

ICUROS Newsletter

Number 3 October 2008

Introduction

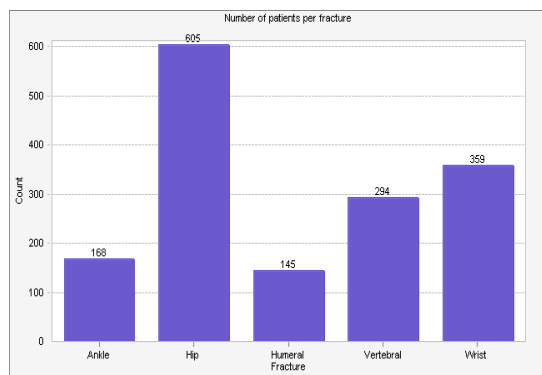
Welcome to the third number of the ICUROS newsletter which will inform about the current status and recent events in the International Costs and Utilities Related to Osteoporotic Fracture Study (ICUROS). The newsletter will be issued 4 times per year during the course of the study. If you want to be added to the distribution list for coming newsletters send an email to icuros@healtheconomics.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, recently joined by Eli Lilly. We are grateful to all sponsors for their continuous commitment to the study.

Patient inclusion update

Spain has successfully started to enrol patient since the July newsletter. In all, six countries have now started patient inclusion, namely Austria, France, Italy, Lithuania, Spain and Russia. In the generic study questionnaire, data is collected for hip, vertebral and wrist fractures. Some countries have also chosen to enrol patients with humeral and ankle fractures. In the figure below, the total number of patients per fracture type is shown, irrespective of country of inclusion.

We encourage all investigators to keep up the good work with the patient inclusion.



Country update

Investigators in the USA have been successful in their preparations of the ICUROS study and are expected to start patient enrolment during the fall/winter.

ICUROS is starting to set up the study in Germany under the lead of Karsten Dreinhöfer, who is an Orthopaedic Surgeon and Deputy Head of the Department of Orthopaedics at the University of Ulm, Germany.

Mexico has now, under the lead of Patricia Clark, secured funding for implementing ICUROS. Mexico will now enter a more intense phase of preparations to enable recruitment of patients.

Kerrie Sanders have gathered interested investigators from Australia and New Zealand to initiate discussions of ICUROS implementation and to start with the preparations. Their first hurdle is to secure initial funding for the study.

Due to a change of management in the UK investigators team, the implementation have been somewhat delayed. Patient inclusion is expected to start in spring 2009.

Apart from the countries already mentioned, investigators from Poland and China have also shown interest in the study.

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).

ICUROS presentation

An oral presentation entitled “Quality of life of patients after osteoporotic fractures (preliminary results from Russian part of the International study ICUROS)”, was given by Prof Menshikova from Irkutsk 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).