at the ERS in London in September to discuss the next steps for the ACOS Proof of Concept study. A UK pilot has been carried out and the data are being finalised for publication. As a result of the pilot, the group had some recommendations regarding the demographic characterisation of the subcohorts:

- Eczema and Diabetes prevalence should be reviewed;
- Nasal Polyps, obstructive sleep apnoea and chronic rhinosinusitis should be added to the list of comorbidities;
- Prevalence of depression and anxiety should be benchmarked against rates in the general population;
- Comorbidities should be reported for all 16 sub-populations (4x4 parent series) and reported in the paper for the populations proposed as having ACOS (i.e. B2/B and B3/B vs. C2/C and C3/C etc.).

Now that the ACOS populations have been identified, the clinical implications of the different approaches to ACOS definition will be evaluated. In parallel to this work on UK databases, the group has finalised the Phase I proof of concept analyses on databases outside the UK as discussed during the meeting. Under consideration for this and proposed volunteers are:

- Dutch Asthma-COPD Service (Janwillem Kocks)
- Adelphi Respiratory Database (Mark Small, James Bailey)
- SIDIAP (Marc Miravittles)
- MAJORICA (Miguel Roman Rodriguez, Job van Boven)
- Federal Belgian Rehabilitation Programme (Renaud Louis).

Adherence Working Group.

A feasibility study has been completed for the longitudinal observational study designed to better understand the bi-directional relationship between ICS, adherence and asthma control. The study draws on 3 years' of UK prescribing data (1 baseline; 2 outcome) and has been underway for ~1 year. The analysis was carried out by a team working across three centres in The Netherlands. The feasibility study assessed the number of eligible patients and patterns of adherence, using a variety of different database proxy measures of adherence over 6-, 8-, 12 and 24-month evaluation periods. Sufficient within-patient and between-patient variation has been identified to inform Phase II and support

the planned longitudinal analysis.

Biomarkers and Severe Asthma Working Groups

For the inaugural meeting of the new Severe Asthma Working Group, the group joined with the Biomarkers Working Group to discuss opportunities and potential areas of crossover and synergy between the two groups. A lot of ground was covered during the meeting and a number of exciting projects were discussed. The group agreed that there remain a number of important research needs around the use of FeNO in routine clinical practice which would require research grants to progress and are currently developing a commentary on the conflicting recommendations on FeNO from GINA and NICE to highlight these issues.

In terms of future research, there is significant interest in the development of the Global Severe Asthma Registry. In the respiratory community at large, there is a lot of interest in severe asthma, including a number of calls for the establishment of disease registries to help characterise natural history of asthma, identify likely responders to therapy and develop algorithms for more efficient use of healthcare resource such as appropriate referral to severe asthma services and optimal therapeutic management. The time is right, therefore, to initiate a project in this area and for REG to support the standardisation of data collection on a global scale. Required actions include:

- Identification of current registries around the world (and gaps) and national leads for a global col-laboration;
- Review of the list of data points in the UK severe asthma registry and of data fields / variables with-in existing registries for completeness.

The aim is to develop a list of registry variables, separated into those common to all (core variables) and those are beneficial (supplementary variables). A parallel stream of work is proposed to focus on frequent exacerbators as a specific subgroup of the broader population of severe asthmatics. The team are currently exploring options for funding and the possible development of a joint task-force with a complementary research organisation.

COPD Working Group

A poster was presented at the 2016 ERS on the UK Database Validation study. Further abstracts and a manuscript are in preparation. The results of the study suggest

that COPD Control has a prognostic value in terms of predicting COPD exacerbations in the following year. The study also reached the conclusion that the current definition of control may be too strict, particularly in more severe patients.

A parallel prospective study in Spain has also been undertaken; in this instance the research team found an association between changes in control and changes in severity. The first patient for this study was recruited in June 2016 and results are anticipated by the end of 2017.

