



Cover image: FOXP3+ cells in synovial tissue from two patients with rheumatoid arthritis. See p1913

#### **Editor**

Tore K Kvien

#### **Associate Editors**

Francis Berenbaum Hans Bijlsma **Dimitrios Boumpas** Gerd Burmester Mary Crow lain McInnes

#### **Editorial office**

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases BMJ Publishing Group Ltd **BMA** House

Tavistock Square London WCIH 9JR, UK

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6250 F: +44 (0)20 7383 6668

E: ard@bmj.com

ISSN: 0003-4967 (print) ISSN: 1468-2060 (online) **Impact Factor:** 7.188

Disclaimer: ARD is owned and published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd (a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association) and the European League Against Rheumatism. The owners grant editorial freedom to the Editor of ARD. ARD follows guidelines on editorial independence produced by the World Association of Medical Editors and the code on good publication practice of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

ARD is intended for medical professionals and is provided without warranty, express or implied. Statements in the journal are the responsibility of their authors and advertisers and not authors' institutions, the BMJ Publishing Group, the European League Against Rheumatism or the BMA unless otherwise specified or determined by law. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the BMJ Publishing Group shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the use of ARD or any information in it whether based on contract, tort, or otherwise. Readers are advised to verify any information they choose to rely on.

Copyright: © 2009 BMJ Publishing Group and European League Against Rheumatism. All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without prior permission

ARD is published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, typeset by The Charlesworth Group and printed in the UK on acid-free paper from sustainable forests by Cambrian Printers Limited, Aberystwyth, UK

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases (ISSN No: 0003-4967) is published monthly by BMJ Publishing Group and distributed in the USA by Mercury International Ltd. Periodicals postage paid at Rahway, NJ, USA. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases, Mercury International Ltd, 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ 07001, USA.

## **Editorial**

Contents

1797 Quality indicators in rheumatology: valid for whom?

T P M Vliet Vlieland, T W I Huizinga

# Viewpoint

1800 Use of "spydergrams" to present and interpret SF-36 health-related quality of life data across rheumatic diseases

> V Strand, B Crawford, J Singh, E Choy, J S Smolen, D Khanna

## Clinical and epidemiological research

- 1805 Development of quality indicators for monitoring of the disease course in rheumatoid arthritis LTC van Hulst, I Fransen, AA den Broeder, RGrol. PLCM van Riel, MEIL Hulscher
- 1811 ASDAS, a highly discriminatory ASAS-endorsed disease activity score in patients with ankylosing spondylitis

D van der Heijde, E Lie, T K Kvien, J Sieper, F Van den Bosch, J Listing, J Braun, R Landewé, for the Assessment of SpondyloArthritis international Society (ASAS)

**1819** Malignancies in the rheumatoid arthritis abatacept clinical development programme: an epidemiological assessment

T A Simon, A L Smitten, J Franklin, J Askling, D Lacaille, F Wolfe, M C Hochberg, K Qi, S Suissa

**1827** Modification and validation of the Birmingham Vasculitis Activity Score (version 3)

C Mukhtyar, R Lee, D Brown, D Carruthers, B Dasgupta, S Dubey, O Flossmann, C Hall, I Hollywood, D Jayne, R Jones, P Lanyon, A Muir, D Scott, L Young, R A Luqmani

1833 Adverse events of low- to medium-dose oral glucocorticoids in inflammatory diseases: a metaanalysis

> IN Hoes, IWG Jacobs, SMM Verstappen, I W I Bijlsma, G I M G Van der Heijden

**1839** Ankylosing spondylitis and the risk of fracture: results from a large primary care-based nested case-control study

> D Vosse, R Landewé, D van der Heijde, S van der Linden, T-P van Staa, P Geusens

**1843** Efficacy and safety of steroid injections for shoulder and elbow tendonitis: a meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

C Gaujoux-Viala, M Dougados, L Gossec

**1850** Reliability of high-resolution ultrasonography in the assessment of Achilles tendon enthesopathy in seronegative spondyloarthropathies

> E Filippucci, S Zehra Aydin, O Karadag, F Salaffi, M Gutierrez, H Direskeneli, W Grassi

**1856** Comparative effectiveness of tumour necrosis factor  $\alpha$  inhibitors in combination with either methotrexate or leflunomide

