



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2022**

Message from the President

2022, new perspectives

2022 has been a year of (partially) re-starting different activities. RIMS has maintained its unique character of being a multidisciplinary network of healthcare professionals. Looking back to 2022, we had the possibility to start, despite the pandemic, a new activity: the RIMS Webinars. RIMS Webinars have been a great success and, almost every month, we had the opportunity to meet each other virtually, to discuss different topics that are of interest to our community.

Despite the situation, all health care professionals showed resilience and capacity to adapt in a continuously changing situation, giving support to people with MS. All these activities, have been in a certain way tracked by the RIMS community through different surveys that were published in literature, witnessing RIMS willingness to continue disseminating knowledge related to MS Rehabilitation, and beyond.

But we all really missed the opportunity, at least for the first part of 2022, to see and discuss with each other in-person, and as a multidisciplinary network we really needed to bring our community together and share expertise and knowledge in-person. ECTRIMS-RIMS 2022 gave us the possibility to restart meetings and working together, and this possibility will become more concrete in 2023.

Taking a look into the future...

2023 will be a year full of “live” events and possibilities to meet each other during SIG meetings, the Annual Congress, the ECTRIMS-RIMS summer school, and virtually, almost every month during the Webinars. We have, as Executive Board members, SIG members, and delegates, the responsibility and the competencies to guide RIMS to continuously improve the science of rehabilitation, both from clinical and research perspectives.

Looking forward to having an inspirational and wonderful 2023 all together!



Giampaolo Brichetto
RIMS President



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About RIMS

OUR MISSION

We are a specialized network of professionals, researchers and stakeholders promoting high-quality evidence-based rehabilitation to optimize functioning and quality of life of people with and affected by MS.

OUR AIMS

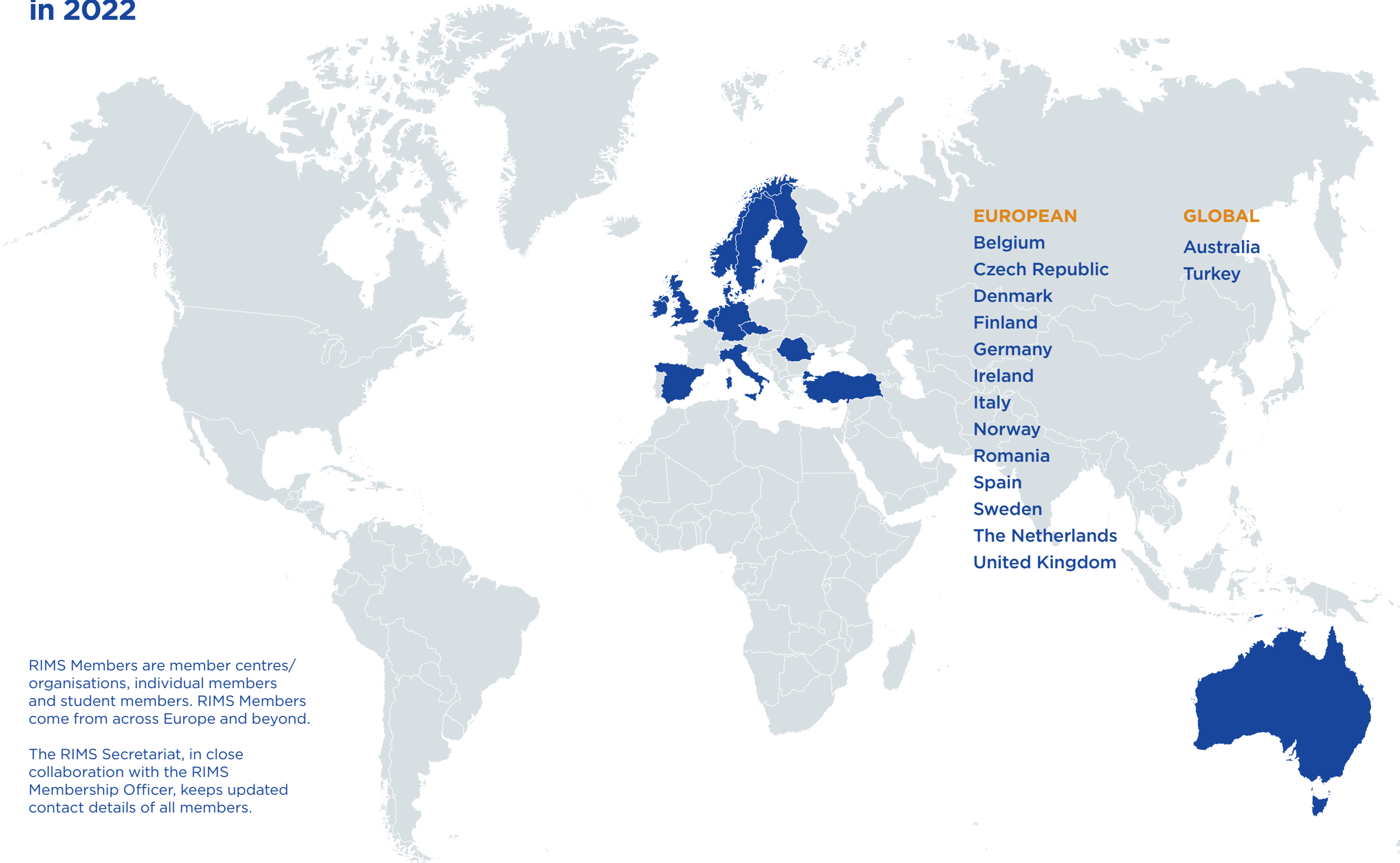
- Connecting – building bridges (between research & clinical practice, between professionals, between rehabilitation and other (health care) services, relevant organizations, industry partners)
- Facilitating translation of clinical questions to scientific evidence and implementation of research findings to clinical practice
- Supporting MS rehabilitation knowledge development and dissemination
- Promoting rehabilitation in MS