The international prospective COPD Control Validation study has completed recruitment; the process began in May and there are now 335 patients – against a target of 328 required participants - enrolled from seven countries - Ireland; Malta; Poland; Singapore; South Korea; Spain and the UK. During the meeting at the ERS, the team discussed some additional ideas which may be examined as a result of this work, including opportunities to:

- Compare differences between the Asian and Western study subpopulations;
- Consider linking COPD Control data to patients' wider clinical records;
- Include a time analysis to identify the period over which control has best prognostic value;
- Consider composite outcomes in addition to the current primary composite that focuses on exacerbation-related events.

Both groups are also looking to the future; protocols have been developed for two new studies for the working group - one looking at ICS reduction and withdrawal in COPD and the other to explore the natural history of Alpha1 Antitripsin Deficiency in a real-world UK population. REG is currently seeking opportunities from our Supporters for funding to take these ideas further.

Databases and Coding Validation Working Group

The group met at the ERS to discuss Towards Optimum Reporting of Pulmonary Effectiveness Databases and Outcomes (TORPEDO), which launched in December 2016 following cross referencing with lists provided by PCORI and PSE and a successful usability pilot test. The Delphi panel involves 30-40 members - a broad mix of respiratory specialists, health economists and representatives from journals, guideline bodies and societies from around the world. Panel members will work through the list of variables and to indicate which (if any) they think are not relevant to respiratory

Working Group Updates

research and detail any additional variables that they feel should be present in an ideal respiratory database.

The output of this study will be the development of a standard checklist of variables that could / should be present within respiratory research databases. Using an electronic Delphi methodology, it will enable data sources to be characterised in a standardised way, provide a blueprint for future database development and form the foundation from which comparison of database quality can be further explored.

IPF / ILD Working Group

Conversation during the IPF/ILD Working Group meeting at the ERS centred on the recently launched Global Characterisation of ILD Diagnostic Practice study and a review and discussion of the preliminary results of the missed IPF diagnosis opportunities UK database study. The primary objective of the study into Missed Diagnostic Opportunities in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis was to use a UK Primary Care database (2.5 million patients from >550 practices) to explore trends in healthcare resource utilisation in patients over the two to ten years preceding their IPF diagnosis with a view to identifying red flags. There was also a secondary objective to explore similarities and differences in clinical presentation of IPF for patients carrying very specific IPF diagnostic codes versus less specific codes. Results from the study are currently being finalised and a paper will be developed for publication. Following this work, a pilot study looking at the differential disease trajectories for a range of ILD patient subgroups.

As highlighted on the front page of this newsletter, the Global Characterisation of ILD Diagnostic Practice has now launched. The licensing of efficacious IPF therapies has resulted in increased focus on the need for earlier and accurate IPD (and ILD) diagnosis. This ambitious project is now well under way, with responses from 81 centres in 32 countries and data collection is expected to conclude early in the new year.

The group also discussed future plans and in particular considered a 100-patient pilot to evaluate lung function decline in a subgroup of patients with longitudinal FVC data and compare findings for patients with specific IPF diagnostic codes and broader fibrotic lung disease codes.

Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA) Working Group

An inaugural meeting of the OSA Working Group, led by Dr Mihaela Stefan, was held during the ERS in London; the group

discussed their aims and scope and set out to agree and prioritise studies within this area. The meeting was very constructive and brought together experts with a research interest in the overlap of OSA and obstructive lung disease. The group agreed that the first activity will be a small pilot study to quantify and characterise (in terms of demographics and clinical features) the number of patients within the Optimum Patient Care Research Database (OPCRD) with Sleep-related Breathing Disorder (SBD) OSA; those receiving PAP (specifically coded) and acute respiratory event rates pre/post SBD diagnosis. Results will then be stratified by comorbid obstructive lung disease diagnosis (asthma, COPD and asthma + COPD). Following this study, a larger project will be developed utilising a matched cohort study design. The aim is to evaluate the impact of a diagnosis of SBD (including OSA) on clinical outcomes and healthcare resource utilisation in a representative population of patients with OLD and comorbid SBD in the UK. A research project application is currently under consideration with ADEPT.

