Information for Patients

"The International Dysferlinopathy Registry"

Before you decide to register with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, it is important that you understand what is involved and what will be done with the information you provide. This document contains answers to some of the questions you might have. If you have any additional questions after reading this document, please contact us before registering. **You will find our contact details in section 23 and on the International Dysferlinopathy Registry website (www.dysferlinregistry.org).**

1. "What is a patient registry and why do you want to create one?"

When a clinical trial or research study is being planned, it is very important that patients suitable for that trial or study can be found and contacted quickly. The best way of ensuring this can happen is to make sure that patients' details are collected together in a single database or "patient registry" that contains the information that researchers or doctors will need to identify the suitable patients, including each patient's particular genetic defect and other key information about their disease.

In addition to identifying potential participants for clinical trials and research studies such as natural history/clinical outcome studies, patient registries can help researchers answer questions such as "How common diseases like dysferlinopathies are worldwide?" or "What the precise genetic defects are?" Registries can also support other activities to improve patient care, such as the assessment and dissemination of standards of care.

The International Dysferlinopathy Registry is such a database or "patient registry", specifically developed for dysferlinopathies. Other patient registries have already been developed, for diseases such as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) or for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), and additional registries are being and will be created for other neuromuscular diseases. More information about registries can be found in the "Registries" section on the TREAT-NMD website (www.treat-nmd.eu).

2. "Whose data are you collecting in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

This patient registry is specifically developed for patients affected with a dysferlinopathy, including the most frequent clinical presentations called Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy type 2B (LGMD2B) and Miyoshi myopathy, but also all other clinical presentations related to genetic defects in the gene called "dysferlin". This registry is exclusively designed for patients with a dysferlinopathy diagnosis that is confirmed by a genetic test (see section 3). Because this registry is primarily designed to identify patients who might be suitable for research studies (such as natural history studies, clinical outcome studies) or future clinical trials of potential therapies, as well as to help researchers find the best ways of caring for dysferlinopathy patients, this registry is intended for patients currently living with a dysferlinopathy, and not as a record of those who have already died.

3. "Am I eligible to register with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

You are eligible for registration with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry if a mutational analysis of the dysferlin gene confirmed you as a carrier of one or more disease-causing mutation(s) in this gene.

If you are not sure whether a genetic test for your dysferlin gene has been carried out for you or if you do not have the test result, you may want to ask your physician. The International Dysferlinopathy Registry website provides both, a list of laboratories offering tests for the clinical diagnosis of dysferlinopathies and a list of laboratories performing genetic testing for dysferlinopathies. The Jain Foundation (see sections 9-12) can also provide guidance to patients who are unsure about their diagnosis.

If your diagnosis included a genetic test that did not confirm you as a carrier of any disease-causing mutation(s) in the dysferlin gene, you are not eligible for registration with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry. Your physician may advise you to test for other types of muscular dystrophy in this case.

4. "What do I have to do to register with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

You should first read this information document carefully. Then, if you decide to take part in this registry, you will need to create a personal user account on the International Dysferlinopathy Registry website by completing and validating the online (electronic) version of the *Registration and Consent Questionnaire (I)*. By logging into your account, you will then be able to securely complete your online (electronic) *Registration Medical Questionnaire (II)*, with the help of your doctor(s) if necessary.

For patients without internet access, you will need to complete and sign paper copies of the *Registration and Consent Questionnaire (I)* and *Registration Medical Questionnaire (II)* and send them to the registry. Copies of all the registration forms can be easily downloaded from the registry website or sent by postal mail upon request (see contact details in section 23).

5. "What data will I be asked to provide if I decide to join the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

In *Questionnaire I*, you will be asked to provide information such as your name, postal and email address and date of birth. We also ask you for the contact information of doctor(s)/medical institution(s) involved in the diagnosis and follow-up of your disease and whether you have already signed up with another patient registry.

