2014 Congress Will Showcase Products of Collaboration and Prospering Research

Scientific Programme Has More Abstracts Than Ever Before, Especially From Asia

Ultrasound Course Highlights Broad Offering in Health Professionals Sessions

Practicalities of Living With RMDs Lie at the Heart of the PARE Programme

Young Clinicians, Health Professionals to Find Tailored Offerings at Congress

Paediatric Sessions to Offer Relevant Insights Into Adult Disease

Museums Contain a Wealth of History on Parisian Medical Science

The EULAR Congress is an irreplaceable occasion to experience the latest advances in basic, translational, and clinical rheumatology.

The scientific programme’s hidden jewels are the ‘basic immunology explained’ and bioenergetic sessions - rarely provided at rheumatology congresses.

One interesting session will involve looking at the practical implications of annual reviews in patients with inflammatory arthritis.
2014 Congress Will Showcase Products of Collaboration and Prospering Research

We are getting close to the start of the 15th Annual European Congress of Rheumatology 2014, and we look forward to welcoming you to the wonderful city of Paris and the EULAR “family” for what is sure to be a fulfilling and enriching educational experience for all attendees.

EULAR now includes altogether more than 100 active European scientific societies, patient organisations, and health professional associations from 45 European countries. We are very pleased to see the numbers of participants from the United States, Japan, Korea, and China, and also from South America, growing year after year. Our continued collaboration with North America and the “EULAR Symposia” held at annual meetings of AFLAR (African League of Associations for Rheumatology), APLAR (Asia Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology), and PANLAR (Pan American League of Associations for Rheumatology) are a result of the educational experience and scientific collaboration at the annual EULAR meetings and offer a stimulus to further expand support to emerging countries and subcontinents.

Unquestionably, research in rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs) in Europe is prospering despite a rather adverse economic environment. It is therefore with great satisfaction that we have seen a progressive availability of EU research funds for RMDs in recent months, following several years of intensive discussion and negotiation by EULAR in the EU Parliament and with the Commission in Brussels. The new programme HORIZON 2020 should open up research funds for RMDs. EULAR has also been the driving force in creating a new European foundation with the aim of supporting research in rheumatology.

The 2014 Congress in Paris will feature more than 4,000 submitted abstracts — a new record — from more than 90 countries, and we are expecting at least 13,000 registered participants from around the world. I am convinced that a meeting such as the EULAR Congress is an irreplaceable occasion to immerse into the vast field of RMDs and to experience the latest advances in basic, translational, and clinical rheumatology. New topics are emerging such as biosimilars, new sensitive biomarkers that help in very early diagnosis of RMDs, or instruments such as joint sonography or MRI, the extended presentation of new targeted therapies, and the optimisation of the use of low-dose, long-term glucocorticoids. These and many other exciting topics will be offered in over 180 sessions by more than 500 experts in over 650 presentations. Ten sessions are dedicated to the patient pillar (PARE) and 11 sessions to the health professionals pillar (HP) of EULAR, which are indispensable carriers of exchanges between all the EULAR “family members.”

Important sessions are dedicated to paediatric rheumatology and the young rheumatologists who are more and more invited as speakers of abstracts to meet the atmosphere of the great “platea.” The scientific programme again offers the WIN and HOT session tracks focusing on aspects of novel developments in clinical science (WIN) and on best approaches in the daily practice in our specialties (HOT). The programme provides countless opportunities to hear about the latest advances in rheumatology through lectures, workshops, abstracts, poster presentations, and symposia. The poster areas will be accessible from early morning, and a large selection of Poster Tours will be offered during poster sessions with highest scientific content. Another successful initiative introduced last year is the recording of EULAR Congress sessions, which makes the majority of the sessions available online to all registered participants, and this year, to nonregistered parties, also.

The EULAR Village with the stands of the nonprofit organisations will offer ample opportunities to sit, meet, discuss, and chat over a soft drink. The Opening Plenary Session on Wednesday, 11 June, will host the Award Winner ceremonies alongside short welcome addresses and other new elements. The Congress Dinner on Friday, 13 June, held at the Liberty Pavillon Dauphine on the edge of Bois de Boulogne, will display an “atmosphère parisienne.” As usual, EULAR 2014 offers lunches to those spending full days at the Congress and free transportation on the city public transportation system. Free Internet access has become a standard at EULAR Congresses by now.

