Preliminary Programme
Call for papers

Annual European Congress of Rheumatology
Berlin, Germany
6-9 June 2012

www.eular.org
European League Against Rheumatism
Annual European Congress of Rheumatology

Berlin - Germany
6-9 June 2012

Messe Berlin
South Area

Jafféstrasse - 14055 Berlin - Germany

Mission statement
The aim is to provide a forum of the highest standard for scientific (both clinical and basic), educational and social exchange between professionals involved in rheumatology, liaising with patient organisations, in order to achieve progress in the clinical care of patients with rheumatic diseases.
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Welcome Message

Dear Colleagues,

The next EULAR Annual European Congress of Rheumatology will take place from 6 – 9 June 2012 in Berlin. The annual EULAR congresses are now a major event in the calendar of world rheumatology. As have previous congresses during the last decade, Berlin 2012 will provide a unique event for the exchange of scientific and clinical information. It will be a platform to facilitate interactions between patients, medical doctors, scientists, health professionals and professionals representing the pharmaceutical industry both from within Europe and from around the world. In addition, EULAR 2012 will again welcome delegates from the Paediatric Rheumatology European Society (PReS) to a Joint Congress. We will also continue our initiative of closer cooperation with primary care physicians and professionals – a commitment we started in London in 2011.

EULAR congresses have grown rapidly in terms of the numbers participating and the quality of contributions. This partly reflects the increased interest in arthritis and related musculoskeletal diseases which is seen in most societies. This expansion also reflects the increased availability of information on the impact and burden of these diseases and the significantly improved potential for diagnosis and treatment. The integration of health professional and patient organisations within EULAR has proved to be a considerable stimulus for these advances.

The EULAR Congress 2012 in Berlin will once again offer a wide range of topics including clinical innovations, clinical translational and basic science. In addition there will be meetings organised by people with arthritis, by health professionals and by the health care industry. The central activity of the congress will be poster presentations and poster tours with their highly interactive exchanges among participants. The Berlin event will further strengthen the reputation of the EULAR Congress as a highly innovative and informative venue for clinical and translational researchers not only within the different facets of our discipline (e.g. pain, bone, mechanical and inflammatory disorders) but also for practising physicians who will find updated high-quality information on the management of diseases commonly seen in daily rheumatological practice.

The City of Berlin needs little introduction. Its elegance and diversity with its architecture, galleries, theatres, cabarets and ambiance will provide an excellent background for clinical exchanges, international collaborations and renewal of friendships. We will take great pleasure in welcoming medical doctors, patients, health professionals and representatives of the pharmaceutical industry and hope that their stay in Berlin will be enjoyable, informative and educational.

MAXIME DOUGADOS
President of EULAR
Organising Committees

EULAR Executive Committee

– President
  Prof. Maxime Dougados, France
– President-elect
– Past President
  Prof. Paul Emery, United Kingdom
– Vice-President representing national PARE organisations
  Mr. Neil Betteridge, United Kingdom
– Vice-President representing the Health Professionals in Rheumatology
  Prof. Kare-Birger Hagen, Norway
– Treasurer
  **
– General Secretary
  **
– Editor in Chief of the “Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases – The EULAR Journal”
  Prof. Tore K. Kvien, Norway
– Education Officer
  Prof. Hans Bijlsma, Netherlands
– Liaison to EMEUNET
  Dr. Laure Gossec, France
– Liaison to the American College of Rheumatology ACR
  Prof. Iain McInnes, United Kingdom
– * Liaison International Organisations
  Prof. Josef S. Smolen, Austria
– * President UEMS Section of Rheumatology
  Dr. Deborah Bax, United Kingdom
– Executive Director
  Mr. Heinz Marchesi, Switzerland

EULAR Standing Committee Chairpersons

Ex–officio members of the EULAR Executive Committee

– Investigative Rheumatology
  Prof. Paul-Peter Tak, Netherlands
– Clinical Affairs
  Dr. Daniel Aletaha, Austria
– Education and Training
  Prof. Dimitrios Boumpas, Greece
– Epidemiology and Health Services Research
  Dr. Loreto Carmona, Spain
– Musculoskeletal Imaging
  Prof. Mikkel Ostergaard, Denmark
– Paediatric Rheumatology
  Prof. Johannes Roth, Germany
– PARE
  Ms. Jacqueline Mäder, Switzerland
– Health Professionals in Rheumatology
  Dr. Thea Vliet-Vlieland, Netherlands

* These functions are not included in the Congress Programme Committee
** To be elected in the EULAR General Assembly on 25 May 2011 in London
Organising Committees

Congress Programme Committee
Scientific, Health Professionals,
PARE, Primary Care