In *Questionnaire II*, we ask you to provide medical data regarding your diagnosis (e.g. onset, past physical activity, family background, results from mutational and biological analyses) and symptoms (e.g. current motor ability, cardiac and respiratory functions, as well as medical treatment). We also ask you to indicate whether you are currently participating or have participated to a study related to your disease, as well as your age and the country/region where you live.

Before you decide to register, you can download copies of the *Registration Questionnaires I* and *II* from the registry website.

6. "Why do you ask for my physician's contact information?"

In *Questionnaire I*, we ask you to provide contact information of doctor(s) or medical institution(s) who will have information about the diagnosis and follow-up of your disease, because the registry needs to obtain some of your medical information from your physician in order to confirm your registration. For example, we need to obtain a copy of your dysferlin genetic report to verify the presence of disease causing mutations in your dysferlin gene. Therefore, we ask that you allow us to contact these doctor(s)/medical institution(s) and transmit your medical data provided by them to the International Dysferlinopathy Registry using the *Registration Medical Questionnaire (III)* for doctors.

Your registration will only be confirmed after we receive your paper or electronic *Registration Questionnaires I* and *II* correctly filled in, signed or electronically validated and after your doctor transmits the *Questionnaire III* completed with the information that is requested by this registry.

7. "Where will my data go if I register with the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

After your registration is confirmed (see section 6), a unique and anonymous code will be assigned to your records. All your medical data (from *Questionnaire II* or transmitted by your doctor with *Questionnaire III*) will be linked to this anonymous code and copied from the International Dysferlinopathy Registry database to the UMD-DYSF database, in order to allow the person in charge of the registry to perform appropriate statistical analyses. The UMD-DYSF is a database that has been created to compile and analyse up-to-date information about disease-causing mutations identified in the dysferlin gene and in patients diagnosed with a dysferlinopathy. Data from *Questionnaire I* (name, address, etc.) will only be stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry database; we need this information so that we can contact you to update your data, and inform you about possible clinical trials, research studies or anything else that might be relevant to your disease.

All your information that is stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry or the UMD-DYSF databases will be securely stored on computer servers located in the Inserm/Aix-Marseille Université laboratory: UMR_S910; Faculté de Médecine Timone; 27 boulevard Jean Moulin; 13385 Marseille; FRANCE (under the responsibility of Dr. M. KRAHN and Dr. C. BEROUD).

8. "Who will have access to my records?"

Data from *Questionnaire I* (name, address, etc.), which is stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry database, will only be accessible to the person in charge of the registry or a person explicitly appointed by him/her. This information will be used to contact you to update your data, and inform you about possible clinical trials, research studies or anything else that might be relevant to your disease.

All the information from *Questionnaire II* filled out by you and from *Questionnaire III* transmitted by your doctor will be assigned a unique and anonymous code before being exported (copied) into the UMD-DYSF database (see section 7). Part of this anonymously stored information will be publically available online via the UMD-DYSF web portal (www.umd.be/DYSF/) to anyone interested in the genetic variations identified in the dysferlin gene and in their (clinical and biological) consequences. This publically available information includes your de-identified (anonymous) data related to your clinical diagnosis (e.g. LGMD2B, Miyoshi myopathy), results from your mutational analysis of the dysferlin gene, and results from your biological analysis of the dysferlin protein. To learn more about mutation records in the UMD-DYSF database, please visit the International Dysferlinopathy Registry website. In addition, all your medical information (stored in the registry and the UMD-DYSF databases) may be transmitted anonymously to authorised third parties, in the form of a data-analysis report (see section 13). These data will be kept anonymous and confidential. Therefore, third parties will not be able to personally identify you with the information available to them. Only the person in charge of the registry or a person explicitly appointed by him/her will be able to "de-code" your anonymous code to get access to your contact details stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry database.

The Jain Foundation could also have access to all your registration data, but only if you have consented to allow us to share your data with them (see sections 9-12 in this document and question 4.4 of *Questionnaire I*).

9. "Who is the Jain Foundation?"

The Jain Foundation is a non-profit foundation that was founded in 2005 by a family whose son was diagnosed with a dysferlinopathy. The Jain Foundation is the only foundation of its kind that focuses specifically on dysferlinopathies. The Jain Foundation is fully funded by private donors and does not request financial contributions from patients or physicians.