The group also discussed future research opportunities including evaluations of the impact of POP on health impact and symptoms in patients with COPD +/- OSA and the effectiveness of tele-monitoring in OSA. For the latter, the plan will be to first standardise the scope of a remote OSA assessment via an e-Delphi. A third idea considered was an exploration of the optimum use and data visualisation of PAP continuous monitoring data. The group are currently working together to finalise the first protocol and are also seeking further members and funding to advance their projects.

REG/EAACI Quality Standards Taskforce

A small cohort of the REG/EAACI Taskforce met in London during the ERS to check in progress and next steps regarding completion and dissemination of the taskforce work. Two papers devised as a result of the work have progressed; the main paper is positioned as a report on the work and a position statement on literature quality. A paper on the development and usage of the quality tool employed is also due to be submitted. Both papers were completed by the end of November 2016 with the aim of achieving publication early in 2017. There are plans to discuss the tool with organisations such as the ATS and the ERS for discussion and validation. The taskforce is also considering opportunities

for further publications and wider dissemination activities.

Small Airways Study Group and Child Health Working Group

A combined meeting of the Small Airways Study Group (SASG) and the Child Health Working Group focussed on upcoming publications and results of active studies; the SASG also took the time to discuss some future research ideas.

The Small Airways Study Group are working on an editorial on standard nomenclature for ICS particle size. The planned article presents the fact that a wide range of terms are used within the literature relating to different inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) particle size and there is a need for consensus on appropriate terminology to standardise the field and aid in interpretation of literature. A paper which provides a systematic review of the ICS particle size literature from 2004-2015 is currently being finalised. The work examines 13 relevant papers; seven included in a meta-analysis. The paper is expected to be finalised and submitted before the end of the year. A study examining the comparative effectiveness of pharmacological therapies in pre-school asthma/wheeze is also now at the manuscript preparation stage and will be completed over the Autumn.

In the limited time available, the SASG also discussed ideas for future research. Two considered the impact of extra-fine ICA in ACOS and asthma +/- GERD +/- obesity.

Other areas of potential research interest include how drug formulation and delivery modulate deposition in the small airways, eg.

An exploration of the implications of higher find particle close (FPD);

Intelligent nebulisers – implications of lamina flow rate and use of different face masks;

How drug formulation modulates delivery.

A study into Forced Oscillation Technique (FOT) considers whether oscillometry might offer complementary (if not beneficial) lung function data to spirometry, particularly with respect to evaluating the degree of small airway involvement as it can localise the site of airflow limitation to the small or large airways. FOT uptake in practice has been limited by a lack of familiarity with the technique and a lack of harmonisation in the literature.

The group set some specific research goals in these areas and develop study protocols to take these ideas forward.

REG was represented at the ERS 2016 Congress with a Thematic Poster Presentation on 4th September
Ref. 1127: Validation of the COPD Control Concept: A UK Pilot.

ASCIA 2016

The REG Allergy Working Group presented three posters at the 27th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy, which took place in Queensland from 14-17 September. All the abstracts from the conference have been published online in the Internal Medicine Journal (IMJ): <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imj.2016.46.issue-S4/issuetoc> and represent the first outputs for the Allergy Working Group. The high quality of the work led by Pete Smith and positive response at the conference both suggest more work will be published by the group in the near future.

Poster 55: Burden of Allergic Rhinitis in Australia

Poster 56: Impact of Allergic Rhinitis on Health-Related Quality of Life -

Results from an Australasian Survey

Poster 57: Treatment Preferences in Australasian Patients with Allergic Rhinitis -

A Discrete Choice Experiment.