- The EULAR Executive Committee
  Members
  (excluding functions marked with *)
- The EULAR Standing Committee
  Chairpersons

- Prof. Xavier Mariette, France
  Chairperson of the Scientific Programme
  Committee

- Prof. Chris Buckley, United Kingdom
  Chairperson of the Abstract Selection
  Committee

- Dr. Stefan Bergman, Sweden
- Prof. Stanley Cohen, United States
- Ms. Patricia Cornell, United Kingdom
- Prof. Maurizio Cutolo, Italy
- Prof. Maria-Antonietta d’Agostino, France
- Dr. Jurgen Damen, Netherlands
- Dr. Oliver Distler, Switzerland
- Prof. Elaine Hay, United Kingdom
- Mr. Marios Kouloumas, Cyprus
- Dr. Fernando León Vazquez, Spain
- Prof. Rik Lories, Belgium
- Prof. Gary J. Macfarlane, United Kingdom
- Prof. Dennis McGonagle, United Kingdom
- Prof. Ulf Müller-Ladner, Germany
- Dr. Ana Maria Nielsen Bentsen, Spain
- Prof. Costantino Pitzalis, United Kingdom
- Prof. Berent Prakken, Netherlands
- Prof. François Rannou, France
- Prof. Jane D. Salmon, United States
- Prof. Georg Schett, Germany
- Dr. Tanja Stamm, Austria
- Dr. René Toes, Netherlands
- Prof. Ronald van Vollenhoven, Sweden
- Dr. Louise Warbuton, United Kingdom
- Dr. Richard Watts, United Kingdom
- Prof. Angela Zink, Germany
The scientific programme will open on Wednesday, 6 June 2012 at 13:00 and will close on Saturday, 9 June 2012 at 15:00.

The congress will cover the broad spectrum of the rheumatic diseases and include state-of-the-art lectures, basic science and clinical symposia, abstract sessions, presentation and discussion of difficult cases, workshops and special interest group sessions. Abstracts can be submitted on the following topics (for instructions, see “Abstract Information” in this programme on pages 12-15).

Sessions of the Health Professionals in Rheumatology, of EULAR PARE (People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe) and the Paediatric Rheumatology European Society (PReS) will extend and complement the programme on all days.

**Basic and Translational Research**

01. Genomics, genetic basis of disease and HLA/T cell recognition
02. Adaptive immunity (T cells and B cells) in rheumatic diseases
03. Innate immunity in rheumatic diseases
04. Cytokines and inflammatory mediators
05. Cartilage, synovium and osteoimmunology
06. Rheumatoid arthritis – etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
07. Spondyloarthritis - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
08. SLE, Sjögren's and APS - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
09. Scleroderma, Myosotis and related syndromes - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
10. Basic science in paediatric rheumatology

**Clinical Topics by Disease**

11. Rheumatoid Arthritis - prognosis, predictors and outcome
12. Rheumatoid Arthritis - comorbidity and clinical aspects
13. Rheumatoid Arthritis - anti TNF therapy
14. Rheumatoid Arthritis - other biologic treatment
15. Rheumatoid Arthritis - non biologic treatment
16. SLE, Sjögren's and APS - treatment
17. SLE, Sjögren's and APS - clinical aspects (other than treatment)
18. Vasculitis
19. Scleroderma, Myositis and related syndromes
20. Spondyloarthritis - treatment
21. Spondyloarthritis - clinical aspects (other than treatment)
22. Psoriatic arthritis
23. Osteoarthritis
24. Osteoporosis
25. Bone diseases other than osteoporosis, metabolic diseases and crystal diseases
26. Infection-related rheumatic diseases
27. Fibromyalgia and pain in rheumatic diseases
28. Back pain, mechanical musculoskeletal problems, local soft tissue disorders
29. Paediatric rheumatology
30. Other orphan diseases

Clinical Topics by Area of Research

31. Diagnostics and imaging procedures
32. Epidemiology, health services and outcome research
33. Rehabilitation
34. Education

Health Professionals in Rheumatology Abstracts

PARE / Patient Abstracts

Posters Viewing

Time will be reserved for poster viewing on Thursday 7 June, Friday 8 June and Saturday 9 June 2012

The Scientific Programme will be published end of April 2012 on the EULAR Website: www.eular.org
### Wednesday, 6 June 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:30</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 16:30</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00 - 18:30</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>18:30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exhibition closes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:45 - 20:00</td>
<td>Opening Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:15 - 22:00</td>
<td>Networking Platform</td>
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### Thursday, 7 June 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:15 - 09:45</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45 - 10:15</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:45</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:30</td>
<td>Poster Viewing and Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17:15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exhibition closes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30 - 19:00</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
</tr>
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### Friday, 8 June 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:15 - 09:45</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45 - 10:15</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:45</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:30</td>
<td>Poster Viewing and Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
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<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td><strong>17:15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exhibition closes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30 - 19:00</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:30</td>
<td>EULAR Congress Dinner</td>
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### Saturday, 9 June 2012

