

## **What a Rheumatologist may “expect” from Treatment Guidelines ?**

Emmanuel Maheu  
St-Antoine Hospital  
and, most of the time..., private practice,  
Paris, France

## **What we « expect »?**

➤ Of course the Best !

OARSI 2008-Roma pregress  
symposium

- But, first of all,  
do we “expect” something ?
- Especially in OA: no “gold”  
treatment, no targeted therapy  
such as biologics, or zoledronic  
acid/strontium ranelate...

OARSI 2008-Roma pregress  
symposium

➤ Despite the lack of THE  
physiopathological treatment, and  
while waiting for it, there is probably a  
need for support and clarification  
regarding therapies that may be used  
in OA

OARSI 2008-Roma pregress  
symposium

## **What means the Best ?**

- **1.** UPDATED guidelines  
Listing and putting in order treatments  
available at a time, with current evidence  
for efficacy and safety
- **2.** Based on the MOST RECENT  
available evidences, BUT ALSO on  
CLINICAL PRACTICE (including socio-  
cultural differences across countries...)  
and EXPERT OPINION

OARSI 2008-Roma pregress  
symposium

## **What means the Best ?**

- **3.** NOT the “Tables of the Law”,  
but a hierarchised set of guidelines/  
recommendations

OARSI 2008-Roma pregress  
symposium

### ***What means the Best ?***

- **4.** USEFUL (HELPFUL) and PRACTICAL: do not forget we are practitioners, i.e. working face to face with patients, their pain, discomfort, QOL alteration and skepticism during whole day.
- **5.** Overall, REALISTIC, SIMPLE to recall and APPROPRIATE to daily clinical practice.

OARSI 2008-Roma precongress  
symposium

### ***For what goals ?***

- To **help to standardize** our ways to treat OA patients: i.e. which steps climb (through various countries, rheumatology practices, etc.)
- To **take into account OA** site(s) and **diversity**
- To **help to take a decision** facing a single patient (patients must know guidelines exist)
- Hopefully to help improving patients state
- To **support us** when discussing with Health National Authorities about indications, costs and reimbursement

OARSI 2008-Roma precongress  
symposium

Thank you for your kind attention !

OARSI 2008-Roma precongress  
symposium