

ICUROS Newsletter

Number 2 July 2008

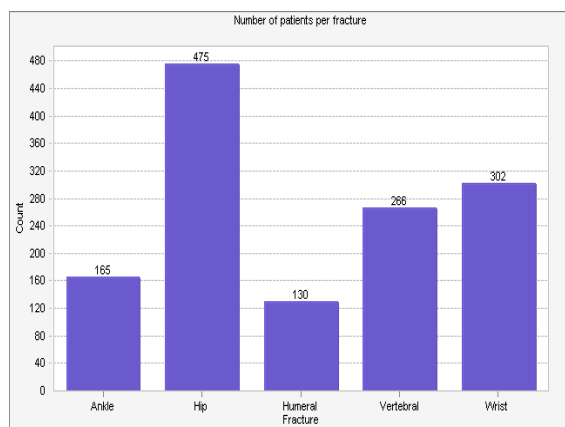
Introduction

Welcome to the second number of the ICUROS newsletter which will inform about the current status and recent events in the International Costs and Utilities Related to Osteoporotic Fracture Study (ICUROS). The newsletter will be issued 4 times per year during the course of the study. If you want to be added to the distribution list for coming newsletters send an email to icuros@healthconomics.se.

The ICUROS is endorsed by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) and is administered by i3Innovus (formerly European Health Economics). IOF supports ICUROS as part of the Invest in Your Bones Campaign. In addition, the study is partly funded by a consortium of sponsors, currently consisting of Novartis, Kyphon, Wyeth, Amgen and Servier.

Patient inclusion update

Five countries have started to enrol patients in the study (Austria, France, Italy, Lithuania and Russia). France started patient inclusion in July and Spain is expected to start enrolling patients in the very near future. To date, almost 1500 patients have been enrolled in the database. The first patients have now entered phase III of the study. In the figure below, the number of patients per fracture type is shown.



French investigators meeting

A meeting with the French ICUROS investigator team was held in Paris on the 12th of June. At the meeting, the project implementation was discussed and challenges that the investigators may face during

the course of the study. The meeting was the kick-off of the patient inclusion in France, which has started in July.

New countries interested

ICUROS has received much attention by lead researchers across the world. Investigators from several countries have joined the study and are in different stages of the study. Investigators in Australia have recently shown interest in starting ICUROS. From previously, investigators in the following countries are actively involved in the study: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Spain, UK and the USA. Unfortunately the investigators in Greece have withdrawn from the study due to unresolved resource issues.

If you want to get in contact with any of the national investigators, please do not hesitate to contact the international coordinators (email at the bottom).

ICRUOS presentation

At the Eighth European Congress on Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis (ECCEO 8) in Istanbul, Turkey, 9-12 April, the first results from the ICUROS were presented. The poster entitled “Quality of life reduction immediately after an osteoporotic fracture in Russia“ was presented.

At ECCEO 8 two ICUROS meetings were held, one with sponsors and one with investigators. Both meetings were very productive and informative. In the investigators meeting, experiences were shared across countries for a productive exchange of problems and solutions different countries have faced.

A new abstract entitled “Quality of life of patients after osteoporotic fractures (preliminary results from Russian part of the International study ICUROS) will be presented at the III Russian Congress of Osteoporosis in Ekaterinburg 6-8th of October.

Contact information

If you are interested to know more about the ICUROS you can visit the study website (www.icuros.org) or contact either Fredrik Borgström (fredrik.borgstrom@i3innovus.com) or Ingrid Lekander (ingrid.lekander@i3innovus.com).