<table>
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<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 12:00</td>
<td>Poster Viewing, Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 13:30</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:45 - 14:45</td>
<td>Congress Highlights Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14:00</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exhibition closes</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**PARE Programme**  
Wednesday, 6 June 2012 to Saturday, 9 June 2012

**Health Professionals in Rheumatology Programme**  
Wednesday, 6 June 2012 to Saturday, 9 June 2012

**PResS Programme**  
Wednesday, 6 June 2012 to Saturday, 9 June 2012

**Primary Care Programme**  
Friday, 8 June 2012  
from noon until  
Saturday, 9 June 2012  
end of congress
Please visit www.eular.org in order to register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>Until 31 January 2012</th>
<th>As of 1 February 2012</th>
<th>After 30 May 2012 &amp; on site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Delegate¹</td>
<td>EUR 650</td>
<td>EUR 715</td>
<td>EUR 870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professional Delegate²</td>
<td>EUR 140</td>
<td>EUR 170</td>
<td>EUR 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARE Delegate³</td>
<td>EUR 140</td>
<td>EUR 170</td>
<td>EUR 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Care⁶</td>
<td>EUR 150</td>
<td>EUR 180</td>
<td>EUR 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainee⁴</td>
<td>EUR 230</td>
<td>EUR 250</td>
<td>EUR 280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient⁵</td>
<td>EUR 35</td>
<td>EUR 35</td>
<td>EUR 35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration fee includes 19% VAT

Take advantage of the early registration fee and register before 1st February 2012

1  Medical or Scientific Professionals, Clinicians, M.D’s, PhD’s
2  Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and other nearby Allied Health Professionals. A letter of confirmation of your status from the Head of Unit or Institute must accompany the formal registration form.
3  Representatives of national PARE organisations
4  The Trainee Registration is available for "Clinicians in Training" and "Non Tenured Scientists" (Scientists not being Professor or Associate Professor) under 35 years of age. A letter of confirmation of your status from the Head of Unit or Institute must accompany the formal registration form.
5  A Doctor’s certificate must be submitted with the registration form.
6  Primary Care registration from Friday 12:00 to Saturday 15:00

Participant’s Registration Fee includes

- Admission to the scientific sessions from Wednesday, 6 June to Saturday, 9 June 2012 unless otherwise stated
- Congress documents, including badge
- Final programme and Abstracts on USB key
- A printed copy of the Abstract Book can be ordered at registration time for EUR 20
- Access to the industry exhibition and posters
- Opening plenary session and networking platform on Wednesday, 6 June 2012 at the ICC Berlin (South Entrance)
- Coffee breaks
- Lunches on Thursday 7 and Friday, 8 June
- Free transportation ticket on the Berlin network, from Wednesday, 6 June to Saturday, 9 June 2012
– 12-month free subscription to the EULAR journal “The Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases – The EULAR Journal” (12 issues), with the opportunity of renewing the subscription at a concessionary rate thereafter or again, automatically, by attending the next Congress, 12 – 15 June 2013 in Madrid, Spain

**Group Registrations**

For **10 persons and more**, please contact MCI at *eular.reg@mci-group.com* for special conditions.

**Confirmation**

An email / letter of receipt will be sent to you on completion of your registration. This letter must be presented at the registration desk in order to receive the congress bag and badge.

**Changes and Cancellation Policies**

Cancellations and changes to your original registration (including excursions and congress dinner) must be made in writing to the MCI reservation department at the address below **before 5 April 2012**. An administrative fee of EUR 45 will be deducted from all refunds. No fees will be refunded after this date.

**EULAR 2012**

c/o MCI SUISSE SA  
Rue de Lyon 75 - CH-1211 Geneva 13 - Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 33 99 590  
Fax: +41 22 33 99 651  
E-mail: eular.reg@mci-group.com

**Registration Desk Opening Hours**
*(Messe Berlin South entrance)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5 June 2012</td>
<td>17:00 - 20:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6 June 2012</td>
<td>08:00 - 22:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7 June 2012</td>
<td>07:45 - 19:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8 June 2012</td>
<td>07:45 - 19:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9 June 2012</td>
<td>08:30 - 15:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please read this information carefully

1. Abstracts must be submitted in one of the four different categories:
   a. Medical or Research Professional / Clinician
   b. Health Professional / Practice and Research
   c. PARE Member / Patient
   d. Primary Care

   The categories are subdivided into topics (see pages 7-8). The correct category and topic must be selected to ensure correct scoring. The content of the abstract must be topic related.