Abstracts submitted and published by the REG Allergy Working Group

Internal Medicine Journal: Special Issue: Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) 27th Annual Conference

Smith, P, Hellings, P, Scadding, G., Harvey, R., Carney, S., Price, D., Ryan, D., Bosnich-Anticevich, S., Murray, R., Gallop, K. and Acaster, S. (2016), ASCIA-P56: *Burden of Allergic Rhinitis in Australia*. Intern Med J, 46: 22. doi:10.1111/imj.56_13197

Smith, P, Hellings, P, Scadding, G., Harvey, R., Carney, S., Price, D., Ryan, D., Bosnich-Anticevich, S., Murray, R., Gallop, K. and Acaster, S. (2016), ASCIA-P57: *Impact of Allergic Rhinitis on Health Related Quality of Life: Results from an Australian Survey*. Intern Med J, 46: 22. doi:10.1111/imj.57_13197

Smith, P, Hellings, P, Scadding, G., Harvey, R., Carney, S., Price, D., Ryan, D., Bosnich-Anticevich, S., Murray, R., Gallop, K., Ali, S. and Acaster, S. (2016), ASCIA-P58: *Treatment Preferences in Australian Patients with Allergic Rhinitis: A Discrete Choice Experiment*. Intern Med J, 46: 22-23. doi:10.1111/imj.58_13197

REG was represented at the 37th Brazilian Thoracic Congress in October 2016:
PLENARY: Impact of Age and Gender on Therapeutic Response to Asthma
PRO/CON DEBATE: Management of Asthma in Clinical Practice



ESPACOMP 2016

Members of the Adherence Working Group met in Lisbon at the 20th annual meeting of the European Society of Patient Adherence, COMPLIANCE and PERSISTENCE.

REG was well represented at the meeting, with several REG Collaborators delivering sessions and contributing to the event:

- Bernard Vrijens delivered the John Urquhart Memorial Lecture on *From Science to Practice*; he also presented a literature review with REG Collaborator Juliet Foster and moderated the Industry Round Table

at the event.

- Juliet Foster also delivered a talk at the event entitled *Adherence barriers and facilitators in patients with severe asthma: a qualitative study*
- Former and current Adherence Working Group leads Eric van Ganse and Alex Dima were also part of a group moderating the poster session at the event.

A meeting of the Adherence Working Group was also held during the event; updates from the meeting are available in the Working Group updates section (pp.4). Whilst at the meeting, the group finalised their current and future objectives and established a clear scope of work, outlining their priorities and opportunities for collaborating with other REG Working Groups such as the new Severe Asthma

Working Group and the Technologies Working Group.

During the meeting, the group also discussed opportunities to present the results of their work to date at the upcoming REG Summit 2017. Adherence Working Group Lead Alex Dima is currently preparing an abstract for presentation at the event covering the results to date of the longitudinal observational study on UK electronic prescribing data, designed to better understand the bidirectional relationship between ICS adherence and asthma control.

The Adherence Working Group will be meeting again during Summit 2017 on Thursday 30th March.

Respiratory Conferences 2017

March 2017

2017 REG Summit

London, UK

31 March - 1 April

May 2017

ATS Conference

Washington, USA

19 - 24 May

June 2017

EAACI Congress

Helsinki, Finland

17 - 21 June

BTS Summer Meeting

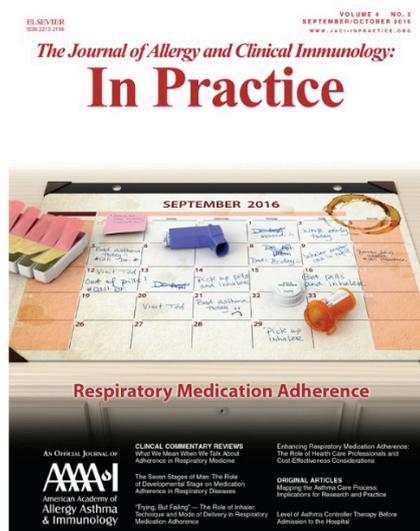
Birmingham, UK

22 - 23 June



Publications

JACI: In Practice Special Issue on Respiratory Medication Adherence



A Special Issue of *JACI: In Practice* on Respiratory Medication Adherence is now available. The articles were produced by the Adherence Working Group following the Adherence Panel, which convened during EAACI 2015 in Barcelona. The special issue comprises the following clinical commentary reviews:

