



Welcome to our October 2019 Newsletter and to our expanding global community

Background

- The Paediatric Task Force for Global Musculoskeletal Health was set up in 2017 as part of the Global Alliance for Musculoskeletal Health (G-MUSC) and acknowledges the importance of a 'life course approach' to optimising musculoskeletal (MSK) health across the ages.
- We are a virtual global community and open to all: clinicians (doctors and allied health professionals) from paediatric rheumatology and orthopaedics, patient and consumer groups, professional societies, healthcare planners and policy makers, non-health professional groups, research consortia, industry (e-technology, pharma).
- There is great enthusiasm to 'work better together' to improve the lives of children through raising awareness amongst health care planners and policy makers that more needs to be done
- We work in partnership with the Pediatric Rheumatology European Society (PReS), The International Pediatric Orthopedic Society (IPOS) and the Paediatric Musculoskeletal Matters (PMM) learning e-platform.

Our Aims

To Raise Awareness

- About the *many* children and young people around the world with MSK problems
- About the considerable long-term impact of *untreated* MSK conditions starting in early life: *impact* on young people, their families, carers and society
- That many conditions are *treatable*; long term disability can be avoided thus reducing 'cost' to individuals and society

To Identify and Promote tangible exemplar solutions to better access to 'right' care

- Models of clinical care and care pathways
- Education and training for the workforce
- Patient and public involvement and engagement

To Promote healthy joints and bones

- Through lifestyle (e.g diet, exercise) to prevent obesity
- Reduce the risk of injury
- Reduce the long term risk of osteoarthritis and osteoporosis



Our Structure and Membership

- The Paediatric Task Force works in partnership with organisations to address global challenges in paediatric MSK health
- There is a group email – anyone can join. Please contact us through the social media contacts.
- To date over 260 people from around the world (map below July 2019) receive our Newsletter and we have representation from many countries.
- We have co-chairs, representing paediatric rheumatology, paediatric orthopaedics and MSK health promotion through lifestyle and avoidance of injury.
- We have 12 'regional representatives' from around world (clinicians, allied health and parents).
- All roles are voluntary and we have admin support from G-MUSC.

Paediatric Global MSK Task Force (<http://bjdonline.org/musculoskeletal-problems-in-children-and-young-people/>)

Pediatric Rheumatology European Association (<https://www.pres.eu>)

Paediatric Musculoskeletal Matters (<http://www.pmmonline.org>)

Follow us:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/paedmskglobal>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2255183164805036/?ref=share>

The Paediatric Task Force continues to be engaged in a variety of activities

Paediatric Bone and Joint Day October 2019



As part of World Arthritis Week activities, a combined series of articles were compiled with contributions from our Task Force and promoted through the US Bone and Joint Initiative.

This is freely available to disseminate
<https://www.usbji.org/programs/pediatric-specialty-group/world-pediatric-bone-and-joint-day>

WHO Universal Healthcare Coverage



Addressing the increasing impact of Non-Communicable Diseases around the world is integral to the work of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) aim for Universal Healthcare Coverage that was recently launched. The Paediatric Task Force aims to raise the profile of paediatric musculoskeletal conditions with the WHO and UN.

<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/23-09-2019-who-welcomes-landmark-un-declaration-on-universal-health-coverage>

WORD-Day 2020 in planning



The Paediatric Task Force actively supports WORD Day (WORld young Rheumatic Diseases Day) to raise awareness of rheumatic diseases in children and young people.

The first WORD Day in 2019 was a great success.

Plans for 2020 are well underway !

Check out www.WORD-Day.com !

Surveys of paediatric rheumatology care around the world

- The survey from **ASIA Pacific (ASIAPAC) countries** is now closed.
- Thank you for your input – we have nearly 300 responses! The work is now being written up for publication as a collaboration with colleagues in Thailand.
- A similar survey is soon to be made live in **Middle East and North Africa** countries.
- These surveys include questions about current models of care, education and training for the workforce and access to treatments.
- The data will have transferable value to our work on a broader scale and inform the call for action.

The Paediatric Task Force 'call for action'

Next steps Towards a strategy



Building on Task Force meetings at existing rheumatology events (APLAR April 2019, EULAR June 2019, AFLAR September 2019) our discussions generated ideas and areas for priority to taken forward in our ' call for action'.

We aim to share these with our paediatric orthopaedic colleagues and build on them further to develop our strategy to be written up for publication and dissemination.

Our call to action is based on the following themes.

- **Addressing the workforce challenges:**
 - Engage and involve the existing workforce (*health and non-health care workers in the community, school and hospital care settings*) to work better together to aid diagnosis, deliver care and facilitate referral / shared care.
- **Education and training of the workforce**
 - Capacity building with more specialists and training opportunities 'fit for purpose'
 - Targeting the existing workforce to raise awareness, upskill and support (paediatricians, adult rheum, adult ortho, paediatric orthopaedics, medical officers, allied health, medical students, and allied health)
 - Accessibility to (*and affordability of*), existing training resources including on-line courses, CME events and educational materials
 - Recommendations and 'guidelines' for care that are relevant to Low Resource Income Countries.
- **More information (data and evidence)**
 - To describe global 'burden' (*to help raise awareness about prevalence and impact on the lives of children, families and society*), develop key messages for stakeholders (*health and non-health care planners*) and leverage change.
- **Sharing and promoting great ideas:**
 - There are many exemplars of innovative models of care and training from around the world. An open e-platform to collate, share and disseminate is needed.

Future meetings

ACR 2019 – Atlanta, US

Global health rheumatology session : *Frontiers and Opportunities in Global Rheumatology Research* Nov 12

<http://www.rheumatology.org>

ARLAR 2020 – Amman, Jordan

<https://www.arabrheumatology.org>

PRoS-KL 2020 – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



PRoS Basic Course Paediatric Rheumatology South East Asia

Registration now open

www.pros-kl.com – the first PRoS Basic Course in SE Asia