2. Please read carefully all instructions in the abstract submission system before preparing your abstract.

3. For standardisation, the acceptable length of the abstract is not more than 3600 characters and 50 lines, author’s details and headers included. This also includes non-visible characters such as spaces and punctuation.

4. The abstract should be structured into the following sections:
   a. A title which clearly indicates the nature of the investigation
   b. Background
   c. Objectives
   d. Methods
   e. Results
   f. Conclusions
   g. References

5. One graph/image can be included with the following criteria:
   Image width: min. 50 pixels - max. 750 pixels
   Image height: min. 50 pixels - max. 750 pixels
   Image quality: min. 96 dpi - max. 600 dpi
   Image file size: min. 50 KB - max. 500 KB
   Allowed file type: gif, jpg

   Please note that insertion of graphs and images will significantly reduce the number of remaining allowed characters.
6. Abstracts can be saved in “Draft” status to be finalised until the submission deadline (31 January 2012, midnight CET). Therefore, the submitter will be required to create a user account.

7. Abstracts fulfilling all criteria can be saved in “Final submission” status. Only abstracts in “Final submission” status will be regarded as successfully submitted and considered for the congress. Abstracts in “Final submission” status can be re-edited and modified until the submission deadline (31 January 2012, midnight CET).

8. An abstract can only be submitted if the “Rules and Regulations” on the online abstract form are accepted.

9. Conflict of interest: It is the intent of EULAR to provide high-quality sessions focused on educational content that is free from commercial influence or bias. Thus the submitting author of an abstract is requested to declare any potential conflicts of interest for all authors during the abstracts submission.

10. Abstracts accepted for the congress are subject to the “Abstract Embargo Rules” and the “Transfer of Copyright” as published on the EULAR website www.eular.org.

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**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- The internet abstract submission system works best with Internet Explorer 7.0 or higher and Mozilla Firefox 3.0 or higher
- Cookies and JavaScript need to be enabled

**GENERAL**

Abstracts can only be submitted online via the online abstract submission form that can be found in the section “abstracts” on the official EULAR 2012 Congress website: www.eular.org/eular2012

*Abstracts sent by post or email will not be accepted. No exceptions will be made.*
11. The corresponding author has the right to grant, and does grant, on behalf of all authors an exclusive licence on a worldwide basis to the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd and EULAR to publish the abstract (if accepted) in any media and to exploit all subsidiary rights.

12. Only abstracts that contain original data can be submitted.

13. Abstracts that have been published or have been accepted for publication in a print or online journal more than 12 months prior to EULAR 2012 cannot be submitted.

14. The reviewers will judge the abstracts according to the scientific or clinical value, relevance to EULAR, suitability of methods to aims, conclusions confirmed by objective results, objectivity of statements, description of methods used, ethics, originality of work, standard of English and overall impression.

15. Please ensure that your abstract does not contain spelling, grammatical or scientific errors, as it will be reproduced exactly as submitted. No proofreading will be done.

16. Accepted abstracts will be published either in the congress abstract book, a supplement to “The Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases – The EULAR Journal”, or on USB keys which will be distributed to participants together with the congress bag. Accepted abstracts will also be available on-line on the EULAR website, about one month prior to the congress and thereafter in the EULAR Abstracts archives.

17. The submission of an abstract constitutes a formal commitment by the presenting author to present the abstract (if accepted) orally or as a poster in the session and the time assigned by the EULAR Scientific Committee. We therefore recommend that submitters of abstracts register for the congress simultaneously with abstract submission.

18. Abstracts not adhering to these guidelines will be rejected. If you do not agree with any of these rules, you should not submit an abstract. The final decision about acceptance of an abstract will be taken by the EULAR Scientific Committee. EULAR does not correspond on the acceptance/rejection of an abstract.
19. If you need to withdraw your abstract, a written statement reflecting the reasons for this decision must be sent to the EULAR Secretariat or MCI not later than 15 April 2012.

Instructions for Abstract Presentations

- If an abstract is selected for oral presentation, the presenting author as specified at submission will be requested to present it in the assigned session. Details will be communicated to the author by mid-April 2012.

- If an abstract is accepted as a poster presentation, the presenting author will be requested to be available for discussion during the corresponding poster viewing session.

- Posters will be set up close to the exhibition area.

- The posters need to be printed in landscape. The usable surface of the display panels measures 94 cm (height) x 180 cm (width); adhesive material will be provided.