- *Respiratory Medication Adherence: Toward a Common Language and a Shared Vision* (Eric Van Ganse, David Price DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2016.04.006>)
- *Enhancing Respiratory Medication Adherence: The Role of Health Care Professionals and Cost- Effectiveness Considerations* (Job F.M. van Boven, Dermot Ryan, Michelle N. Eakin, Giorgio W. Canonica, Aji Barot, Juliet M. Foster, Respiratory Effectiveness Group. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2016.03.007>)
- *What We Mean When We Talk About Adherence in Respiratory Medicine* (Bernard Vrijens, Alexandra L. Dima, Eric Van Ganse, Job F.M. van Boven, Michelle N. Eakin, Juliet M. Foster, Marijn de Bruin, Alison Chisholm, David Price. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2016.05.019>)
- *"Trying, But Failing" — The Role of Inhaler Technique and Mode of Delivery in Respiratory Medication Adherence* (Fulvio Braido, Henry Chrystyn, Ilaria Baiardini, Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich, Thys van der Molen, Ronald J. Dandurand, Alison Chisholm, Victoria Carter, David Price, Respiratory Effectiveness Group. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2016.03.002>)
- *The Seven Stages of Man: The Role of Developmental Stage on Medication Adherence in Respiratory Diseases* (Richard W. Costello, Juliet M. Foster, Jonathan Grigg, Michelle N. Eakin, Walter Canonica, Fasail Yunus, Dermot Ryan, Respiratory Effectiveness Group DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaip.2016.04.002>)

We would like to congratulate the Adherence Working Group on a brilliant special issue and thank them for all their hard work in bringing this to fruition.

Publications from REG Collaborators

Incidence of oral thrush in patients with COPD prescribed inhaled corticosteroids: Effect of drug, dose, and device P.N. Richard Dekhuijzen, Maria Batsiou, Leif Bjerner, Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich, Henry Chrystyn, Alberto Papi, Roberto Rodríguez-Roisin, Monica Fletcher, Lucy Wood, Alessandra Cifra, Joan B. Soriano, David B. Price Respiratory Medicine DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rmed.2016.09.015>

Metabolic Effects Associated with ICS in Patients with COPD and Comorbid Type 2 Diabetes: A Historical Matched Cohort Study David B. Price, Richard Russell, Rafael Mares, Anne Burden, Derek Skinner, Helga Mikkelsen, Cheryl Ding, Richard Brice, Niels H. Chavannes, Janwillem W. H. Kocks, Jeffrey W. Stephens, John Haughney PLOS One <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0162903>

Eligibility of real-life patients with COPD for inclusion in trials of inhaled long-acting bronchodilator therapy David M. G. Halpin, Marjan Kerkhof, Joan B. Soriano, Helga Mikkelsen and David B. Price Respiratory Research 2016;17:120 DOI: 10.1186/s12931-016-0433-5

Inappropriate asthma therapy—a tale of two countries: a parallel population-based cohort study. Belhassen M, Nibber A, Van Ganse E, Ryan D, Langlois C, Appiagyey F, Skinner D, Laforest L, Soriano JB, Price D. NPJ Prim Care Respir Med. 2016 Oct 13;26:16076. doi: 10.1038/npjpcrm.2016.76.

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Internal Medicine Journal: Special Issue: Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) 27th Annual Conference
Smith, P., Hellings, P., Scadding, G., Harvey, R., Carney, S., Price, D., Ryan, D., Bosnich-Anticevich, S., Murray, R., Gallop, K. and Acaster, S. (2016), ASCIA-P56: *Burden of Allergic Rhinitis in Australia*. Intern Med J, 46: 22. doi:10.1111/imj.56_13197

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Commentary in Lancet Respiratory Medicine

A commentary produced by REG's Prof. David Price and CSO Alison Chisholm in collaboration with Chris Winchester from Oxford Pharmagenesis has been published in *Lancet Respiratory Medicine*.