The city of Paris needs little introduction and will guarantee a fascinating location as it always has in the past. Paris is an excellent city for an international meeting such as the EULAR Congress thanks to the efficient connections and transportation options. The “charme de la ville lumière” with its long history, reflected by its architecture, galleries, restaurants, theatres, and music should provide an excellent atmosphere for cultural exchange, international collaboration, and the renewal of friendships.

We look forward to having the honour and pleasure to welcome you — medical doctors, patients, health professionals, and representatives of the pharmaceutical industry — to the 15th Annual EULAR Congress and hope your stay in Paris will be enjoyable, informative, and educational.

Prof. Maurizio Cutolo
President of EULAR
Professor of Rheumatology and Internal Medicine
Director of Research Laboratory and Academic Division of Clinical Rheumatology
Department of Internal Medicine, University of Genova, Italy
This year’s EULAR Congress boasts a record-breaking number of abstract submissions, particularly because of rising participation from Asian countries, as well as growing interest in osteoarthritis and management of spondyloarthritis. The overall quality of research represented in the scientific programme also has increased this year, according to Dr. Maya Buch, chair of the Abstract Selection Committee, and Prof. Ulf Müller-Ladner, chair of the Scientific Programme Committee.

The increase in the number of abstracts submitted “demonstrates EULAR’s continued position as a leading World Congress that is attracting more participation” each year, Dr. Buch said in an interview.

“The abstracts submitted cover an excellent variety of themes and science that address clinically relevant issues and provide insights into future opportunities and possibilities,” added Dr. Buch, who is Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant Rheumatologist at Chapel Allerton Hospital in Leeds, England. The EULAR Congress in Paris will thus be an informative and inspiring meeting in a collaborative and sociable setting, she observed.

Last year, a total of 3,870 abstracts were submitted, and the trend over the past few years has been for around 3,500–3,800 abstract submissions per year, but this year saw a further increase to 4,041 with an acceptance rate of 85%. The split between basic (14%) and clinical science abstracts (85%) remains broadly the same; as does the number of abstracts submitted by the various scientific (3,812), Health Professionals in Rheumatology (185), and PARE (44) organisations.

While the majority of submitted abstracts were from the European Union (2,271), a large percentage came from other countries in Asia (936), North America (445), Africa (218), South America (142), and Australasia (29). This is largely similar to previous congresses, with the exception of more abstracts submitted by Asia-based researchers. “This seems to be due to increasing interest of our Japanese colleagues – with Japan now being the top-submitting country (with the United States second, and Spain third),” Dr. Buch said.

The increase in submissions is across all the main disease areas and topics, but the largest increase has been seen in abstracts relating to osteoarthritis and the clinical management of spondyloarthropathies (SpA). There will be an oral abstract session on the clinical aspects of osteoarthritis that is likely to garner a lot of interest, Dr. Buch said, as this is a disease area that constitutes a considerable health burden and is being encountered with increasing frequency in rheumatologic practice.

There will be three oral sessions in the area of systemic lupus erythematosus and Sjögren’s syndrome covering clinical, treatment-focused, and basic/translational aspects, she said, reflecting increased opportunity in this field and associated research activity. “We also have good [representation] in scleroderma with a clinical and basic [science abstract] session. The pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis (particularly ACPA-related biology) and comorbidities in RA, particularly cardiovascular, continue to be areas of interest,” Dr. Buch said.

“Getting to the heart of CTDs [connective tissue diseases]” is also likely to be one of the highlights of the abstract-based programme and will look at primary cardiovascular manifestations in patients with CTDs. Although more subspecialist, this is an area of morbidity and mortality with poor understanding that has been relatively less researched, according to Dr. Buch. Other highlights are likely to include the abstract sessions on emerging concepts in genomics and genetics, which address the goal of personalised medicine and explore the potential use of gene expression profiles as well as non–TNF biologics and small molecules in RA.

