

**Editor**

Tore K Kvien

Associate Editors

Francis Berenbaum
Johannes Bijlsma
David Pisetsky
Dimitrios Boumpas
Gerd Burmester
Mary Crow
Iain McInnes

Editorial office

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases
BMJ Publishing Group Ltd
BMA House
Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9JR, UK
T: +44 (0)20 7383 6250
F: +44 (0)20 7383 6668
E: ard@bmj.com
Twitter: @ARD_BMJ
ISSN: 0003-4967 (print)
ISSN: 1468-2060 (online)
Impact Factor: 12.384

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: © 2016 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 Nova Techset Private Limited, Bengaluru & Chennai, India and printed in the UK on acid-free paper.

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases (ISSN No: 0003-4967) is published monthly by BMJ Publishing Group and distributed in the USA by Air Business Ltd. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica NY 11431 POSTMASTER: send address changes to *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, Air Business Ltd, c/o Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA.

Editorials

- 1423** NSAIDs in axial spondyloarthritis: to be continued...?
G Varkas, F Van den Bosch

- 1426** Platelets in rheumatoid arthritis: exploring the anti-inflammatory and antithrombotic potential of TNF inhibitors
A Y Gasparyan, G D Kitas

Review

- 1428** Tapering biologic and conventional DMARD therapy in rheumatoid arthritis: current evidence and future directions
G Schett, P Emery, Y Tanaka, G Burmester, D S Pisetsky, E Naredo, B Fautrel, R van Vollenhoven

Clinical and epidemiological research

- 1438** Effect of continuous versus on-demand treatment of ankylosing spondylitis with diclofenac over 2 years on radiographic progression of the spine: results from a randomised multicentre trial (ENRADAS)
J Sieper, J Listing, D Poddubnyy, I-H Song, K-G Hermann, J Callhoff, U Syrbe, J Braun, M Rudwaleit

- 1444** First step in the development of an ultrasound joint inflammation score for rheumatoid arthritis using a data-driven approach
A-B Aga, H B Hammer, I C Olsen, T Uhlig, T K Kvien, D van der Heijde, H Fremstad, T M Madland, Å S Lexberg, H Haukeland, E Rodevand, C Heili, H Stray, A N Bendvold, D M Soldal, G Bakland, E Lie, E A Haavardsholm

- 1452** Enriching case selection for imminent RA: the use of anti-CCP antibodies in individuals with new non-specific musculoskeletal symptoms – a cohort study
J L Nam, L Hunt, E M A Hensor, P Emery

- 1457** A prospective study of the 6 min walk test as a surrogate marker for haemodynamics in two independent cohorts of treatment-naïve systemic sclerosis-associated pulmonary arterial hypertension
S Sanges, D Launay, R L Rhee, O Sibon, É Hachulla, L Mouthon, L Guillemin, L Rotat, D Montani, P De Groote, V Cottin, P Magro, G Prévot, F Bauer, E Bergot, C Chabanne, M Reynaud-Gaubert, S Leroy, M Canuet, O Sanchez, C Gut-Gobert, C Dauphin, C Pison, C Boissin, G Habib, P Clerson, F Conesa, J-F Cordier, S M Kawut, G Simonneau, M Humbert

- 1466** Mortality in ankylosing spondylitis: results from a nationwide population-based study
S Exarchou, E Lie, U Lindström, J Asklund, H Forsblad-d'Elia, C Turesson, L E Kristensen, L T H Jacobsson

- 1473** Risk of incident atrial fibrillation in gout: a cohort study
S C Kim, J Liu, D H Solomon

- 1479** Optimisation of a treat-to-target approach in rheumatoid arthritis: strategies for the 3-month time point
D Aletaha, F Alasti, J S Smolen

- 1486** MRI vertebral corner inflammation followed by fat deposition is the strongest contributor to the development of new bone at the same vertebral corner: a multilevel longitudinal analysis in patients with ankylosing spondylitis
P M Machado, X Baraliakos, D van der Heijde, J Braun, R Landewé

