

European Guideline for physiotherapy in Parkinson's disease

Newsletter 1, March. 2011

Essential dates coming up:

14 March	Extended deadline for the participating ER-WCPT members organisations (and other members not yet involved but wishing to do so) to provide a name and a CV of their representative (1 person), and express their preference for either Writing <u>or</u> Reading Group via s.keus@neuro.umcn.nl
15 March	Selection representatives for European Writing and Reading Groups
15 March	Deadline registration WPT 2011 Satellite Educational Program Parkinson's disease via www.wcpt.org/node/34557
31 March	Final possibility to send link to questionnaire to random selection members
June	1 st meeting Writing Group members in Amsterdam (at WPT 2011)

Contact: Ms. dr. Samyra H.J. Keus via s.keus@neuro.umcn.nl

The project

In August 2010, the development of a European guideline for physiotherapy in Parkinson's disease (PD) has started. It concerns a collaboration of member organisations of the European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (ER-WCPT). The project was initiated after a request of the Association of Physiotherapists in Parkinson's disease Europe (APPDE). Currently their members use the Dutch national guideline for physiotherapy in PD (2004, Royal Dutch Society for Physical Therapy, KNGF) which is available in English, free of charge, at www.appde.eu. To date, this guideline is still unique in its field and used in many countries. In accordance to international accepted guidelines for guideline development, it now needs to be updated. The APPDE members expressed their wish for a more generic European guideline, which can be easily adapted towards the needs of individual European countries. In July 2010, the KNGF agreed to financially support this ambitious project. In addition, the participating member organisations of the ER-WCPT also financially contribute. The guideline will be developed according to international accepted standards for guideline development (e.g. using the AGREE instrument). The existing Dutch guideline will be adapted and updated. In addition, barriers in delivering optimal care, as well as therapists' learning needs will be identified. These will be reflected in key questions for which additional recommendations will be set out in the guidelines. The guideline will be ready in August 2012.

Introduction project leaders



Samyra Keus (PT PhD)
gained her PhD degree on '*Physiotherapy in Parkinson's disease. Towards evidence-based practice*'. 1st author of the KNGF-guideline for PD (*Mov Disord*, 2009). Chaired the Dutch national task force developing recommendations for the organization of multidisciplinary care in PD. National coordinator of the *ParkinsonNet* trial.



Marten Munneke (PT PhD)
Scientific director of the Parkinson Centre Nijmegen (ParC), a National Parkinson Foundation (NPF, U.S.A.) acknowledged centre of excellence. Together with Prof. dr. Bastiaan Bloem founder of ParkinsonNet, regional networks for the optimization of multidisciplinary PD care (*ParkinsonNet* trial, *Lancet*, 2010).

Collaboration



What has been done so far (2nd half 2010):

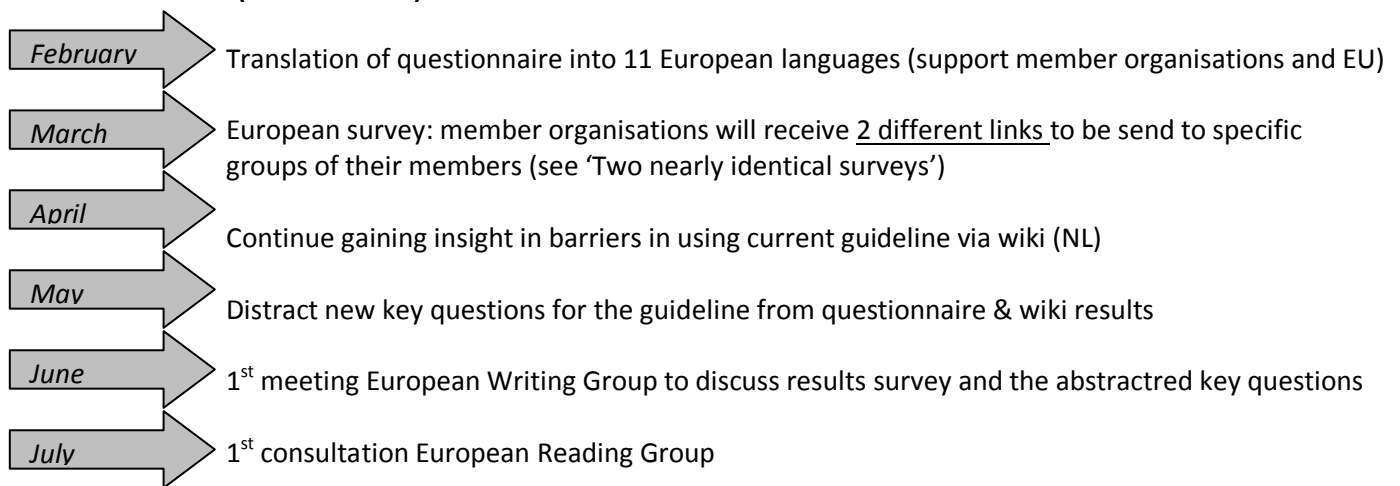
- All ER-WCPT members have been invited to participate: 18 members have agreed to participate, 15 of which are also able to contribute financially (see 'Participating countries')
- Identification of barriers in using the current guideline identified through focus groups of expert users (NL)
- Development and testing of a questionnaire to gain insight in current care, therapists' learning needs and perceived barriers for delivering optimal care (in collaboration with APPDE members)
- Development of a web-based format to make the questionnaire available online for all countries
- Web-based questionnaire available online in English

Participating countries



**unable to contribute financially, representatives are offered to be part of the Guideline Review Panel*

Current activities (first half 2011):



Two nearly identical surveys:

1. For a random selection (n=600) of members working in clinical practice. Reminder to be send after 2 weeks
2. For as many PD expert therapists as possible, e.g. through special interest groups or websites

Next newsletter, May 2011:

- Introduction members European Writing Group
- First results European survey & Dutch evaluation guideline use