Prof. Müller-Ladner, who is Professor of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology at the Justus–Liebig University Giessen and Director of the Department of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology at Kerckhoff-Klinik, Bad Nauheim, Germany, noted that it is not just the number of abstracts that has increased, but also the overall quality of research. He suggested several areas of the scientific programme that should not be missed.

“The ‘basic immunology explained’ sessions are the hidden jewels,” he said. “Everybody is talking about immunological disease and immunomodifying drugs, but the true understanding [of] what is behind the scenes is rarely provided at rheumatology congresses.”

Another hidden jewel will be the bioenergetics session, which is a novel and unique topic. Speakers at the session will look at energy metabolism and rheumatic diseases, the immune system as a sensor of the metabolic state, and the mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) as an important regulator of macrophage differentiation and function.

One of the podium sessions will address future hot topics and “the challenges of tomorrow addressed today.” Outstanding speakers will visualize the future, addressing the role of genetics, fibroblasts, the Epstein-Barr virus, and glucocorticoids in the development and management of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases.

There will be a session on biosimilars that will also be important because biosimilars are going to be the big challengers to established biologic therapies, especially if they are sold at two-thirds to half the cost in some countries. “There is intensive discussion as to whether they are really ‘equivalent’ for all diseases,” Prof. Müller-Ladner said, noting that biosimilars have been associated with equivalent efficacy as compared with the originator biologics, but sometimes high rates of immunogenicity have been observed in the current trials.

New developments in myositides is another highlight of the scientific pro-

Continued on following page
Ultrasound Course Highlights Broad Offering in Health Professionals Sessions

The Health Professionals in Rheumatology Sessions will offer delegates with a broad interest in the health and well-being of people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs) the opportunity to hear some of the latest research and obtain useful clinical pointers that they can apply to their daily practise.

Prof. Christina H. Opava, who is the EULAR Vice-President representing Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPRs), noted in an interview that HPRs are important members of the multidisciplinary team that treats people with RMDs, and it is vital that they use methods and interventions that are evidence based, effective, and efficient. "It is important for HPRs to share research results and clinical experience, to network and to gain new knowledge to integrate into future research activities or daily clinical practice," she observed.

This year the programme for HPRs will consist of 12 podium sessions and two poster tours covering a variety of topics, such as identifying threats to health, diagnosing poor functioning and health, and evaluating nonpharmacological interventions and different forms of care delivery. Presentations will also look at the implementation of novel treatments into the regular care of people with RMDs.

The programme starts on Wednesday, 11 June, at 13:30-14:30, with a general welcome for all the HPR attendees. This will be followed at 15:00-16:30 by what is likely to be one of the highlights of the programme—a session on the use of ultrasound imaging. "The use of ultrasound is new to HPRs, and we expect the session on how to implement it into clinical practice will be well attended," explained Prof. Opava, who is professor of physiotherapy at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm.

Other interesting sessions include one looking at the practical implications of annual reviews in patients with inflammatory arthritis, being held Friday, 13 June, 15:30-17:00. "In many countries, there is a wish to reduce the time that patients get access to the team," Prof. Opava said, noting that "this work shows what value can be added with a strong evidence base and working not just in our disease area but improving overall health and well being outcomes."

Prof. Opava will moderate a session on Wednesday at 17:00-18:30 that will look at how well health care professionals are doing at promoting a healthy lifestyle among their patients with arthritis. This includes looking at ways to encourage better cardiovascular health and to manage other risks to health via nonpharmacologic methods such as smoking cessation and exercise. This is particularly important as smoking and physical inactivity may predict a poorer disease course, less benefit from medication, and potentially more disability among people with RMDs.

There will be two abstract sessions held 10:15-11:45 on both Thursday and Friday that will provide a platform for researchers to share their findings with the health professional community and other interested delegates attending the EULAR Congress. "We are particularly interested delegates attending the EULAR Congress will take the opportunity to listen to those presentations within the HPR abstract sessions," Prof. Opava said.

