

REG Summit 2019

WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES: Small Airways Working Group

28th March 2019
Divani Palace, Athens, Greece

Meeting details	
Meeting location	Divani Palace
Meeting date	28 th March 2019
Meeting time	16.30-17.30
Chair(s)	Omar Usmani
Objectives	
1	Provide an update on current projects
2	Prioritise existing ideas for future projects and develop a plan for implementation
3	Identify new project ideas

Attendees: Thomas Schuessler, Glenn Crater, Karen Mezzi, Francine Ducharme, Ron Dandurand, Esther Metting, Ioanna Tsiligianni, Despo Ierodiaknou, Joan Soriano, Alan Kaplan, Amanda Bracey, Monica Ruiz Garcia, Alec Mushunje, Clare Murray, Francesca Romana D'Antuono,

Items	
Minutes of ERS 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Omar Usmani presented the main progress points from ERS 2018. He emphasized that while the group had been very productive previously, there has been a shift to other areas.
Current projects	<p>Making sense of dose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a suggestion that pharmaceutical industry and/or producers of medical devices could be included and discussion around feasibility of that given their heterogenous opinions. It was suggested that maybe IPAC-RS could give an opinion on behalf of their members. Omar explained how he chose the experts – those with expertise in aerosol medicine. For example, the COPD patient is an engineer with interest in inhalation medicine.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It was suggested a formulation scientist/chemist could be included.• There was discussion around the aims of the study. Omar explained that it will likely show discordance between the groups and this will be threaded into a commentary. A future step would be to raise awareness of the issue with industry and regulators. We want to know where the dose goes, and need clearer labelling/terminology.• The first stage is a qualitative opinion piece, then a position paper, then perhaps research looking at aerosol particle distribution.• It was questioned whether one member from each area, without focus groups was ideal. <p>Asthma state of the union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It was explained this was low priority as it is unfunded and there is work ongoing in this area by another group. <p>Oscillometry update: Ron Dandurand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ron Dandurand reported that the phase I manuscript from the oscillometry harmonization project has been submitted. The concept now needs validating in a real-world setting. There was discussion around the sensitivity/specificity in health subjects – need greater numbers and in those that are truly healthy.• More variation between devices seen in children; Francine Ducharme is beginning a study in children.• Finally, Ron Dandurand presented a novel CT biomarker for COPD and ILD. Using machine vision, slope rather than density is assigned to CAT scan voxels using lines of isoluminescence. The resulting image resembles a topographical map. Each voxel may then be assigned metric of steepness; positive or negative for convex or concave, respectively. This is being presented at ATS.
<p>Next steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Omar reported that he would discuss with the board the merging of the small airways working group with another working group.



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