- 1494** Antibodies against carbamylated proteins are present in primary Sjögren's syndrome and are associated with disease severity
B Bergum, C Koro, N Delaleu, M Solheim, A Hellvard, V Binder, R Jonsson, V Valim, D S Hammenfors, M V Jonsson, P Mydel

- 1501** Sustained improvements in MRI outcomes with abatacept following the withdrawal of all treatments in patients with early, progressive rheumatoid arthritis
C Peterfy, G R Burmester, V P Bykerk, B G Combe, J C DiCarlo, D E Furst, T W J Huizinga, D A Wong, P G Conaghan, P Emery

- 1506** Efficacy of first-line tocilizumab therapy in early polymyalgia rheumatica: a prospective longitudinal study
V Devauchelle-Pensec, J M Berthelot, D Cornec, Y Renaudineau, T Marhadour, S Jousse-Joulin, S Querellou, F Garrigues, M De Bandt, M Gouillou, A Saraux

Basic and translational research

- 1511** Anti-TNF α agents curb platelet activation in patients with rheumatoid arthritis
A A Manfredi, M Baldini, M Camera, E Baldissera, M Brambilla, G Peretti, A Maseri, P Rovere-Querini, E Tremoli, M G Sabbadini, N Maugeri

- 1521** Influence of *TYK2* in systemic sclerosis susceptibility: a new locus in the IL-12 pathway
E López-Isac, D Campillo-Davo, L Bossini-Castillo, S G Guerra, S Assassi, C P Simeón, P Carreira, N Ortego-Centeno, P G de la Peña, the Spanish Scleroderma Group, L Beretta, A Santaniello, C Bellocchi, C Lunardi, G Moroncini, A Gabrielli, G Riemekasten, T Witte, N Hunzelmann, A Kreuter, J H W Distler, A E Voskuyl, J de Vries-Bouwstra, A Herrick, J Worthington, C P Denton, C Fonseca, T R D J Radstake, M D Mayes, J Martin

- 1527** MicroRNA markers of inflammation and remodelling in temporal arteries from patients with giant cell arteritis
S Croci, A Zerbini, B Boiardi, F Muratore, A Bisagni, D Nicolì, E Farnetti, G Pazzola, L Cimino, A Moramarco, A Cavazza, B Casali, M Parmeggiani, C Salvarani

MORE CONTENTS ►

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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



OPEN ACCESS

This article has been made freely available online under the BMJ Journals Open Access scheme. See <http://ard.bmj.com/site/about/guidelines.xhtml#open>

C O P E

Member since 2008

JMD0008

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

<http://publicationethics.org/>



equator network



When you have finished with this please recycle it

MCQs

The online version of this article contains multiple choice questions hosted on BMJ Learning.

- 1534** The genetic association of *RUNX3* with ankylosing spondylitis can be explained by allele-specific effects on IRF4 recruitment that alter gene expression
M Vecellio, A R Roberts, C J Cohen, A Cortes, J C Knight, P Bowness, B P Wordsworth

- 1541** Decreased expression of neuropilin-1 as a novel key factor contributing to peripheral microvasculopathy and defective angiogenesis in systemic sclerosis
E Romano, I Chora, M Manetti, C Mazzotta, I Rosa, S Bellando-Randone, J Blagojevic, R Soares, J Avouac, Y Allano, L Ibba-Manneschi, M Matucci-Cerinic, S Guiducci

- 1550** Next-generation sequencing and its initial applications for molecular diagnosis of systemic auto-inflammatory diseases
M Rusmini, S Federici, F Caroli, A Grossi, M Baldi, L Obici, A Insalaco, A Tommasini, R Caorsi, E Gallo, A N Olivieri, A Marzano, D Coviello, R Ravazzolo, A Martini, M Gattorno, I Ceccherini