The goal of the Jain Foundation is to expedite the development of a cure/therapy for dysferlinopathy, an orphan disease that receives little to no funding from traditional sources. The Foundation's efforts fall into two main areas – supporting research and patient advocacy. The Jain Foundation's focused strategy includes funding and actively monitoring the progress of scientific research projects in key pathways towards a cure, providing financial and logistical support to promising drug candidates to accelerate them to clinical trials, encouraging collaboration among scientists, as well as educating dysferlinopathy patients about their disease, helping them with their diagnosis, and maintaining a registry of dysferlinopathy patients. Towards these goals the Jain Foundation is funding the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and the first ever dysferlinopathy clinical outcome study to investigate the clinical progression of the disease and identify the best tests for measuring the disease progression for use in future clinical trials. You can find out more about the Jain Foundation and its research and patient initiatives at www.jain-foundation.org.

10. "Why should I share my data with the Jain Foundation if I already participate in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

The Jain Foundation has had its own dysferlinopathy registry since 2006. The Jain Foundation registry is similar to the International Dysferlinopathy Registry in that it strives to identify as many dysferlinopathy patients as possible. But it is also different from the International Dysferlinopathy Registry in several ways:

- Unlike the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, the Jain Foundation registry includes not only individuals with a confirmed dysferlinopathy (i.e. patients with identified disease-causing mutations in the dysferlin gene), but also those who are unsure of their diagnosis. For those with an unsure diagnosis, the Jain Foundation guides them along the process to a definitive diagnosis, including funding dysferlin protein and mutational analyses if this step is warranted.
- The Jain Foundation is more able than the International Dysferlinopathy Registry to continually contact its registrants to obtain additional information as new questions arise. This is a very important feature because as the knowledge about dysferlinopathy continues to evolve and change, we need the ability to gather additional patient clinical information quickly.
- The Jain Foundation has knowledgeable staff that is available to answer registrant questions and provide up to date information on dysferlinopathy.

By allowing the International Dysferlinopathy Registry to share your information with the Jain Foundation, you will automatically be registered with the Jain Foundation and have access to all the services (some of which are described above) that it offers.

11. "How will the Jain Foundation use my information?"

The Jain Foundation will use your contact details to contact you with information relevant to dysferlinopathy or to ask you additional questions which could further understanding of the disease. They may also analyse your medical information along with that of other registrants to answer questions and learn more about the disease, such as "Is there a gender difference?" or "What is the rate of progression?" Any clinical data used in research will remain anonymous.

12. "Is my information safe with the Jain Foundation?"

Similar to the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, all personal information shared with the Jain Foundation will be kept strictly confidential (see this link for the Jain Foundation privacy policy - www.jain-foundation.org/patient-physician-resources). The Jain Foundation stores your information on a private server in password-protected files, which can only be accessed by designated members of the Jain Foundation. No one outside the Jain Foundation will ever have access to patient personal information.

13. "Who are the people that could be authorised to access my anonymously coded medical data in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and who authorises them to access my data?"

The International Dysferlinopathy Registry adheres to the TREAT-NMD Registry Charter. When third parties, such as academic researchers or companies planning clinical trials or research studies, wish to access data in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, they make enquiries to the TREAT-NMD Global Database Oversight Committee (TGDOC) about the specific data they are interested in. Upon TGDOC and other necessary approvals, the requested anonymous medical data will be provided to the enquiring party in form of a data-analysis report.

Your data will never be made available to employers, governmental organisations, insurance companies or educational institutions, nor to your spouse, other members of your family or your doctor – unless you have given explicit consent to do so.

14. "How can the International Dysferlinopathy Registry guarantee that my data will be kept confidential?"