Please use letters large enough to be read from a distance of 1.5 meters.
Thank you for making EULAR a winning experience... looking forward to seeing you next year in Berlin
Exhibition

During the congress, EULAR will present an attractive exhibition to all delegates and accompanying persons. The abstract poster presentation area is embedded in the exhibition. Coffee, sandwiches and other refreshments will be available in the exhibition and poster area. The exhibition will open on Wednesday 6 June 2012.

Exhibition hours will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6 June 2012</td>
<td>12:00 - 18:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7 June 2012</td>
<td>08:30 - 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8 June 2012</td>
<td>08:30 - 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9 June 2012</td>
<td>09:30 - 14:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Satellite Symposia

A number of satellite symposia will be organised during EULAR 2012 at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6 June 2012</td>
<td>13:00 - 14:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7 June 2012</td>
<td>08:15 - 09:45 and 17:30 - 19:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8 June 2012</td>
<td>08:15 - 09:45 and 17:30 - 19:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Satellite symposia are governed by EULAR guidelines. Symposia are strictly prohibited during the official programme hours. Sponsorship of all symposia and special events must be approved by EULAR.

The “Exhibitor & Sponsoring Manual”, the “EULAR Code of Practice” and the “Abstract Embargo Rules” are available on the EULAR website www.eular.org

For further information regarding the exhibition, satellite symposia or other sponsored items, please contact:

**EULAR 2012**  
c/o MCI SUISSE SA  
Rue de Lyon 75 – CH-1211 Geneva 13 – Switzerland  
Tel +41 22 33 99 590 – Fax +41 22 33 99 601  
E-mail: eular2012@mci-group.com
Congress Venue: Dates and Location

The Annual European Congress of Rheumatology EULAR 2012 will be held at the

MESSE BERLIN
South Entrance (Messe Berlin Südeingang)
Tel: +49 30 3038 3000
Website: www.messe-berlin.com or www.icc-berlin.com

The congress opens on Wednesday, 6 June 2012 and closes on Saturday, 9 June 2012.

The EULAR congress opening ceremony, followed by a welcome reception, will be held on the evening of Wednesday, 6 June 2012 at the congress centre itself.

“The Congress Area South is part of the Messe Berlin fairgrounds. The impressive, multipurpose area at the South Entrance, comprising the spacious arena in front of the doors to the complex, offers a variety of options to facilitate successful congresses and exhibitions.

Direct access to the grounds from one of the world’s best public transport systems means that getting here is always quick and easy. An urban motorway close to the South Entrance provides a direct link with Berlin’s international airports. A total of 12,000 parking spaces are available on and around the grounds. There are taxi ranks and light rail stations next to South Entrance. Whichever means of transportation you may choose, the city centre and points of interests are easily reached in short times.

Please note: the congress will not take place at the ICC Berlin, but in the Congress Area South at the fairgrounds of Messe Berlin

EULAR will offer a free transportation pass included in the registration fee to all congress participants.
Scientific Secretariat
EULAR Secretariat
Seestrasse 240
CH-8802 Kilchberg/Zurich
Switzerland
Tel +41 44 716 3030
Fax +41 44 716 3039
E-mail: eular@eular.org
Website: www.eular.org

Organising Secretariat
Registration, abstract handling, exhibition and sponsorship, hotel reservations
EULAR 2012
c/o MCI SUISSE SA
Rue de Lyon 75
CH-1211 Geneva 13
Switzerland
Tel +41 22 33 99 590
Fax +41 22 33 99 601
E-mail: eular2012@mci-group.com
Website: www.mci-group.com

Local Organising Agency
Transfers and company events
EULAR 2012
c/o MCI Deutschland GmbH
Markgrafenstrasse 56
DE-10117 Berlin
Germany
Tel: +49 30 20 45 912
E-mail: eularberlin2012@mci-group.com
Website: www.mci-group.com/deutschland
Italian Pharmaceutical Companies

EULAR 2012 has chosen MCI Rome to collect - on behalf of EULAR - all applications from Italian pharmaceutical companies and file them with the appropriate Italian Health Ministry officials.

For further information, please contact:

MCI Rome
Attn. Mrs Maria Grazia PAOLELLI
Via della Ferratella in Laterano 41
00184 Rome (Italy)
Tel   +39 06 70495693
Fax   +39 06 7096292
E-mail: maria.paolelli-mci@mci-group.com

Certificate of Attendance

A certificate of attendance will be given with the congress bag to each participant. It can be used by the participant to claim CME points in his/her own country.

CME

The EULAR Congress 2012 has CME approval for the official scientific programme. Exact number of points will be confirmed on-site on the Certificate of Participation. Satellite symposia are not CME approved unless the organisers have gained approval for the symposium from UEMS.