ADVISORY BOARD

We are proud to call these members the RIMS Advisory Board:

- **Prof. Peter Feys**, Hasselt University (BE)
- **Prof. Ulrik Dalgas**, Aarhus University (DK)
- **Prof. John Deluca**, Kessler Foundation (US)
- **Prof. Alan Thompson**, University College London Hospitals (UK)
- **Prof. Mario Battaglia**, Italian MS Society (AISM) (IT)
- **Prof. Vincent de Groot**, VUMC (NL)
- **Dr. Claude Vaney**, Berner Klinik Montana (CH)
- **Dr. Anne Helme**, MS International Federation
- **Mr. Herbert Temmes**, European MS Platform
- **Mrs. Clare Walton**, MS Society

RIMS Members in 2022



EUROPEAN

- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Norway
- Romania
- Spain
- Sweden
- The Netherlands
- United Kingdom

GLOBAL

- Australia
- Turkey

RIMS Members are member centres/ organisations, individual members and student members. RIMS Members come from across Europe and beyond.

The RIMS Secretariat, in close collaboration with the RIMS Membership Officer, keeps updated contact details of all members.

The Executive Board 2020-2023

RIMS is managed by an Executive Board, which – according to the by-laws – is composed of eight elected officers, including the President, Secretary and the Treasurer.



THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF RIMS, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
Lars Hvid (DK), Roshan das Nair (NO/UK), Piet Eelen (BE), Letizia Leocani (IT),
Daphne Kos (BE), Anders Skjerbaek (DK), Giampaolo Brichetto (IT),
Jana Pöttgen (DE),

Name	Background	Country
Giampaolo Brichetto President	Rehabilitation Physician	Genova Italy
Daphne Kos Past President	Occupational Therapist	Leuven & Antwerp Belgium
Anders Skjerbaek Treasurer	Physiotherapist	Ry & Haslev Denmark
Roshan das Nair Membership Officer	Psychologist	Nottingham United Kingdom
Piet Eelen SIG Officer	Nurse Specialist	Melsbroek Belgium
Jana Pöttgen Fellowship Officer	Psychologist	Hamburg Germany
Letizia Leocani RiGra Officer	Neurologist	Milan Italy
Lars Hvid Communication Officer	Exercise Physiologist	Aarhus Denmark

Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Special Interest Groups (SIG's) aim to promote research, stimulate evidence-based rehabilitation and to support people with MS and their caregivers in living with MS. Traditionally, an intensive 'in-between' meeting of 1,5 to 2 days takes place between conferences. During 'in-between' SIG meetings at one of the member centres across Europe, there are scientific and clinical presentations on a chosen topic as well as free presentations. A clinical or practical session (e.g. patient cases, demonstration of technology; visit to a centre) is often part of the meeting.

Bladder, Bowel & Sexuality

Chair
Corinne Oosterlinck, Belgium
corinne.oosterlinck@mscenter.be

Co-chair
Sara Rinaldi, Italy
sara.rinaldi@aism.it

Communication & Swallowing

Chair
Leena Heikkola, Finland
leena.heikkola@abo.fi

Co-chair
Hans Bogaardt, Australia
hans.bogaardt@adelaide.edu.au

Mobility

Chair
Carme Santoyo, Spain
csantoyo@cem-cat.org

Co-chair
Lousin Moumdjian, Belgium
lousin.moumdjian@uhasselt.be

Occupation

Chair
Inger Grethe Loyning, Norway
ingergrethe.loyning@mssenteret.no

Co-chair
Sofie Ferdinand, Belgium
sofie.ferdinand@mscenter.be

Patient Autonomy

Chair
Anne Rahn, Germany
anne.rahn@uksh.de

Co-chair
Andrea Giordano, Italy
andrea.giordano@istituto-besta.it

Psychology & Neuropsychology

Chair
Jessica Podda, Italy
jessica.podda@aism.it

Co-chair
Anita Rose, United Kingdom
draerose@btinternet.com

Special Interest Groups Meeting Schedule 2022

SIG in-between meetings 2022

SIG Occupation September 1-3, 2022 National MS Center Melsbroek Belgium Face to face Meeting	SIG Bladder, Bowel & Sexuality October 26-28, 2022 ECTRIMS-RIMS Conference 2022
SIG Psychology & Neuropsychology October 26-28, 2022 ECTRIMS-RIMS Conference 2022	SIG Patient Autonomy October 26-28, 2022 ECTRIMS-RIMS Conference 2022
SIG Mobility October 29, 2022 Amsterdam Face to face Meeting	SIG Communication & Swallowing November 4, 2022 Virtual Meeting

