

Table S2: Key themes (n=13) and the respective research questions formulated after the first EULAR Task Force meeting for the “EULAR recommendations for the generic core competences of Health Professionals in Rheumatology”

Theme		Research question
1.	Knowledge, assessment & recognition of RMDs	a. What knowledge do HPRs have on RMDs? b. How do HPRs identify and assess patients’ resources and limitations?
2.	Knowledge, assessment & recognition of comorbidities and associated diseases	Are HPRs able to identify the signs, symptoms, risks, red flags and comorbidities in RMDs?
3.	Interdisciplinary co-operation/communication and coordination of care	What is the role of HPRs within the interdisciplinary team for the care of people with RMDs?
4.	HPR interface between clinician and patient	What are the competences needed to optimize communication and advocacy between HPRs, physicians and people with RMDs and their carers?
5.	Medication effects, management of side-effects, knowledge of pharmacological interventions	What competences do HPRs need to explain and support patients’ pharmacological treatments including effectiveness and safety?
6.	Non-pharmacological interventions/Orthotics	What competences do HPRs need to explain the non-pharmacological interventions to people with RMDs and their carers?
7.	Patient and caregiver education (health beliefs, social context, patient attitudes)	What are the competences required in the role of HPRs in patient and carer education and support to optimize health?
8.	Professionalism/remaining up to date/updating knowledge and skills/CPD	How often and how can HPRs update their education and competences?
9.	Goal setting and evaluation; patient support; goal-setting/shared decision making	What competences do HPRs need to support goal-setting and shared decision making in their practice?

10.	Health promotion and wellbeing ('maintaining good health')	What competences do HPRs need to enable people with RMDs to self-manage?
11.	HPR support to self-manage e.g. identify the needs for specific interventions	a. What competences do HPRs need to support people with RMDs to manage their life with the disease (coping) ? b. What competences do HPRs need to enable people with RMDs to self-manage their disease?
12.	Ability to evaluate effectiveness of interventions on outcomes	What competences do HPRs need to evaluate the effectiveness of their interventions?
13.	Understanding of cost-effective treatment	What competences do HPRs need to understand cost-effective treatment?

RMDs: Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases, HPRs: Health Professionals in Rheumatology, CPD: Continuous Professional Development