The article, *A practical tool for primary care antimicrobial stewardship in children* (Lancet Respir Med 2016; doi:10.1016/S2213-2600(16)30272-7) was written in response to the paper from Hay et al in the same issue entitled *The development and internal validation of a clinical rule to improve antibiotic use in children presenting to primary care with acute respiratory tract infection and cough: a prognostic cohort study* (Lancet Respir Med 2016; doi:10.1016/S2213-2600(16)30223-5.)

The commentary asserts that there are few efficacious interventions for respiratory tract infection available to primary care clinicians beyond offering reassurance and self-management advice, so the modest benefit offered by antibiotics can persuade general practitioners to prescribe them. Discussing the tool, the authors stated: **"STARWave offers primary care clinicians an evidence-based practical tool to help guide antibiotic prescribing decisions and, through shared decision-making, has the potential to reduce prescribing based on prognostic uncertainty or on non-medical grounds."**



You can view a short video of Chris Winchester discussing the article on YouTube or at:

www.pharmagenesis.com/news

Research Update

REG Research Needs and 2016 Research Review

As part of their role on the Executive Committee, research leads Nicolas Roche and Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich have been working with REG CSO Alison Chisholm on the development of clear research needs to provide a focus for the future work of REG. These needs, divided into those relating to clinical practice and to advocacy and quality standards, provide the organisation with clear objectives which will allow REG to achieve the strategic goals. The research needs have been classified as follows:

Clinical Practice

1. Characterise current routine care disease epidemiology and burden for respiratory, allergic and obstructive airways disease outcomes
2. Characterise current routine care prescribing practices (diagnostic and management) and their implications for respiratory and allergic airways disease outcomes
3. Utilise routinely collected data to describe disease characteristics associated with future risk in respiratory and allergic airways disease
4. Assess the real-world safety profile of licensed pharmacological interventions for / as used in patients with respiratory and allergic airway diseases, and associated characteristics of the patients, the disease, the ecology of care
5. Evaluate the comparative effectiveness of treatments (guideline-recommended / not recommended but frequently used) in respiratory and allergic airways disease, and associated characteristics of the patients, the disease,

the ecology of care

6. Understand the role of maintenance inhaled therapy particle size on outcomes in respiratory and allergic airways disease
7. Improve understanding of medication adherence behaviours (including inhaler device challenges) in respiratory and allergic airways disease, their implications on clinical and health economic outcomes and optimised management options
8. Understand the clinical and cost implications of comorbidities (and their treatments) in patients with respiratory and allergic airway diseases.

Advocacy and Quality Standards

9. Provide methodological support for high quality real-world research
10. Define, refine and validate clinical tools for the real-world management of respiratory and allergic airways disease
11. Define, refine and validate tools (e.g. databases, indicators) for real-world research on respiratory and allergic airways disease
12. Guide the development of technology-based solutions (TBS) with clinical utility for respiratory and allergic airway diseases.

All projects currently within the REG portfolio have been classified according to these research needs and the categories will be used as a means to assess proposed projects as one aspect of the Research Review.

The creation of these research needs has also allowed for the organisation to bring a "research match-making" search engine to fruition within the site. The new search functionality allows visitors to the site to search for projects according to specific research needs and also look at projects which have been completed, are in progress or are planned for the future. The aim is to provide a resource for PhD researchers to find ideas and contacts for projects which have been identified by the REG network as a requirement within the field of real-world respiratory research. You can view the new Research Needs page on the website at: www.evaluations.org/research-2/research-needs.

The following list of research opportunities reflects areas of unmet research need within respiratory and allergic airways disease that real life research methodologies (observational studies and pragmatic trials) are well positioned to address. It is intended as a dynamic list of research opportunities that have been identified by REG's expert members and working groups as having important value to the field. All investigators responding to one of the research needs will be eligible for a complimentary review of their study protocol by the expert, independent **Anonymised Data Ethics and Protocol Transparency (ADEPT) Committee**, which convenes under the auspices of the REG.

Where the REG is currently responding to the identified research gap, relevant links to REG's activities have been provided.

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