SIG Report Mobility



➤ SIG In-Between Meeting

Where?
Amsterdam University
medical centers
De Boelelaan 1118
1081 HZ Amsterdam

When?
October 29, 2022

Topic?
Gait in MS

➤ About us

The **SIG Mobility** consists predominantly of physiotherapists complemented by medical/rehabilitation doctors, researchers, sport scientists and adapted exercise specialists. It focuses its activities not solely on mobility issues in MS, but also on – for example – physical rehabilitation methodologic approaches, exercise training or technological rehabilitation innovations. The group has established its role as an active RIMS actor e.g., in terms of a number of successfully implemented European multi-center studies/projects.

Participants

Akar Kardelen (TR)	Jane Honoré (DK)
Alon Kalron (IL)	Johanna Jonsdottir (IT)
Andrea Tacchino (IT)	Kamila Řasová (CZ)
Asiye Tuba Ozdogar (TR)	Lars Hvid (DK)
Atay Vural (TR)	Leni Meuws (BE)
Balland Chloe (NL)	Lotte Poukens (BE)
Celine Geelen (BE)	Lousin Moumdjian (TR)
Christel Dello (BE)	Ludovico Pedullà (IT)
Cintia Ramari Ferreira (BE)	Marie Poncelet (BE)
Claudio Marcello Solaro (IT)	Nele Vanbilsen (BE)
Edwin Roger Meza Murillo (ES)	Nickeline Schmidt Larsen (DK)
Ellen Jensen (DK)	Paul Van Asch (BE)
Erica Grange (IT)	Pelin Vural (TR)
Famke Vanderhauwaert (BE)	Peter Feys (BE)
Felipe Balistieri Santinelli (BE)	Rachele Di Giovanni (IT)
Feray Güngör (TR)	Carme Santoyo (ES)
Filipe Costa Gomez (BE)	Seda Daştan (TR)
Gaelle Vertriest (BE)	Sophie Borgers (BE)
Griet Gysemberg (BE)	Thomas Klyve (NO)
Hilal Karakas (TR)	YoncaZenginler Yazgan (TR)
Ilse Bosmans (BE)	Zuhal Abasıyanık (BE/TR)
Ipek Yavas (TR)	

SIG Report Mobility

Summary of the meeting

We had 45 registrations on the 2022 SIG Mobility in-between meeting held in Amsterdam on October 29th 2022, and finally 43 MS health professionals and researchers (e.g. neurologists, physiotherapists, rehabilitation physicians, sports scientists) participated during the working day.

The meeting took place immediately after the ECTRIMS/RIMS conference in Amsterdam, and was officially inaugurated on a very special social event on Friday evening. The local organizer, Vincent de Groot and team, prepared a very active and fun activity, in a Ping-Pong bar. All the participants could enjoy an unforgettable night of competition, laughs and also delicious snacks and drinks in a very good atmosphere.

On Saturday the meeting was focused on biomechanics and treatment strategies for gait disturbances in MS. We had three keynotes on this topic: "Gait patterns: is there consensus?" by Sjoerd Timmermans, and "Gait patterns and indications for (orthotic) treatment" by Vincent de Groot and "Energy cost and strain of walking: what is the clinical relevance?" by Arianne Gravesteyn, all from the Netherlands. The keynotes were followed by an enriching discussion on motivational interviewing and the question on how to reach the target population.

Furthermore, we had two slots with 5 short presentations in total from the group members. These slots gained a lot of interest and the presentations were followed by short but lively discussions.

During the first slot, Rachele Di Giovanni, from Italy presented "Activity and efficacy of radial shock wave therapy in reducing spasticity in people with multiple sclerosis". Cintia Ramari from Belgium presented "Prevalence of motor and cognitive fatigability in progressive MS and related factors".

During the second slot, Filipe Cota Comes, from Italy presented "Reliability and validity of the Melsbroek Disability Scoring Test

(MDST)". Ludovico Pedullà, from Italy presented "Testing feasibility and acceptance of a remotely-supported physical activity intervention in people with multiple sclerosis". And finally, Kamila Rasova, from the Czech Republic presented "Neuro Proprioceptive 'facilitation, inhibition' physical therapy in specially programmed virtual environment has a potential to activate plastic and adaptive processes of the CNS in MS"

After lunch, 4 workshops and a tour of the VU rehabilitation department took place. The topics of the workshops were:

- Demo laboratories for gait analysis and exercise testing
- Selecting and testing orthoses (AFO, HFAD)
- Practical: frame running
- Practical: gait analysis using the GaitScript tool

All the presentations were very much appreciated by the audience and led to a lot of questions. It was emphasized that gait assessment and treatment must be not only based on biomechanics but also in patients' goals, environment, and lifestyle, as well as a good clinical analysis which needs experience and specific skills.