Under regulations on data protection (national laws related to EU directive 95/46), the methods applied for the development and use of the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and of the UMD-DYSF database have been reviewed and approved by two bodies that are responsible for verifying their scientific validity and the means used to guarantee the protection of your personal data and the respect of your rights:

- The French Advisory Committee on Information Processing in Research in the field of Health [Comité Consultatif sur le Traitement de l'Information en matière de Recherche dans le domaine de la Santé (CCTIRS)] (Opinions No. 08.413 and 11.473bis).
- The French National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties [Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés" (CNIL)] (Statement No. 132693).

The International Dysferlinopathy Registry and the UMD-DYSF database are in compliance with the French Code of Public Health (Title II of the First Book on biomedical research). This information is available on the Legifrance website (www.legifrance.gouv.fr). The chief scientist of the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and of the UMD-DYSF database is Dr. M. KRAHN. The chief scientist for the bioinformatics development and maintenance of the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and of the UMD® databases is Dr. C. BEROUD. The responsible agency is Inserm, represented by Prof. A. SYROTA (President Director General).

If we publish any research or other documents based on data from the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, these publications/documents will never identify you by name.

15. "Do I have access to my data in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

In accordance with the provisions of French law relating to "Information Technology and Civil Liberties" (Act No. 78-17 of 6 January 1978 amended by Act No. 2004-801 of 6 August 2004) you have access, correction and opposition rights on the processing of your personal data. You can access and modify all of your personal and medical information, pursuant to the provisions of Article L.1111-7 and Article L.1122-1 of the Code of Public Health. During online registration you will be assigned a personal user account. Access to this account is protected by the use of a login and an associated password, which is known only to you. By logging into your user account on the registry website, you will be able to securely access your data stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry at any time. If you are unable to access your data online, you can contact the registry (see contact details in section 23).

16. "How can I update my data if they change?"

To make sure that the data in the registry are correct and up-to-date, it is essential that we update it regularly. To do this, the person in charge of the International Dysferlinopathy Registry or a person explicitly appointed by him/her will send you a follow-up e-mail/letter once a year asking you to login to your personal registry account and update your contact details and medical data.

We also ask you to inform us about any major changes that occur in the period between the yearly updates, such as change of address, your participation in a research study or clinical trial, identification of new genetic data or loss of ambulation (see question 4.2 of your *Questionnaire I*).

If you cannot update your information online, you can request paper forms where you can tell us about any changes in your medical condition or contact information.

If you have not answered to our update requests for ten consecutive years, all your data (identifiable and non-identifiable) will be removed from the registry, but all your anonymous medical data will be kept in the UMD-DYSF database for an unlimited period of time, unless you ask us explicitly to withdraw your data from UMD. Therefore in order to make sure that your user account remains accessible, please be sure to respond to our yearly update requests.

17. "Do I have to participate in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry and can I withdraw if I change my mind?"

Your participation in this registry is completely voluntary. You can decide not to participate in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry without having to give any reason. Should you wish to withdraw your data from the registry, you will be free to do so at any time without having to provide any explanation and without consequence on your treatment or the quality of care that will be provided to you. If you wish to withdraw, you need to contact the registry (see contact details in section 23).

18. "What will happen if I meet a clinical trial or research study criteria? Will I be contacted and how?"

If a researcher or company planning a clinical trial or a research study think you meet the trial/study criteria (based on the anonymous medical information they received from the registry), they will contact the person in charge of the International Dysferlinopathy Registry. This person or a person explicitly appointed by him/her will "de-code" the anonymous code to find out your personal details, and will contact you to give you information about this trial/study (if you have allowed us to do so – see question 4.3 of your *Questionnaire I*). We will not give your contact details to the researcher or company in charge of the clinical trial or the research study.

The information you will receive from us about a particular study/trial will contain details about how you can contact the researcher/company running the study/trial. If you decide to take part in the study/trial (given that you are truly eligible and admitted to the study/trial), you will need to review and sign a separate consent form. You are completely independent of us in making your decision about your participation in any study or trial we inform you about. If you decide not to take part in a particular study/trial, your data will still be kept in this registry and we will continue to inform you about other studies/trials unless you tell us not to.