There is one joint clinical session on patient education for people with inflammatory rheumatic disease that will be held in association with People with Arthritis and Rheumatism in Europe (PARE). This will be held on Saturday, 14 June, 12:00-13:30. There will also be a session on Thursday, 15:30-17:00, looking at eHealth literacy on the rheumatic diseases and how the Internet influences peoples’ knowledge of their disease.

The programme ends with a highlights session on Saturday 13:45-14:45, which is designed to inform HPRs about other important sessions at the EULAR Congress, including those included in the main scientific programme and the PARE sessions.
Looking Beyond Uric Acid and Gout: Crystallizing the Science

Wednesday, 11 June 2014, 13.00–14.30
Room 242 AB, Le Palais des Congrès de Paris, Paris, France
Chair: N. Lawrence Edwards, USA; Alexander So, Switzerland; Jeffrey Miner, USA

Uric Acid, Crystal Deposition Disease, and Gout

Friday, 13 June 2014, 08.15–09.45
Room 351, Le Palais des Congrès de Paris, Paris, France
Chair: Thomas Bardin, France; Nicola Dalbeth, New Zealand; Fernando Perez-Ruiz, Spain
Practicalities of Living With RMDs Lie At the Heart of the PARE Programme

The People with Arthritis and Rheumatism in Europe (PARE) programme will deal with some of the most important issues faced by people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs) in Europe. One of the key sessions will discuss how successful advocacy can change the lives of people living with RMDs.

"Political campaigning is a core activity of PARE," Marios Kouloumas, the EULAR Vice-President representing PARE and president of the Cyprus League Against Rheumatism, said in an interview. "Our role is to raise the awareness and also to inform the politicians and the policy makers about the problems that we face and push for the measures that they should take in order to improve the quality of life of people with rheumatic diseases," he observed.

During the session on political campaigning, which will be held on Wednesday, 11 June, 17:00-18:30, attendees will have the opportunity to hear Neil Betteridge, EULAR International Liaison Officer, Public Affairs, present the new EULAR strategy for patient advocacy in Europe. Annelisa Cotone from the European Commission in Brussels will talk about the implementation of the United Nations convention on disability rights and the EU Disability Strategy 2010-2020, and Anne Carlsson, president of the Swedish Rheumatism Association, will present a political strategy to enable people with RMDs and other chronic illnesses to stay in work.

A critical component of advocacy is ensuring that access to treatment and services is provided in all countries and that they are of high quality. A session on Thursday, 12 June, 13:30-15:00, will look at how the economic crisis in Europe has affected health service availability and delivery for RMDs and how the obstacles faced nationally could be turned into opportunities. Economic austerity can often lead to innovative solutions for the delivery of health care and patient self-management, as well as instigate major changes in how organisations work.

The PARE programme starts on Wednesday, 13:30-14:30, with a welcome session for all PARE delegates. This is intended to introduce attendees to the facilities available within the Congress centre and venues in which the PARE sessions will take place. The welcome session will also provide attendees with an overview of the main topics that will be discussed over the 4 days of the PARE programme.

The first of 11 podium sessions held on Wednesday, 15:00-16:30, will look at the role of diet in RMDs and making healthy choices. Nutrition expert Henriette Thorseng of the Danish Rheumatism Association will look at the role of food as therapy and psychologist Vasiliki Cristodoulou from Cyprus will examine barriers to putting knowledge about healthy eating practices and diet into practice. Also in the session, EULAR President, Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, from the University of Genova in Italy, will discuss the role of vitamin D.

The quality of the presentations and abstracts submitted this year is very high, according to Mr. Kouloumas. The abstracts, which will be presented throughout the programme and, in one dedicated session, will cover the activities of the various national PARE organisations. For the first time at the Congress, there will be a PARE Best Abstract award, which will be presented at the Opening Plenary Session on Wednesday. In addition, a very important and new activity during this year's Congress will be the poster tours organised by the Standing Committee of PARE. Although there was an unofficial PARE poster tour at EULAR 2013 in Madrid, there will be two official poster tours this year on Thursday and Friday.