After more than 6 hours of a very fruitful and discussion-rich shared SIG Mobility meeting, the session closed at 15.30h.

Feedback:

The meeting overall was received very positively, and the delegates did request to move back to the format of a 2-day event, which would be conducted in 2023. The delegates also stressed the fact that they enjoy the practical workshops of the meeting and encourage us to continue with including workshops in upcoming SIG mobility meetings.

SIG Report Mobility

SIG mobility survey project

The SIG community participated in a multicenter study, which involved 11 countries to understand the impact of COVID-19 on physical activity and technology use from the perspective of PwMS and HC.

The following are the output which resulted from the project:

1. — Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Physical Activity and Associated Technology Use in Persons With Multiple Sclerosis: An International RIMS-SIG Mobility Survey Study. Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Moumdjian, L., T. Smedal, E. C. Arntzen, M. L. van der Linden, Y. Learmonth, L. Pedulla, A. Tacchino, K. Novotna, A. Kalron, Y. Z. Yazgan, U. Nedeljkovic, D. Kos, J. Jonsdottir, C. Santoyo-Medina and S. Coote (2022).

2. — The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Physical Therapy Practice for People with Multiple Sclerosis: A Multicenter Survey Study of the Rims Network. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders. Kahraman, T., K. Rasova, J. Jonsdottir, C. S. Medina, D. Kos, S. Coote, A. Tacchino, T. Smedal, E. C. Arntzen, G. Quinn, Y. Learmonth, L. Pedulla, L. Moumdjian, and A. Kalron (2022).

Submitted manuscripts:

3. — Physical activity in multiple sclerosis: meeting the guidelines at the time of COVID-19 pandemic. Pedulla, A, Santoyo-Medina, C, Novotna, K, Moumdjian, L, Smedal, T., Arntzen, E.C., Van der Linden, M., Learmonth, Y., Kalron, A., Gungor, F., Nedeljkovic, U., Kos, D., Jonsdottir, J., Coote, S, Tacchino, A.

4. — Changes in physical activity participation during the COVID-19 pandemic are associated with socio-behavioural factors in persons with multiple sclerosis: results of an international survey study. Van der Linden, M., Kos, D., Moumdjian, L., Kalron, A., Coote, S., Smedal, T., Arntzen, E.C., Tayfur, S.N., Pedullà, L., Tacchino, A., Jonsdottir, J., Santoyo-Medina, C., Novotna, K., Yazgan Y.Z., Nedeljkovic, U., Learmonth, Y.

5. — Changes in physiotherapy services and use of technology in people with multiple sclerosis during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jonsdottir, J., Santoyo-Medina, C., Kahraman, T., Kalron, A., Rasova, K., Moumdjian, L., Coote, S., Tacchino, A., Grange, E., Smedal, T., Arntzen, E.C., Learmonth, Y., Pedulla, L., Quinn, G., Kos, D.

Next in-between meeting

Looking forward to meeting finally in Bilbao, after 3 years of delay, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, on the 17-18th of March 2023.

SIG Report

Patient Autonomy



➤ About us

The **SIG Patient Autonomy** is committed to understand the decisional needs of people with MS and health providers along the disease trajectory, and to support shared decision-making (SDM) in MS. Strategies to enhance patient self-management and coping are also at the core of our group.

➤ Summary of the meeting

Around 16 MS health professionals and researchers (e.g., neurologists, psychologists, nurses, health scientists) participated in the 2022 SIG meeting held in a hybrid form during the ECTRIMS / RIMS 2022 conference on October 26th.

We used this 1-hour meeting to present a new project and discuss consumer involvement in the development of guidelines. In particular, the new project was presented by Prof. Leo Visser, who presented the holistic MS digital intervention 'Better today'. It was designed by people with MS to support people with MS to cope with the disease by accessing relevant MS information and gain support from experts and peers. It includes peer-to-peer support, a knowledge centre, a section on goals of care, and integrated monitoring. It is part of a larger project, which aims to interact with the patient medical record form, to develop an information package for newly-diagnosed people with MS. It is available in Dutch, English and German language. After the presentation, there was a rich discussion within the group.

Then, Dr. Insa Schiffman (INIMS, Hamburg, Germany) presented an ongoing project on patient involvement in guidelines, after which a few points were discussed and there was interest to have an in-between meeting on the topic "consumer involvement".

All in all, the meeting was fruitful and discussion-rich.

➤ SIG In-Between Meeting

Where?

Hybrid meeting during ECTRIMS / RIMS 2022

When?

October 26, 2022

Topic?

Update on current projects

Participants

Anne Christin Rahn
Andrea Giordano
Alessandra Solari
Chris Heesen
Julia Peper
Klara Novotna
Anna Sippel
Karin Riemann-Lorenz
Insa Schiffman
Nicole Krause
Ingrid Galan
Yvonne Hetteema
Sara Rinaldi
Roger Meza-Murillo
Leo Visser
Lasse Skowgard
Leontine Heisen

SIG Report

Patient Autonomy

➤ Current projects

We continued the work on two projects in our SIG, one on needs of people with primary progressive MS (NIPS; RiGra project), and one project on motherhood choice in MS. We conducted a special meeting with the people involved in this project in July 2022.

