

## Take Home Messages

**RIMS Workshop - Rehabilitation in Progressive MS** 

December 13, 2019

Milan, Italy



#### KEY NOTE II: Palliative Care in MS – *Dr. Alessandra Solari*

The **provision of palliative care** (either general or specialist, homebased, inpatient or outpatient) is recommended with weak strength for patients with severe MS

40/41 guideline recommendations are **of weak strength**: Further research on the integration of palliative care and MS care is needed

Areas that currently lack evidence of efficacy include advance care planning, the management of symptoms such as fatigue and mood problems in this population, interventions for caregivers and HPs

A Solari 2019

Palliative Medicine



#### PRACTICAL SESSION I: Physical Outcome Measures in MS – *Mr. Anders Skjerbaek*

Four simple and valid physical outcome measures in MS:

9-Hole Peg Test :Assessment of dexterity
25-foot walk test: Short walking (speed) test
Six Spot Step Test :Walking, Balance and coordination
5 times Sit To Stand : Lower extremity muscle strength

#### To ensure valid test results

Minimize bias from the tester and from the test-person

To become a valid tester ....you need to practice ©







## PRACTICAL SESSION I: Managing Time and Energy in Daily Life – *Prof. Daphne Kos*

- Life of people with (progressive) MS is more than medical management and ADL
- Interests (often) do not change
- Create awareness of strategies and devices to manage time and energy
- Take into account: person, activity, environment



# PRACTICAL SESSION I: Dysphagia in MS – *Mrs. Francesca De Biagi*

Dysphagia might have a high prevalence in MS with heterogeneous clinical representations amongst patients

A punctual assessment is crucial to plan the proper goals of the treatment. Multiple diagnostic techniques are available: screenings, clinical assessment, questionnaires, instrumental examination

There are no data in literature to support a particular treatment over another one. Three treatment options are possible: rehabilitation, compensation and adaptation.



#### PRACTICAL SESSION I: Management Techniques Bladder and Bowel Problems – *Dr. Sara Rinaldi & Mr. Piet Eelen*

- Evaluation (identify symptoms)
- Define targets ( to improve authonomy and reduce problems)
- Set \ execute \ monitor the rehabilitation program



#### KEY NOTE III: Treating progressive MS: the Disease Modifying Drugs Perspective – *Dr. Marco Rovaris*

- A deeper understanding of disease physiopathology is needed for a better treatment
- At present prevention (risk reduction) still represents a more effective strategy
- Future goals are:
  - Targeting (residual) inflammation
  - Fostering remyelination and neuroprotection
  - Stimulating and favouring neuroplasticity (by combining drugs and rehabilitation)



#### KEY NOTE IV: Rehabilitation in Progressive MS – *Prof. Jenny Freeman*

- Evidence still limited, but accumulating
- Focus must change along disease continuum

(health promotion, restoration, compensation)

• 1% of pwMS time is spent with health professionals

• Equip people with skills and knowledge



#### KEY NOTE V: Implications of Exercise in Progressive MS – *Dr. Ulrik Dalgas*

1. Only few and small exercise studies dedicated to progressive MS, but findings are positive and resemble the general exercise findings in MS

2. "Exercise is medicine in MS" and more focus on prevention and building of reserve capacity should be adopted when prescribing exercise to MS patients

3. Early interventions, use of technology and combined interventions may move the MS exercise field forward

4. Ageing, long-term adherence, relapse management and understanding the underlying mechanisms remain challenges in relation to MS and exercise



# PRACTICAL SESSION II: Robotic and Wearable Devices – *Dr. Davide Cattaneo & Dr. Giampaolo Brichetto & Dr. Margherita Monti Bragadin*

- hunova evaluates the rehabilitation of each clients and offers a personalized rehab strategy
- hunova transforms exercise into gaming motivating the client during each step of the rehab process
- Hunova proveides in real time outcomes from each clinic and each client



#### PRACTICAL SESSION II: Neuropsychological rehabilitation – Cognitive Training and other Techniques – *Dr. Jessica Podda & Dr. Andrea Tacchino*

- Systematic assessment of cognitive functioning should be integrated in daily clinical practice.
- Cognitive rehabilitation treatments should be administered in an adaptive, customized and intensive way.
- Further studies are required to produce higher levels of evidence for cognitive rehabilitation research and develop new technologies to promote accessible, at-home, and self-managed cognitive intervention for PwMS.





## PRACTICAL SESSION II: Priming Rehabilitation – Dr. Ludovico Pedullà & Prof. Marco Bove

- 1. Age and fatigue may influence LTP-like plasticity
- 2. Aerobic exercise can be a suitable substrate for rehabilitation (increasing LTP reserve)
- 3. Attention should be driven to LTP-like and maladaptive plasticity mechanisms



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- all delegates!

Let's meet again in Leuven at the RIMS Annual Conference 2020!



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