The first podium session on Thursday, 10:15-11:45, will look at the role of new technologies in improving and facilitating the way in which people with RMDs and their health care teams can interact. This will include talks on the latest innovations in telemedicine, personalised medicine, and self-management, and how technology can aid communication between doctors and their patients. Also to be held on Thursday, 15:30-17:00, is the established "Latest advances in the treatment and management of RMDs" session. This year, the presentations will focus on biosimilars and orphan drugs.

Two of Friday's podium sessions will look at topics on aging and RMDs. The first, at 13:30-15:00, will highlight the complexities of growing up with an RMD and the importance of the role of parents, guardians, and the health care team in this process. The second, at 15:30-17:00, will look at growing older with an RMD. Topics that will be covered in the latter session include the presence and management of comorbidities in older people with RMDs; how older individuals have been supported by national PARE initiatives; physiotherapy to help people remain as active as possible as they age; and the effects that RMDs may have on the ability to continue working, with discussion of how to overcome the challenges that may be faced.

Sessions on Saturday, 14 June, look at the practicalities of traveling with an RMD (8:30-10:00), and the importance of peer support in chronic diseases (12:00-13:30). In these two sessions, delegates will learn how people with RMDs have overcome practical difficulties and seized new opportunities to travel and how networking and self-help strategies have led organisations to achieve success in the face of strong competition for influence and scarce resources, respectively.

"EULAR is a very big Congress with many important sessions," Mr. Kouloumas observed. As it is not possible for PARE delegates to attend all of the sessions that might be of interest or importance, the PARE programme will end with a general highlights session on Saturday, 13:45-14:45. During the hour-long session, Michaela Stoffer of the Medical University of Vienna, Austria, will present highlights of the Health Professionals in Rheumatology programme and Dr. Loreto Carmona, a rheumatologist and scientific director of the Institute for Musculoskeletal Health, Madrid, will provide highlights from the main scientific programme.
Roche-sponsored satellite symposium at EULAR 2014

Joint decisions: Personalising RA therapy to achieve better outcomes

Thursday 12 June 2014 | 08:15–09:45 | Grand Amphi | Le Palais des Congrès de Paris

Faculty
Prof. Ernest Choy, UK (co-Chair)
Prof. Andrea Rubbert-Roth, Germany (co-Chair)
Dr Cécile Gaujoux-Viala, France
Dr Andrew Östör, UK

Based on US rules, this symposium is only intended for physicians practicing outside the USA
Young Clinicians, Health Professionals To Find Tailored Offerings at Congress

Young rheumatologists and researchers at EULAR 2014 will discover an especially strong track designed just for them – both as part of the official scientific programme and in the form of extra-congressional activities aimed at promoting networking, mentoring, and education.

At the heart of the young rheumatologists’ scientific track this year are sessions on epidemiology and immunology. These are aimed specifically at nonexperts, will have an informal tone, and are being led by exceptional educators, said Dr. Pedro Machado, the 2013-2014 chair of the Emerging EULAR Network, or EMEUNET, the working group started in 2010 for young clinicians and researchers in rheumatology.

The epidemiology and immunology sessions will help young rheumatologists to get a handle on the basics of these disciplines in order to apply them in research settings, “or even just to be better at reading articles and interpreting them,” Dr. Machado said in an interview.

And for the 4th year in a row at EULAR, the track will have been created in part using feedback and survey responses from young rheumatologists.

“We have tried to make this track better by tailoring it to young rheumatologists’ and researchers’ expectations,” said Dr. Machado, a rheumatologist and senior clinical research associate at University College London. “Some of the topics that will be covered were actually suggested by young people” through EMEUNET surveys.

The 2014 scientific programme will include tailored seminars on career development, research trends and funding, as well as online monitoring of patient-reported outcomes and medical apps in daily practise.

The programme will include seminars on career development, research trends and funding, as well as online monitoring of patient-reported outcomes and medical apps in daily practise.

The health care professionals track features a session toward the end of the Congress to present highlights of the health care professionals programme – including from a rheumatologist’s perspective. Health care professionals will also find sessions on e-health and on ultrasound, “which has become important to health care professionals as well as young rheumatologists,” Ms. Oliver said.