➤ Future plans

We would like to continue to discuss patient and public involvement in research, and invite interested and active researchers/clinicians to join and present their projects on this and other issues. We will continue the ongoing projects within the SIG. Within the NIPS project, a survey with health professionals involved in the care of people with PPMS is planned for this year. And for the project on motherhood choice in MS, we plan to conduct a multinational survey this year addressing women with MS considering motherhood.

➤ Next in-between meetings

We would like to organize an in-between meeting within our group to discuss patient and public involvement in research. Another meeting will be jointly organized with the SIG Bowel, Bladder and Sexuality during the RIMS conference 2023.

SIG Report Occupation



➤ About us

The **SIG Occupation** is an interdisciplinary network of health care professionals with an interest in enhancing activity and participation for persons with MS. We welcome colleagues who are clinicians, researchers and educators. Our overall goal is to unite evidence-based and practice-based knowledge and skills and to explore the ways in which gaps in knowledge can be presented in order to enable, enhance and empower participation in persons with MS.

➤ Summary of the meeting

This was our first face-to-face meeting since 2019, so being together again was lovely. The topic of the meeting, stress management in MS, was addressed through bio-psycho-social perspectives, by different health care professionals and a person living with MS. We had a broad approach to the topic starting with Understanding the role of stress in MS and influences on disease progression. We reflected and discussed how to measure stress in MS, with still no answer to the question. The construct of stress is complex, and so far, no single outcome measure exists to grasp it. The Melsbroek team also provided presentations on coping strategies, and the importance of sleep. The social perspective was nicely presented through a presentation and case report discussion on social context as mediating factor in stress management. Factors like the persons' identity and roles, priorities and values, empowerment and autonomy were emphasized, in addition to the importance of assessing the matter of context systematically. Mindfulness training has been shown effective for wellbeing and stress reduction. After a brief presentation of the theory behind, we got to try it out ourselves through a workshop led by mindfulness therapist Corinne Oosterlinck.

➤ SIG In-Between Meeting

Where?

National MS Center
Melsbroek, Belgium
(Face to face).

When?

September 1-3, 2022

Topic?

Stress management in MS

Participants

Daphne Kos (BE)
Famke Vanderhauwaert (BE)
Sofie Ferdinand (BE)
Heleen Beckerman (NL)
Isaline Eijssen (NL)
Jelka Jansa (SI)
Lene Kallmayer (DK)
Luc Vleugels (BE)
Corinne Oosterlinck (BE)
Niels Peeters (BE)
Rina Verdoodt (BE)
Sinéad Hynes (IE)
Ann Huybrechts (BE)
Marleen Van der Eynde (BE)
An Van Nunen (BE)
Chantal Dello (BE)
Inger Løyning (NO)

Local hosts, Niels Peeters and Sofie Ferdinand organized the meeting very well. In addition to the scientific program, we had a tour of the National MS Center Melsbroek, and enjoyed beautiful sights of Melbroek through the accommodation at the spa wellness resort and welcome reception at the nearby golf resort. Seeing familiar faces again and connecting to new MS rehab colleagues is also important during the in-between meetings, sharing knowledge and clinical practice during the formal and informal parts of the programme.

➤ Future Plans

3-hour meeting during the annual RIMS conference
Topic: Center presentations and discussions on multidisciplinary rehabilitation.

➤ Next in-between meeting

September 2023.
Topic: Vocational rehabilitation
Location: to be determined

SIG Report

Psychology and Neuropsychology

➤ About us

The **SIG Psychology and Neuropsychology** started as a Clinical Care Committee of Psychology and Neuropsychology in 1997 during the RIMS meeting in Bad Winzheim. The first chairman of the group was Rudi Vermote and co-chair Dawn Langdon. Since 2001 the group was led by Päivi Hämäläinen and Agnete Jonsson (chair and co-chair, respectively). Liina Vahter has been chair since 2010 assisted by co-chair Anita Rose since 2011. Liina was leading the group until 2015 and Anita was her Co-Chair. From 2015 the Chair is Jana Pöttgen with again Anita as Co-Chair. At the RIMS congress in December 2021 the new chair Sarah Thomas from UK was elected. Again, Anita Rose from UK is the Co-Chair.

The idea of the group is to gain and maintain contemporary scientific knowledge about psychological and neuropsychological issues in MS and to share practical experience about everyday clinical work in different European countries within the RIMS network. The main role of our SIG is to provide evidence-based information regarding psychological and neuro-psychological impairment in MS and its rehabilitation opportunities for RIMS members and other persons who are interested in this field. But also shared research projects were conducted in the past and are planned in the future. Our international collaboration is the best platform for team work.