Please note that if we tell you about the existence of a clinical trial or research study, this does not automatically imply that we endorse it. Please also note that while important discoveries are being made in the field of dysferlinopathies to move towards clinical trials, it is currently not possible to determine when clinical trials for dysferlinopathies will become available in the future.

19. "How will I benefit from registering?"

This registry is intended as a public service for the benefit of patients living with a dysferlinopathy. You will not receive any payment or any other financial benefit as a result of submitting your data to the registry. The results of research facilitated by the registry may be patentable or may have commercial potential. However, you will not receive patent rights and will not receive financial benefits from future commercial development. Nevertheless, there may be other benefits for you from participating, including the following:

- You can receive information that might be relevant to you or your condition– for example if researchers find better ways of caring for patients with a dysferlinopathy;
- We will inform you if you might be a suitable candidate for a certain clinical trial or research study (if you have allowed us to do so - see question 4.3 of your *Questionnaire I*);
- The data collected might also provide benefits to the wider group of patients with a dysferlinopathy, for example by revealing statistics on how many people worldwide have the same condition, or providing relevant information to researchers interested in the best standards of care for your disorder.

We will publish some general statistical information from the registry on our website.

20. "I want to be involved in a clinical trial or research study. If I register, is this guaranteed?"

Although one of the main aims of this registry is to make it easier for patients to be recruited into clinical trials or research studies, there is no guarantee that registering your details will ensure you will be involved in a clinical trial or research study. If you are interested in receiving details on clinical trials or research studies that you might be eligible for, please tick the "yes" box of the question 4.3 in your *Questionnaire I*. However, it is

important that you understand that even if the coordinators of a clinical trial or research study believe that you might be eligible for that trial/study, based on the data about you stored in the International Dysferlinopathy Registry, it is still possible that later on you might not meet all the trial/study inclusion criteria. There may also be other reasons to exclude you from participation in a clinical trial or research study, for example if a sufficient number of patients have already been recruited.

21. "I don't want to be involved in a clinical trial or research study. Should I still register?"

We hope you will be interested in registering even if you don't want to take part in a clinical trial or research study. Your information will still be useful to researchers who are trying to find out more about patients living with a dysferlinopathy, and we will still provide you with other information that might be relevant to your disease (if you consent to this in your *Questionnaire I*). If you do not want to receive any information about clinical trials or research studies that you might be eligible for, please tick the "no" box of the question 4.3 in your *Questionnaire I.*

22. "Who should fill in and sign the different registration questionnaires?"

If you are the patient affected by a dysferlinopathy and are 18 years of age or over, you can fill in and sign *Questionnaires I* and *II* yourself. If you are younger than 18 years of age, but can understand this *Information for Patients* document, you can complete and sign *Questionnaires I* and *II* yourself, but we will need your parent or guardian to also sign. If you are the parent or guardian of a patient who is not old enough to or otherwise not able to understand this information, please fill in and sign *Questionnaires I* and *II* on behalf of the patient if you want your child's/dependent's data to be included in the registry. Whatever your age or relation to the patient, please discuss the decision to join the registry with your family/child/dependent.

Patients/parents/guardians should not fill in *Questionnaire III*: it is essential that the International Dysferlinopathy Registry obtains all the medical data required by this questionnaire directly from the medical doctors/centres themselves.

23. "Who should I contact if I have any questions or wish to withdraw from the International Dysferlinopathy Registry?"

If you would like any additional information about this registry, if you would like to receive a paper copy of the *Registration and Consent Questionnaire (I)* or the *Registration Medical Questionnaire (II)*, or if you wish to withdraw your data from the registry, please send your request to:

The International Dysferlinopathy Registry
Inserm UMR 910
Aix-Marseille Université
27 bd Jean Moulin
13385 Marseille Cedex 05
FRANCE
E-mail: contact@dysferlinregistry.org
Website: www.dysferlinregistry.org

Completed and signed paper copies of the *Registration and Consent Questionnaire (I)* or *Registration Medical Questionnaire (II)* should also be sent to the above address.

Thank you for reading this patient information sheet.