Young health professionals will find, for the second year at the Congress, study groups that focus on “providing a forum for health professionals to discuss specific areas for future research or consider ways to improve implementation of current evidence. It is a great opportunity to network and plan collaboratively,” Ms. Oliver said, adding that the workshops occur outside the formal Congress sessions.

Health professionals will also have a dedicated stand in the EULAR Village, which Ms. Oliver called “a resource for the latest Congress and newsletter information, as well as an opportunity to meet members of the committee, country presidents, and those interested in being more actively involved in EULAR activities.”

The young rheumatologists’ group EMEUNET will also be hosting independent social and educational events designed to augment – but not compete with – the official EULAR programme. These are scheduled for early mornings, evenings, and lunch times, outside regular session hours. The offerings include a sightseeing tour of Paris for young rheumatologists, with the goal of encouraging social and professional networking.

Another key EMEUNET initiative will be mentoring meetings in which selected experts “get together with two or three young fellows each, in order to discuss career planning, career aspirations, and research,” Dr. Machado said. “This will allow them to get some advice from older and more experienced rheumatologists from a mentorship perspective.”
Join Us! Add These Symposia Stops to Your EULAR Itinerary

The Transformation of Rheumatoid Arthritis Treatment:
THE ROLE OF EMERGING THERAPIES IN THE MODERN TREATMENT PARADIGM

Wednesday, 11 June 2014
13:00 - 14:30
Le Palais des Congrès de Paris
Ternes Room

The Secrets of Success:
DRUG SURVIVAL ON BIOLOGIC THERAPY

Thursday, 12 June 2014
08:15 - 09:45
Le Palais des Congrès de Paris
Ternes Room

New Horizons, New Possibilities:
ADVANCES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS

Thursday, 12 June 2014
17:30 - 19:00
Le Palais des Congrès de Paris
Ternes Room

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THE EUROPEAN LEAGUE AGAINST RHEUMATISM (EULAR) 2014 | 11-14 JUNE 2014 | PARIS | FRANCE
Paediatric Sessions to Offer Relevant Insights Into Adult Disease

Innate immunity and sterile inflammation are at the centre of the paediatric track at EULAR 2014 – a track that has much to offer the adult rheumatologist as well.

This EULAR Congress “is really linked between adults and children,” said Prof. Johannes Roth of the University Hospital of Münster in Germany. Prof. Roth, past chair of EULAR’s Standing Committee on Paediatric Rheumatology, is helping design the pediatric scientific program along with current chair Prof. Alberto Martini of the University of Genova, Italy.

“Paediatricians treat some inborn inflammatory disorders that arise from defects in the innate immune system – autoinflammatory diseases,” said Prof. Roth. “And the same mechanisms also play an increasingly recognised role in adult rheumatology.” Sterile inflammation, seen both in adults and children, will be discussed both as part of the adult rheumatology track and the pediatric track, and Prof. Roth advises interested clinicians to seek out talks from both.

Paediatric rheumatologists’ knowledge of inborn inflammatory diseases has provided them an intimate understanding of innate immunity and sterile inflammation. “These are two of the few areas of rheumatology in which we paediatricians have a little bit more experience, and in which adult practitioners can learn from us,” Prof. Roth said. “Usually, it’s the other way around – every time there’s a new target or new drug, it’s tried in adults for safety reasons; 5-10 years later, it comes to us, and we have to primarily rely on the experience of adult clinicians to guide us as to how to use it in children.”

Autoinflammatory disorders, by contrast, “come from rare inborn errors presenting during childhood from which we have learned so much about inflammatory diseases, and all of this is relevant for the adult clinician. Therefore, the paediatric sessions may be interesting to a broader group of people coming to the congress.”

Highlights for paediatric rheumatologists off the main paediatric track include HOT, or “How to Treat” sessions, which will also feature some paediatric presenters and take up some paediatric topics. Additionally, EULAR’s Standing Committee on Paediatric Rheumatology will be discussing networks, grants, and international studies within EULAR.