Congress Documents and Badges

Congress documents should be collected on-site at the registration desk at the Messe Berlin South Entrance. Name badges must be worn visibly at all times during the congress and in the exhibition area.

Food and Beverage

During official breaks, complimentary coffee and tea will be served in the exhibition/poster area. Lunches on Thursday and Friday are included in the registration fee. Restaurants and sandwich bars will be available in the congress centre.

Official Language

The official congress language is English. No simultaneous translation is provided.

Private Events Policy

All requests from companies/organisations to host private events during the congress must be submitted in writing to the EULAR Secretariat in Zurich (Kilchberg) by 1 March 2012 at the latest.
Services for the Disabled
All the rooms at the congress centre are fully accessible to participants with disabilities.

Smoking Policy
Smoking in the congress centre is only permitted in designated areas outside.

Transportation Pass
A free transport “Berlin Pass” will be given to each registered participant at the congress, available for the 4 days of the congress.

Berlin’s public transport system BVG operates Bus, U-Bahn (Underground), S-Bahn (Urban railway) and Deutsche Bahn (DB) Regio.

To get to the Entrance Area South from the city center you may use following options. The main stop name is “Messe Süd”.

- Southern S-Bahn ring: S41, S46 in the direction of “Gesundbrunnen” and “Westend” to “Westkreuz”. Change train for S3, S75 in the direction of “Spandau” to “Messe-Süd”.
- Northern S-Bahn ring: S42 in the direction of “Schöneberg” to “Westkreuz”. Change train for S3, S75 in the direction of “Spandau” to S-Bhf “Messe-Süd”.
- S5 in the direction of “Westkreuz” or S7 in the direction of “Potsdam” to S-Bhf “Westkreuz”. Change train for S3, S75 in the direction of “Spandau” to “Messe-Süd”.
- S3 or S75 in the direction of “Spandau”: all lines to “Messe-Süd”.

The East-West connection through the city centre (S 3, 5 and 75) passes main stations such as: Ostkreuz, Ostbahnhof, Alexanderplatz, Hauptbahnhof, Zoologischer Garten and Westkreuz.

BVG can transport you anywhere in the city and in the surrounded areas. Berlin is part of the Berlin-Brandenburg fare system (VBB). When travelling within the borders of Berlin, please use the ticket for Berlin AB.

Please note: if you arrive at Berlin-Brandenburg Airport (BER), you need to buy a Berlin ABC ticket as the airport is NOT located within the city borders.

Travel to Berlin
Berlin can be easily reached from all continents. The new “Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg” (BER) will just be ready for EULAR 2012.

Easy Access by Rail
The main railway stations in Berlin are: Hauptbahnhof, Zoologischer Garten, Alexanderplatz and Ostbahnhof. Germany and Berlin have a very good rail network with Euro-City, Regio, Inter-City and Inter-City-Express trains.

Visa
Germany is part of the European Union. Many visitors can enter EU countries without a visa. Congress delegates who require a visa can obtain one without problem from the German Embassy in their home country.
Facts about Germany

As Europe's largest economy and most populous nation, Germany remains a key member of the continent's economic, political, and defence organisations. European power struggles immersed the country in two devastating World Wars in the first half of the 20th century and left the country occupied by the victorious allied powers of the US, UK, France and the Soviet Union in 1945. With the advent of the Cold War, two German states were formed in 1949: the western Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and the eastern German Democratic Republic (GDR). The decline of the USSR and the end of the Cold War allowed for German reunification in 1990. Since then Germany has expended considerable funds to bring eastern productivity and wages up to western standards. Germany is situated in the middle of Europe and its capital Berlin is easily accessible to everyone.

Today, Germany has over 80 million inhabitants and is part of the European Union. Germany is a modern industrial country with a long scientific tradition. Germany has for many years offered price stability, and it is one of the most visited countries in Europe. No vaccinations are required. Germany is not prone to natural disasters or social unrest. The cities are generally safe and everyone can move around freely and without hindrance.

Facts about Berlin

Berlin fascinates visitors with its contrasts and contradictions. It was the capital of Germany until 1945. After World War II, it became a city divided politically and by the famous Berlin Wall. When the border between East and West Berlin was opened on 9 November 1989, it marked the beginning of the end of the division of a nation which has existed since 1945. With the proclamation of the State Treaty between the two German states in October 1990, Berlin once again became a united city, and shortly after again capital of Germany.

With an area of 880 km$^2$, and a population approaching 4 million, Berlin is Germany's largest city. Its inhabitants represent many nationalities, languages and cultures and give Berlin its cosmopolitan flair and flavour. East Berlin, once the capital of
East Germany, is a fascinating mixture of historical Berlin and former socialist city, which is rapidly developing a new face. West Berlin, long famous for its diverse cultural and political life, has retained its brash, lively character.

