

Diakonhjemmet Sykehus AS (DS)

The department of rheumatology at Diakonhjemmet hospital is responsible for patients with joint diseases for the city of Oslo (ca. 500.000 inhabitants) and for referral within the south-east of Norway (ca. 1.000.000 inhabitants). The department has an integrated National Resource centre for Rehabilitation in Rheumatology which has focus on treatment of patients with complicated rehabilitation demands with focus on non-pharmacological treatment (including coping, access to care, patient satisfaction, evaluation of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health). It had the following most relevant research milestones: European Research on Incapacitating Diseases and Social Support (EURIDISS) 1991, Oslo Rheumatoid Arthritis Registry (ORAR) 1994, Early arthritis clinic 2004, Ultrasonography 2004. The department has recently applied to EULAR for acknowledgement as a center of excellence in the field of rheumatology.

Key Staff

Till Uhlig has worked with epidemiological aspects of rheumatoid arthritis during his thesis, being involved in the work and now responsible for the Oslo Rheumatoid Arthritis Register (ORAR). This has been instrumental in providing high-quality data on health-related quality of life in RA. Areas of research interest have revmatoid artritt and now also osteoarthritis, especially outcome research

and rehabilitation. He has given a number of lectures on a national and international level. He has published over 70 papers in the referee based international literature. He is a member of the EULAR standing committee for clinical epidemiology. He is a regular reviewer for several rheumatology journals. In 2001 he began his current tenure at the National Resource Centre for Rehabilitation in Rheumatology at the department in Rheumatology, Diakonhjemmet Hospital as the leading consultant of the research unit, and was director of that unit until 2005. His research interests focus on the development and systematic evaluation of clinical treatments for rheumatic diseases, especially rheumatoid arthritis, and on rehabilitation aspects. During the period 2006-2007 he was Medical Science Manager at Bristol-Myers Squibb Ltd., and returned in 2008 again fully to his current position as leading consultant at the national resource centre.

Professor **Tore K. Kvien** is Head of the Dept. of Rheumatology, Diakonhjemmet Hospital and professor at the University in Oslo. His interests are clinical, epidemiological and therapeutic aspects of rheumatoid arthritis and related diseases. He has contributed with more than 200 original scientific articles in peer reviewed international journals. His research interests focus also on patient involvement, secondary osteoporosis, imaging modalities and ankylosing spondylitis. He has been working in the OMERACT setting on outcomes in rheumatic diseases. He is the current Editor of the Annals of Rheumatic Diseases and is the immediate past President of EULAR.

Contacts

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