A Strangfeld, F Hierse, J Kekow, U von Hinueber, H-P Tony, R Dockhorn, J Listing, A Zink

**1863** Adalimumab safety and mortality rates from global clinical trials of six immune-mediated inflammatory diseases

> G R Burmester, P Mease, B A C Dijkmans, K Gordon, D Lovell, R Panaccione, J Perez, A L Pangan

1870 Clinical efficacy and safety of abatacept in methotrexate-naive patients with early

rheumatoid arthritis and poor prognostic factors R Westhovens, M Robles, A C Ximenes, S Naviager, J Wollenhaupt, P Durez, J Gomez-Reino, W Grassi, B Haraoui, W Shergy, S-H Park, H Genant, C Peterfy, J-C Becker, A Covucci, R Helfrick, J Bathon

**1878** Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging in systemic sclerosis: a cross-sectional observational study of

A-L Hachulla, D Launay, V Gaxotte, P de Groote, N Lamblin, P Devos, P-Y Hatron, J-P Beregi, E Hachulla

**1885** N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide in systemic sclerosis: a new cornerstone of cardiovascular assessment?

Y Allanore, K Wahbi, D Borderie, S Weber, A Kahan,

1890 Natural course of knee osteoarthritis in middleaged subjects with knee pain: 12-year follow-up using clinical and radiographic criteria C A Thorstensson, M L E Andersson, H Jönsson, T Saxne, I F Petersson

**1894** Safety of biological therapies following rituximab treatment in rheumatoid arthritis patients M C Genovese, F C Breedveld, P Emery, S Cohen, E Keystone, E L Matteson, Y Baptiste, A Chai, L Burke, W Reiss, M Sweetser, T M Shaw

## MORE CONTENTS ▶



This article has been chosen by the editor to be of special interest or importance and is freely available online.





This journal is a member of and subscribes to the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics

www.publicationethics.org.uk





**1898** Bone loss in patients with active early rheumatoid arthritis: infliximab and methotrexate compared with methotrexate treatment alone. Explorative analysis from a 12-month randomised, doubleblind, placebo-controlled study

G Haugeberg, P G Conaghan, M Quinn, P Emery

# **1921** Association study of a polymorphism of the *CTGF* gene and susceptibility to systemic sclerosis in the Japanese population

Y Kawaguchi, Y Ota, M Kawamoto, I Ito, N Tsuchiya, T Sugiura, Y Katsumata, M Soejima, S Sato, M Hasegawa, M Fujimoto, K Takehara, M Kuwana, H Yamanaka, M Hara

**1925** Definition of arthritis candidate risk genes by combining rat linkage-mapping results with human case-control association data *L Bäckdahl, J P Guo, M Jagodic, K Becanovic, B Ding, T Olsson, J C Lorentzen* 

## Basic and translational research

**1902** Effects of *Porphyromonas gingivalis* on cell cycle progression and apoptosis of primary human chondrocytes

N Pischon, E Röhner, A Hocke, P N'Guessan, H C Müller, G Matziolis, V Kanitz, P Purucker, B-M Kleber, J-P Bernimoulin, G Burmester, F Buttgereit, J Detert

**1908** FOXP3 expression in blood, synovial fluid and synovial tissue during inflammatory arthritis and intra-articular corticosteroid treatment

S Raghavan, D Cao, M Widhe, K Roth, J Herrath, M Engström, G Roncador, A H Banham, C Trollmo, A I Catrina, V Malmström

**1916** Association of the *DVWA* and *GDF5* polymorphisms with osteoarthritis in UK populations

A M Valdes, T D Spector, S Doherty, M Wheeler, D I Hart, M Doherty

### Letters

**1933** Targeted delivery of liposomal dexamethasone phosphate to the spleen provides a persistent therapeutic effect in rat antigen-induced arthritis

U Rauchhaus, R W Kinne, D Pohlers, S Wiegand, A Wölfert, M Gajda, R Bräuer, S Panzner

1934 Anti-tumour necrosis factor α therapy in patients with rheumatoid arthritis results in a significant and long-lasting decrease of concomitant glucocorticoid treatment

> L Naumann, D Huscher, J Detert, M Spengler, G-R Burmester, F Buttgereit

