

This October, despite the war in Ukraine, constant air alarms, and bombings, Ukrainians organized two amazing and important events for doctors and scientists dedicated to the problem of osteoarthritis (OA), with the active participation of OARSI members from different countries.

The first conference "Bone & Joint Diseases and Age," where in addition to Ukrainian scientists, 10 foreign speakers, including OARSI members, took part, was held fully online (www.OsteoHub.info) and symbolically began on October 12, 2023, on the International Day of Arthritis. During this event, Ukrainians actively discussed the early OA diagnosis, its different phenotypes, and treatment approaches. More than 3,000 Ukrainian doctors watched the conference (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og1E54SczJ0>) on the YouTube platform.

On October 13, 2023, during the Section devoted to the joint syndrome, the National OARSI Ambassador in Ukraine, Prof. Natalia Grygorieva once again presented the OARSI achievements and perspectives and invited listeners to the next OARSI Congress in Vienna (*see Photo 1-Intro 1 below*). Prof. François Rannou (Paris, France), who participated in the Ukrainian Conference before the war, also prepared an excellent presentation and his report had great success in the Ukrainian auditorium.

Another conference "All-Ukrainian Rheumatology Forum", which is an annual and important one for Ukrainian doctors, took place on October 25-27, 2023 in a hybrid format. During this Conference, three scientific Sections devoted to OA were organized. One of them (*Photo 2-Intro*) brought together Ukrainian scientists Nataliia Grygorieva and Galina Protsenko (Kyiv, Ukraine) and scientists from Canada and the USA, Tom Appleton (London, Canada) (*Photo 6-Tom*) and Carla Scanzello (Pennsylvania, USA) (*Photo 5-Carla*). The discussion (*Photo 3-All*) was supported by the President of the All-Ukrainian Association of Rheumatologists Academician Volodymyr Kovalenko (Kyiv, Ukraine), and the Chairman of the OARSI Strategic Alliance Committee George Dodge (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania USA).

The Section was devoted to highlighting the OA phenotypes, and modern treatment strategies (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbXUhXzvdUa>) time in the YouTube recording: 7.27-9.16.

On behalf of the Organizers and Ukrainian doctors, we thank all foreign Speakers and the head of the OARSI Strategic Committee, George Dodge, for their support in this difficult time and for help in organizing our conferences. The high level of presentations and the warm atmosphere during the discussions remained in the hearts of many Ukrainians. Numerous questions to the Speakers and sincere words of thanks from the listeners confirmed the high interest in the problem in Ukraine and demonstrated the active involvement of Ukrainian scientists in experimental and clinical OA research.

We know that difficult times are still ahead for Ukrainians, but we feel the support of our colleagues from different regions of the world and sincerely believe in our victory!

We invite active OARSI members and National Ambassadors from other countries to cooperate in joint discussions and scientific research.

National ambassador of OARSI in Ukraine, Prof. Natalia Grygorieva



Photo 1 Intro 1



Photo 1 Intro 2



Photo 1 Intro 3



Photo 1 Intro 4

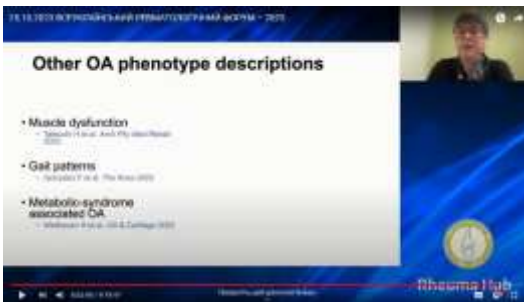


Photo 1 Intro 5



Photo 1 Intro 6