Since November 1989 a lot of things have changed in both parts of the city, in both East and West. After 40 years of separation, the two Berlins are becoming one at a breath-taking pace. History is being made these days in Berlin and people living here are a part of it. Visitors to Berlin can experience this too.

**Berlin - City of Contrasts**

Berlin has many faces. Visitors can wander about the museum village of the earliest Berlin settlement, through the lovely villa district of Dahlem, or promenade and shop in the elegant shops along the famous Kurfürstendamm and Unter den Linden. They can enjoy the colourful multicultural scene in Kreuzberg or Prenzlauer Berg, or discover the rustic village character of the outer districts. With its rivers, lakes, canals, islands, parks and forests, Berlin also offers many opportunities to enjoy nature and take a break from the hectic pace of big city life.
Berlin Around the Clock

The cultural life of Berlin is rich and varied. There are museums appealing to every taste and interest including the renowned National Gallery, the Egyptian Museum (with the famous bust of Queen Nefertiti), the Bauhaus Museum, the Pergamon Museum and the exquisite porcelain collection at Palace Charlottenburg, to name just a few.

Visitors from all over the world have come to Berlin to enjoy the famous nightlife. Berlin is open 'round the clock' and that is no exaggeration! Numerous restaurants, pubs, cafés and bars offer local and international specialties, and Jazz clubs, cabarets, revues, discos and dance clubs keep up the beat until the early hours of the morning.

Discover Berlin as the Metropolis between East and West, two cities becoming one! "Berlin ist eine Reise wert". Indeed, Berlin is worth a trip.

Banks

The most current foreign currencies (in cash or traveller checks) can be exchanged at most hotel cashier stations, and of course at any available bank. Banking hours vary according to the bank used but the most common are:

- Monday - Friday 08:30-13:30
- Tuesday and Thursday 08:30-13:30 / 15:00-18:00
- Saturday - Sunday closed

Climate

Berlin has a continental climate, temperate and marine with cool, cloudy, wet winters but pleasant and hot springs and summers. In June you can count on sunny weather and an average temperature of 22 to 25°C.

Currency

The German currency is the Euro (1 Euro = 100 cents).

Shopping

Department stores and most shops are open from:

- Monday - Friday 09:00/10:00 - 20:00
- Saturday 09:00/10:00 - 16:00
- Sunday closed

Visitors from outside the European Union are able to reclaim the VAT on goods purchased, either at the airport or at the border. Refund
application forms are taken care of on departure day. Look for the tax-free sign in shops and please remember to ask for the VAT reclaim form at the time of the purchase.

**Credit Cards**

Major credit cards (Visa, American Express, Eurocard/Mastercard, Diners Club) are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.

**Insurance and Liability**

It is recommended that participants obtain adequate cover for travel, health and accident insurance before they depart from their country of residence. EULAR and MCI as organisers cannot accept responsibility for personal injuries, or loss of, or damage to, private property belonging to the congress participants and accompanying persons.

**Electricity**

The standard voltage in Germany is 220 volts. Most hotels provide 110-vlt outlets for shavers.

**Taxi**

Berlin's taxis are one way of getting around in the city, although the meter ticks away alarmingly when you are stuck in the rush hour traffic. There is an initial charge of EUR 3.20 when starting the journey. After that, the charge is depending on the distance, with a slightly higher rate per kilometre if leaving the city limits. Give the driver a rounded up sum in payment.
Telephones
For calls to Germany, use the international code +49. The regional code for Berlin is 30. Calls from Germany follow international standard dialling rules.

Time
Germany follows Central European Time (CET) which is GMT +1 hour in winter and GMT + 2 in summer.

Tipping
You are not expected to tip on top of restaurant service charges but you can leave a little extra if you feel service warrants it. If there is no service charge, the customer should consider leaving a 10% tip, but this is not obligatory. Tipping taxi drivers is not common practice, but you are expected to tip the porter at top-end hotels.

Visas
You do NOT need a visa for Germany for business, personal visits or tourism if you are:
• a citizen of an EU country
• a citizen of Norway, Switzerland, Iceland
• from a country listed on the Foreign Ministry list
• not staying more than 90 days

In this case, a passport or ID Card valid for the duration of your stay is sufficient.