The main paediatric track fills only about half to two-thirds of the congress time slots, all in a dedicated room. The program is already fixed but has some room left for late-breaking abstracts.

The space in the program, Prof. Roth said, provides paediatric clinicians ample opportunity to select the adult rheumatology sessions they find most valuable. Because the European paediatric rheumatology community is small and close knit, with its own specialized congresses, he said, EULAR offers paediatric rheumatologists the opportunity to attend sessions – whether basic research or clinical practice – to learn about diseases that they know, but in which adult rheumatologists see 10-100 times more patients.

This year, as with last year, the paediatric committee will highlight a couple of adult disease sessions of particular relevance to paediatric practitioners. But for the most part, paediatric rheumatologists can use their own discretion in choosing which adult congress sessions to attend.

For example, very specialised paediatric rheumatologists might see only very few patients with scleroderma, so “it could be interesting to go to a session in which an adult specialist offers an overview on treating scleroderma patients,” Prof. Roth said.

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Paris has been one of the world’s great cultural centres since the late Middle Ages and was part of the flowering of the early Renaissance when the University of Paris was founded in the 12th century – with medicine as one of its earliest courses of instruction.

Visitors to Paris can sample this fascinating history of medicine as it is displayed in a number of unique museums located throughout the city’s environs. Below are five of those museums, in particular, which are of note for those who have an interest in both the history and culture of medicine throughout the ages.

These museums feature preserved artifacts of living specimens, medical instrumentation, artistic reproductions of disease states, and the memorabilia of a host of great French physicians, including the incomparable Louis Pasteur. Together, their collections catalogue the sweep of Parisian medicine across the centuries.

**Museum of the History of Medicine (Le Musée d’Histoire de la Médecine)**

Housed in a great hall constructed in 1905, the museum is located at the second floor of the Paris V René Descartes University in the home of the university’s historic Faculty of Medicine. The collections were begun in the 18th century and today contain a renowned assemblage of surgical and diagnostic instrumentation, as well as paintings, engravings, and lithographs relevant to several areas of medicine.

**Orfila Museum of Anatomy (Le Musée d’Anatomie Delmas-Orfila-Rouvière)**

The museum, in existence since 1847, focuses on anatomy with a variety of collections of human and animal anatomical preparations, embryological reconstructions, as well as neurological and anthropological specimens. Since 1953, the museum has been housed as a series of showrooms and galleries on the eighth floor of the Faculty of Medicine in the Rue des Saints-Peres rooms of the Paris V René Descartes University. The official website contains a virtual tour of this fascinating museum, and many of its artifacts are as much works of art as scientific displays. The museum is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, 14:00-17:00, by prior appointment, which you must arrange by telephone well in advance.

**Dupuytren Museum (Le Musée Dupuytren)**

Founded in 1835, this remarkable museum, located in the Université Pierre & Marie Curie, contains a wealth of historical artifacts related to anatomical pathologies. Skeletons, wax castings, and a large collection of jars containing preserved organs and fetuses illustrate the medical and cultural obsession with “monstrosities” in an earlier era.

**Museum of the Hospital of Saint Louis (Le Musée de l’Hôpital Saint-Louis)**

This museum is most known for its vast dermatologic collection – watercolors and wax casts depicting a host of skin diseases, many of which have been on display since the museum’s opening in 1867. There are more than 4,800 casts of skin diseases, with a strong concentration on the various manifestations of syphilis, and all of the remarkable casts are visible. **Continued on page 13**
Will doing this activity be challenging for your digital ulcer patients?
in the online collection. Portions of the hospital itself exist as an architectural museum, with examples of the original buildings surviving from its founding in the 17th century.

**Pasteur Museum (Le Musée Pasteur)**
The great Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) is represented in his own musée, located within the Institut Pasteur, which he founded, at 25 Rue du Docteur Roux, Paris, France.
The museum preserves the apartment where Pasteur spent the last 7 years of his life, as well as the Neo-Byzantine-style chapel in which he is buried. There is also an exhibit room containing around 1,000 scientific instruments on display. The museum also houses a huge collection of historical documents and images.
Annual European Congress of Rheumatology
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