



BSPAR Report for BSR newsletter 5.2.07

BSPAR's website on www.bspar.org.uk has recently added two guidelines ; screening for uveitis in JIA, joint with the RCO, and autologous haemopoietic stem cell rescue. A parliamentary event on 5.12. 06 "Young People with Arthritis" was organised by NRAS. BSPAR's Biologics and New Drugs Registry continues to register patients 17 years or younger at commencement of Etanercept. Patients will remain on the paediatric registry into adult life. The UK Medicines for Children Research Network provides support for paediatric clinical trials.

The document "Position Statement on Professionals working in Paediatric Rheumatology" is out for consultation. Managed clinical networks linked with tertiary paediatric rheumatology centres are recommended. We urge rheumatology professionals treating children to join BSPAR. BSPAR meeting dates: York, 28 March 2007 and Birmingham October 11,12. 2007.

Finally, have you seen any new cases of scleroderma or linear morphea in childhood presenting since July 2005? The BPSU is working with us to obtain a true UK incidence. Adult rheumatologist members of BSPAR already receive monthly mailings about this. If you are not a member of BSPAR but have seen a child we would love to hear from you via Eileen.baildam@rlc.nhs.uk. You could combine this with a request to join BSPAR!

Written by Eileen Baildam chair of BSPAR Clinical Affairs Committee