

OARSI TREATMENT GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

Summary progress report for the OARSI Board Meeting: September 2009

Primary Objective

To develop global evidence-based, consensus recommendations for the management of hip and knee OA.

Achieved with publication of guidelines as a two part document

1. Zhang W, Moskowitz RW, Nuki G, Abramson S, Altman RD, Arden N *et al.* OARSI recommendations for the management of hip and knee osteoarthritis, Part I: Critical appraisal of existing treatment guidelines and systematic review of current research evidence. *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage* 2007;**15**:981-100
2. Zhang W, Moskowitz RW, Nuki G, Abramson S, Altman RD, Arden N *et al.* OARSI recommendations for the management of hip and knee osteoarthritis, Part II: OARSI evidence-based, expert consensus guidelines. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage* 2008;**16**:137-62.

Paper II and paper I are currently the two most frequently cited papers published in *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage*.

Secondary Objectives

Promotion, translation, dissemination and adaptation of the treatment guidelines.

Since September 2008 these objectives have come under the remit of the OARSI communications committee.

Updating

A systematic cumulative update of the published research evidence from 31st Jan 2006- 31st Jan 2009 has been completed and a draft of a paper '**OARSI RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HIP AND KNEE OSTEOARTHRITIS. Part III: Changes in evidence following systematic cumulative update of research published through January 2009**' has been completed and is currently being considered by members of the committee (Abstract attached). It will shortly be submitted to the Board for approval before submission to *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage* for publication. Following appraisal of the cumulative, updated evidence contained in this paper, the Treatment Guideline Committee will reconsider their strength of recommendation for each of the published recommendations and reach consensus on whether the wording of existing recommendations needs to be changed, and whether new recommendations need to be formulated.

Funding

Although the OARSI Board was not able to fund the development of the proposed OARSI evidence-based OA research database (eBOARD), the Treatment Guidelines Committee is very grateful to the Board for continuing to provide some funding for Dr Weiya Zhang at the University of Nottingham to allow him to supervise the annual update and cumulative systematic review of treatments for OA. The committee believes that the Board will feel that

this has been money very well spent when the third paper documenting the changes in evidence is published shortly. The committee respectfully requests that this funding is renewed for the next 12 months.

Audit and development of standards for the minimum quality of care

At the meeting of the committee in Rome it was agreed that an audit of treatments being currently offered to patients with OA in primary and secondary care settings in different countries was desirable, and this should be repeated 3 or 5 years following publication, and hopefully, implementation of the OARSI guidelines. It was thought that a simple, inexpensive instrument should be developed which would be suitable for an on-line survey of treatments being offered to patients with OA by general practitioners and specialists around the world, including, especially, those countries in which there are currently no national treatment guidelines for OA.

Nigel Arden will draft, cost and circulate a proposal including a questionnaire with focus on the core set of non-pharmacological and pharmacological therapies that will form the basis for Quality Indicators and minimum standards for Quality of Care.

George Nuki
Chair