The meetings have both lectures and case presentations with open discussion. To enhance the evidence based knowledge many scientific work and results are distributed. To integrate current scientific knowledge into daily work is one of the main issues. Own international scientific projects are increasingly coming into focus. Recent collaborative works were a review regarding sexual dysfunctions in MS and the relation to psychological and neuropsychological aspects in MS. Another review focused on psychological interventions to treat sexual dysfunctions in MS. Both projects result in scientific publications (see DOI: 10.7224/1537-2073.2020-012; DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0193381).

The current project – the CompACT validation – was finished 2020 and the first paper regarding the development process is published (DOI: 10.3390/ijerph19063150).

Next step is to publish the psychometric results in a scientific journal. Now the focus is again to generate new projects we are interested in and we can work on in an international context. New interested psychologists and neuropsychologists are welcome and everybody who is interested in being involved in our research projects is invited to take part. Please send an e-mail to: saraht@bournemouth.ac.uk

➤ SIG In-Between Meeting

Where?

Digital Meeting

When?

October 28, 2022

Topic?

Informal chat about ideas and future projects

SIG Report

Psychology & Neuropsychology

➤ Summary of the meeting

Taking up the role as chair just a couple of months ago, a very short digital meeting on Friday the 28th was scheduled with the purpose of having an informal chat with some of the professionals and researchers who were able to join. Mieke Dhooge, Ambra Giovannetti and Annalisa Garaventa took part to the SIG Psychology/Neuropsychology meeting.

Some needs/ideas were highlighted and discussed to improve the activity of the SIG and consolidate its network for the next year:

- Moments of training or practice course for the next SIG in-between meetings have been highly recommended (e.g., mindfulness or cognitive behaviour therapy);
- Enlarge the community (maybe include more PhD students/young researchers that are interested in SIG topics and, in particular, digital health?) could be an adding value for our SIG;
- Since Anita Rose sadly left her role, the identification of a co-chair represents a crucial need to organize future activities.

The idea is to meet in presence in March/April 2023 (the venue will be announced soon).

Annual RIMS Conference

The 27th Annual RIMS Conference took place from October 26-28, 2022 in Amsterdam. Every 3 years RIMS has a joint conference with ECTRIMS (European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis).

Several RIMS sessions were included in the programme:

Scientific sessions

- Aging and MS: impact of age on MS rehabilitation
- Innovations in MS: Technology-supported rehabilitation
- People with MS at work: the role of vocational rehabilitation

Educational sessions

- Updates in MS rehabilitation: cognitive and physical functioning and fatigue management
- Updates in MS rehabilitation: speech and swallowing, bladder and bowel management and sexual health

RIMS prize winners

Best Poster Award

Marie Kierkegaard (SE)
Davide Cattaneo (IT)
Ilse Lamers (BE)

Best Oral Presentation

Laurits Taul-Madsen (DK)
Stefan M. Gold (DE)
Mathilde Lefort (FR)

Congratulations to the winners. The first prize has received a free registration to the Annual Conference 2023.

SIG meetings

Several Special Interest Groups met during the Annual Conference in Amsterdam. More information can be found in the reports.

General Assembly

The General Assembly was held at the end of the conference on October 28. The RIMS members of 2022 approved the financial report and welcomed Prof. Giampaolo Brichetto as RIMS president, taking over from Daphne Kos.

28th Annual RIMS Conference

SAVE THE DATE!
May 4-6, 2023
Genoa, Italy



RIMS Grant Programme

Criteria for Applications

The programme aims to facilitate collaborative projects, particularly between RIMS members from different centres and countries, in the domain of MS rehabilitation.

Mandatory criteria

- The applicant must be a RIMS member (at the individual or center level) at the time of submission.
- Only electronic submissions (via email), submitted within the deadline are accepted.

Non-mandatory criteria

- The applicant is an early career researcher or a young clinician (<36 year old).
- Multi-center and international collaborative projects, particularly between RIMS members/centres (at least two different countries).

Judging criteria

- Projects feasibility with the amount granted
- Relevance for RIMS is well described
- Provide a detailed budget

Deadlines

Application details can be found on the RIMS website at Career advancement: www.eurims.org

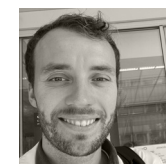
RIMS Fellowship Programme

The fellowship is available to young professionals in Europe, preferably non-doctors, in order to facilitate their training in rehabilitation related to Multiple Sclerosis among RIMS member centres. The goal of the programme is to promote the multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitation in MS and to encourage the exchange of information and professional growth for those working in the field of MS.

You can find all information (criteria, procedure and document to apply) on the RIMS website: www.eurims.org.

Please contact the RIMS Secretariat when you have any questions regarding the fellowship: secretariat@eurims.org

2022 beneficiaries of a RIMS Fellowship:



Morten Riemenschneider

FROM

The Danish MS Hospitals, Denmark

TO

CEMCAT, Spain

PERIOD:

October 2-6, 2022

Morten: "My visit at CEMCAT was a very inspirational and rewarding experience. The stay was well organized by the CEMCAT coordinators, and I got a good overview of the organisation and activities of the centre. The primary objective of my visit was to learn from the experiences at CEMCAT with rehabilitation as a supplemental treatment of acute MS relapses, and the primary investigators of this happily shared their knowledge and experiences. This is of great value to a planned future study at the Danish MS Hospitals, also investigating the potential of multidisciplinary rehabilitation in the treatment of acute MS relapses. Moreover, future collaborations were discussed and in that sense the RIMS fellowship truly connect centres and drive the rehabilitation in MS field forward."