Citizens of other countries may need a visa. Please contact your travel agent or the nearest German diplomatic authorities for further information. If you should need a visa, please apply early enough to allow sufficient handling time to the authorities. You may ask the EULAR Organising Secretariat for an official letter of invitation (proof of registration required).
Opening Plenary Session and Networking Platform
at the Messe Berlin South Entrance

Wednesday, 6 June 2012 – 18:45-22:00
The Opening Plenary Session will provide first-hand information as well as a detailed report on EULAR projects and activities and will be followed by a networking platform enabling all registered participants to connect and discuss with their colleagues and friends.

Move to Improve
Friday 9 June 2012 – departure at 6:30am
Support the community by participating to this unique social responsibility outreach programme aiming to improve public perception of musculoskeletal diseases.

EULAR Congress Dinner at the Station Berlin
(Dresdner Bahnhof)
Friday, 8 June 2012 – 20:30-24:00
Price: EUR 95 per person (not included in the registration fee)

The EULAR 2012 Congress Dinner will be hosted in the “Old Station, Berlin” (also known as the “Dresdner Bahnhof”). The Congress Dinner is a great opportunity to see and experience a historically significant building while enjoying a relaxed dinner and entertainment with colleagues from around the world.

The original Station building was opened in 1875 and facilitated travel between Berlin and Dresden for a mere 7 years when tensions between the Prussian and Saxony railway administrations put a halt to its operations. The original Station was demolished in 1887 and the building that stands on the same location today was opened in 1913 and was used as the largest package hub of Berlin until 1997. Today, although no longer used as a station, it represents all the characteristics of a charming industrial monument, including cathedral-like vaults, glass roof and steel beams. The Station is conveniently located close to the Potsdamer Platz giving hassle-free access by underground train and plentiful parking nearby.
MCI has reserved a large number of hotel rooms in various hotels in different price categories. The majority of hotels are located in the city centre but also in the surroundings of the Messe Berlin. Berlin attracts many tourists. Hotel reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. Please book before 5 April 2012 in order to guarantee your booking.

Inquiries
Please address all inquiries, requests for additional information and changes or cancellations of room reservations directly to MCI.

EULAR 2012
c/o MCI SUISSE SA
Rue de Lyon 75
CH-1211 Geneva 13
Switzerland
Tel +41 22 33 99 598
Fax +41 22 33 99 631
Email: eular.hotel@mci-group.com
www.mci-group.com

Reservation and Payments
For hotel booking, a deposit payment for the first night is required with your reservation. Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of your deposit payment. This prepaid deposit will be deducted from your hotel bill when checking out from the hotel. Additional expenses such as mini-bar and telephone must be paid directly to the hotel when checking out.

Group Reservations
Special rules and regulations apply for group reservations. Please contact MCI for further information.
Change and Cancellation of Hotel Booking

All changes to hotel reservations will be handled by MCI. Please do not contact the hotel directly. A handling fee of EUR 45 per hotel room will be charged for every hotel modification received after 20 April 2012.

All cancellations must be sent to MCI in writing (fax, letter, or e-mail). For cancellations received before 5 April 2012 deposits will be refunded less EUR 75 for administrative costs. After this date, no refund will be possible.

In case of late cancellations (after 5 April 2012), rooms cancelled, cancelled nights or no-show, we reserve the right to charge the full stay if the hotel room can not be re-sold.

Check-in/Check-out Time

Hotel check-in time is 15:00 or later. If arriving after 18:00, please notify MCI in advance. Check-out time is 11:00.

Methods of Payment

Payment of registration, hotel deposit and excursions must accompany the form and may be made by:

- Credit card: EuroCard/MasterCard, Visa, American Express

- Bank transfer to the following account:
  MCI Suisse SA - EULAR 2012
  UBS SA – CP 2600 – CH
  1211 Geneva 2 Switzerland
  Account n° 240-369.393.71L
  Clearing 240 – Swift UBSWCHZH12A
  IBAN CH18 0024 0240 3693 9371L

  Mention: EULAR 2012 and participant’s name

  All costs are to be borne by the ordering customer

- Payment by personal cheques cannot be accepted
- All payments have to be made in Euro (EUR).
# List of Hotels in Berlin

All rates are in EUROS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>HOTEL NAME</th>
<th>Single Use</th>
<th>Double Use</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Closest Tube Station</th>
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Rates apply for standard room; other room types like deluxe room, junior suite, suite, etc. are available upon request.

All rates are in EUR per room, per night, and include Breakfast, City Tax and VAT at 7% at the time of printing (April 2011). VAT may increase without notice and any such change will be reflected in final rates.
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1 October 2011
at
www.eular.org/eular2012

Deadline for abstract submission
31 January 2012

Early registration deadline
31 January 2012

No refund for cancellation of hotel room after
5 April 2012

No refund for cancellation of registration after
5 April 2012

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Annual European Congress of Rheumatology
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Madrid, Spain
12-15 June 2013

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