- 1558** Dense genotyping of immune-related loci in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies confirms HLA alleles as the strongest genetic risk factor and suggests different genetic background for major clinical subgroups
S Rothwell, R G Cooper, I E Lundberg, F W Miller, P K Gregersen, J Bowes, J Vencovsky, K Danko, V Limaye, A Selva-O'Callaghan, M G Hanna, P M Machado, L M Pachman, A M Reed, L G Rider, J Cobb, H Platt, Ø Mølberg, O Benveniste, P Mathiesen, T Radstake, A Doria, J De Blecker, B De Paepe, B Maurer, W E Ollier, L Padyukov, T P O'Hanlon, A Lee, C I Amos, C Gieger, T Meitinger, J Winkelmann, L R Wedderburn, H Chinoy, J A Lamb, the Myositis Genetics Consortium

- 1567** The interferon type I signature is present in systemic sclerosis before overt fibrosis and might contribute to its pathogenesis through high BAFF gene expression and high collagen synthesis
Z Brkic, L van Bon, M Cossu, C G van Helden-Meeuwssen, M C Vonk, H Knaapen, W van den Berg, V A Dalm, P L Van Daele, A Severino, N I Maria, S Guillen, W A Dik, L Beretta, M A Versnel, T Radstake

Letters

- 1575** Anti-carbamylated protein antibodies: a specific hallmark for rheumatoid arthritis. Comparison to conditions known for enhanced carbamylation; renal failure, smoking and chronic inflammation
M K Verheul, S J H van Erp, D van der Woude, E W N Levarht, M J K Mallat, H W Verspaget, J Stolte, R E M Toes, A E van der Meulen-de Jong, P S Hiemstra, C van Kooten, L A Trouw

- 1576** Efficacy of abatacept for IgG4-related disease over 8 months
M Yamamoto, H Takahashi, K Takano, Y Shimizu, N Sakurai, C Suzuki, Y Naishiro, H Yajima, T Awakawa, T Himi, H Nakase

- 1578** Ustekinumab for the treatment of refractory giant cell arteritis
R Conway, L O'Neill, E O'Flynn, P Gallagher, G M McCarthy, C C Murphy, D J Veale, U Fearon, E S Molloy

- 1580** Retraction

Electronic pages

Correspondence

- e47** Tocilizumab for polymyalgia rheumatica: a first or second line?
S Moiseev, P Novikov, V Fomin
- e48** Tocilizumab in recent polymyalgia rheumatica: how can we manage the interleukin-6 blockage?
V Devauchelle, A Saraux
- e49** Issues with anti-Gr1 antibody-mediated myeloid-derived suppressor cell depletion
Y-F Xing, Y-Q Zhou, G-W Ma, D-Y Feng, X-R Cai, X Li
- e50** Response to: 'Issues with anti-Gr1 antibody-mediated myeloid-derived suppressor cell depletion' by Xing *et al*
X-Y Wang, H Yi, J Li
- e51** Does the prevalence of radiographic hand osteoarthritis in patients with HIV-1 infection increase or not?
W Luo, G-h Lei, H-b He, Y-s Li
- e52** Response to: 'Does the prevalence of radiographic hand osteoarthritis in patients with HIV-1 infection increase or not?' by Luo *et al*
J Sellam, K Lacombe, A-L Tomi, I K Haugen, D T Felson, S Fellahi, J-P Bastard, A Miquel, M Sebire, C Rey-Jouvin, E Maheu, J Capeau, P-M Girard, J-L Meynard, F Berenbaum
- e53** Why methotrexate suboptimal dosing is a potential source of bias in biologic drugs clinical trials
J Durán, D T Felson
- e54** Let's re-examine these MTX points once again
J M Kremer
- e55** Additional proposals to reduce comorbidity in patients with chronic inflammatory rheumatic diseases: comment on 'Points to consider for reporting, screening for and preventing selected comorbidities in chronic inflammatory rheumatic diseases in daily practice: a EULAR initiative' by Baillet *et al*
S Castañeda, E F Vicente, M A González-Gay
- e56** Response to: 'Additional proposals to reduce comorbidity in patients with chronic inflammatory rheumatic diseases'. Screening for comorbidities: what is the remit of rheumatologists?
A Baillet, L Gossec, M Dougados