Sinéad Hynes

FROM

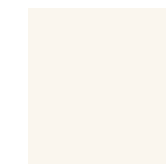
University of Galway, Ireland

TO

MS Senteret Hakadal, Norway

PERIOD:

to be defined in June/July 2023



Gary McEwan

FROM

Queen Margaret University, Scotland

TO

Exercise Biology Research Group, Aarhus University, Denmark

&

The Danish MS Hospitals, Ry, Denmark

PERIOD:

to be defined in April 2023

Project

The Patient Reported Outcomes Initiative for MS (PROMS)

RIMS' lead:
Giampaolo Brichetto

RIMS is involved in the initiative overall in the SSC and in particular in WG on Research Validation and Development (Giampaolo Brichetto) and in the E-Health Working Group (Letizia Leocani and Daphne Kos).

For WG1 Rims contributed to design a protocol for a global survey to be launched in 2023 with the aim of identifying gaps in PROMS that needs to be developed with a co-creation framework.

For WG3 RIMS contributed to develop an e-health catalogue of vendors and then to launch a dedicated survey.

Our Partners



The Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC) is the largest North American multidisciplinary membership organization dedicated to defining and advancing the standard of care of MS patients. Our mission is to promote high quality MS care through education, training, clinical research, networking, and targeted advocacy efforts.



ECTRIMS is a professional organisation dedicated to the understanding and treatment of Multiple Sclerosis. A joint RIMS-ECTRIMS conference is organised every 3 years.

For more information, please visit www.ectrims.eu



The European Multiple Sclerosis Platform (EMSP) is a Pan-European umbrella organization with over 30 years of expertise. We work together with our members and our partners to ensure that the more than 1 million people living with MS in Europe, have a real voice in determining their own priorities. We rely on a growing network of 43 member organisations from 37 European countries.

The needs of the 1 million people with MS in Europe are the main focus of our advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns to influence European decision-makers and EU policy-makers. We gather data and provide knowledge and expertise to relevant stakeholders and encourage high quality research and the dissemination of excellent, evidence-based information on MS.

Our flagship projects aim to improve quality of life of people with Multiple Sclerosis, as well as to ensure that they receive high quality equitable treatment, care and can access employment.

Learn more about EMSP here: www.emsp.org

Or here: annualreport.emsp.org



IJMSC is a peer-reviewed international bi-monthly publication focusing on multiple sclerosis and related autoimmune disorders of the central nervous system. The primary goal of IJMSC is to publish original articles covering various clinical aspects of MS, particularly those relevant to the multidisciplinary management of the disease and its consequences. Topics include neurologic, nursing, rehabilitative, psychological, and psychosocial care and quality-of-life issues of people with MS and reflect the diversity of the journal's readership. Ongoing collaboration between RIMS and the IJMSC is facilitated by a memorandum of understanding. Recently completed projects include the publication of a theme issue with content from RIMS members in 2020.

For more information, please visit www.ijmsc.org



The MS International Federation is a unique global network of MS organisations, people affected by MS, volunteers and staff from around the world. Our movement is made up of 47 MS organisations with links to many others.

For more information, please visit www.msif.org



Multiple Sclerosis Journal (MSJ) is a peer-reviewed international journal that focuses on all aspects of multiple sclerosis, neuromyelitis optica and other related autoimmune diseases of the central nervous system. All abstracts from RIMS conferences are published in MSJ, the official journal of RIMS.

For more information, please visit journals.sagepub.com/home/msj



World Federation for NeuroRehabilitation

The World Federation for Neurorehabilitation (WFNR) is a not-for-profit global, multi-disciplinary organisation with a mission to raise awareness of neurorehabilitation, provide training and education, encourage research and collaboration and provide a forum for all professionals interested in neurorehabilitation across the world. The WFNR has over 5000 members worldwide, 38 Special interest Groups and is affiliated to 42 National Societies. WFNR holds a biennial World Congress.

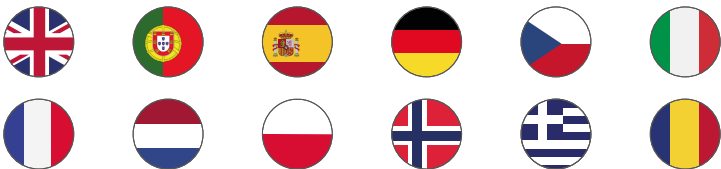
Partnership Work EMSP



MS Nurse PRO 2022

Within the multidisciplinary team, MS nurses have a key central role in the care and support for people living with multiple sclerosis (PlwMS) and their families. Despite this central role, training opportunities for MS nurses are often limited, partly due to a lack in specific training, partly due to the time constraints and staffing shortages that nurses face today.

MS Nurse PRO is a unique, free, online education program for nurses and other healthcare professionals who work with PlwMS. MS Nurse PRO was developed by EMSP in collaboration with RIMS, is supported by internationally renowned experts in MS, is accredited by the Royal College of Nursing and the International Organization of MS Nurses and is endorsed by more than 15 different European professional associations for nurses or neurologists. MS Nurse PRO is available in 13 different languages, recently translated in Hungarian:



The 7th module on Research in Nursing Practice, just launched at Ectrims 2022, offers nurses a clear understanding of the value of research, why research is important in MS nursing and how research can be implemented in clinical practice to improve patient outcomes.

The course includes: testimonials from research nurses describing their roles and the challenges they encounter, examples of real-world nursing research stories and Nursing tips to help the nurses understand the research processes and ways in which it can be implemented in practice. After completing each module, a test can be taken to obtain a certificate.

Today, MS Nurse PRO has approximately 9000 users, of which 90% are nurses and 10% are other healthcare professionals. Feedback from nurses who have completed the training clarifies the positive impact of MS Nurse PRO on their clinical practice and their direct care of PmMS; 97% of nurses that considers the training as relevant for their day-to-day job and 62% of nurses that confirmed the training has positively changed their MS nursing practice.

In addition to a training program, MS Nurse PRO is also a platform for consulting and collaborating with colleagues and MS experts from the national and international MS community, with the aim of supporting and empowering MS nurses by sharing best practices and networking with colleagues in Europe. MS Nurse PRO together with the European MS Nurse community want to contribute in this way to a better and higher quality care and support for PlwMS and their families.

For the second year running MS Nurse PRO is partnering up with Birmingham City University to offer a virtual Learning Module, to gain the opportunity to deepen knowledge and gain university-level credits. On the successful completion of the course, participants will be awarded 20 UK university credits (equivalent to 6-8 ECTS).

We are committed to eliminating financial obstacles by offering ten educational grants covering all the enrollment costs, virtual group and 1:1 support throughout the course as well as the costs of the certificate of completion. Applying for 2024 can be done here: <https://msnursepro.org/educational-grants>

Piet Eelen - Chair Syllabus Committee EMSP

➤ Join MS Nurse Pro today:
<https://msnursepro.org>



Our Sponsors

In 2022, RIMS has continued to benefit from the unconditional support coming from the industry. This funding enabled RIMS to further develop its network of rehabilitation experts through jointly executed cross border projects and research. RIMS acknowledges the importance of this support and confirms its strict following of EFPIA's Code of Ethics.

Main Partner



“It is a privilege for Roche to support RIMS in their mission to raise the profile of rehabilitation and thereby transform the lives of people living with MS.”

Why become a Member of RIMS?



Annual Conference and Workshop at reduced registration fee

Individual members as well as a maximum of six professionals from a member centre are able to get a RIMS Annual Conference and RIMS Workshop registration fee at a special reduced member price.



Join a Special Interest Group

A number of Special Interest Groups (SIG's) have been established. The groups meet at least once a year during RIMS annual conference. The SIG's also organise professional annual in-between workshops, which are supported financially by RIMS. RIMS members are offered free attendance to the SIG in-between meeting and the social dinner free of charge.



Make use of the RIMS Grant Programme

RIMS offers a Grant Programme to support multi-centre studies, a shared best practice network, or a SIG project. RIMS financially supports one grant each year.



Get access to E-Educational Material

Some of the SIG's have published papers or pamphlets on important MS issues. These are distributed among RIMS members. E-Education material (podcasts, webcasts from conference presentations and outcome measures) are available on the RIMS website and provide useful information for your research or clinical practice.



Take advantage of the Fellowship Exchange Programme

RIMS offers a Fellowship Exchange Programme to young European rehabilitation professionals, to facilitate their training in MS rehabilitation at RIMS member centres. The aim of the programme is to promote the multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitation in MS and to encourage the exchange of information and professional growth for those working in the field of MS.

Membership Types & Fees



€25
(€30,25 incl VAT)
STUDENT
Annual
Membership
Fee

€100
(€121 incl VAT)
INDIVIDUAL
Annual
Membership
Fee

€400
(€484 incl VAT)
CENTRE
Annual
Membership
Fee

The annual membership fee (incl VAT) is valid for 1 calendar year (January 1st – December 31st). One can join RIMS at any time of the year, but the membership will expire at the end of that year.

Students who would like to join RIMS will be requested to send a student identification document.

IMPORTANT: Always mention your Membership ID and name or institution when paying via bank transfer.

All members need to create an online account on the RIMS website. Bank transfer payment of Membership fees is preferred.

Pay Online

Visit us at our website at www.eurims.org/administration/how-to-join.html

Please contact secretariat@eurims.org for assistance or more information.

Pay Offline (via Bank transfer)

TO: Seauton BVBA
Rue Léon Frédéricq 14
4020 Liège, Belgium
BE0464 882 990

BANK: Bank J. Van Breda & CO NV
Mechelsesteenweg 147
3020 Herent

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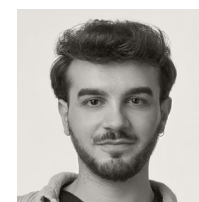
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