

# 7<sup>th</sup> ERN EURO-NMD

## ANNUAL MEETING

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

### POSTGRADUATE CURRICULUM ON NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS

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Amsterdam, The Netherlands



European  
Reference  
Network

for rare or low prevalence  
complex diseases



Network  
Neuromuscular  
Diseases (ERN EURO-NMD)



Funded by  
the European Union



# NEED FOR SPECIALIST TRAINING IN RARE DISEASES



**1** out of **12** people affected  
in Europe



**CHILDREN**

Account for **50%**



**80%** CAUSED BY  
**FAULTY GENES**



**>30** million  
PEOPLE IN EU are affected  
by rare diseases

**9 years**  
on average  
is required  
for a correct  
diagnosis:



the  
diagnosis  
Odyssey

**95%**  
Rare Diseases  
**DO NOT HAVE  
A CURE**



# Working group on Knowledge Generation and Capacity (ERN-KGC)

*The main mission of the ERNs is “patient care”*

*“Patient Care”, particularly for rare diseases, heavily depends upon regularly update knowledge*

## Priorities and proposed action plan

- Develop a model postgraduate rare disease training curriculum for adoption/adaptation and implementation by each ERN
- Educational webinars and case-based eLearning platforms



European  
Reference  
Network

Neurological Diseases  
(ERN-RND)

EURO-NMD





- ▶ jointly develop
- ▶ educational and training programme
- ▶ for clinicians
- ▶ modular curriculum

# Educational programmes in other ERNs

**ERKucation**  
The Postgraduate Curriculum in Rare Kidney Diseases

*Become an expert in rare kidney diseases!*

„Rare kidney disease specialist“ certificate granted to completers of the 3-year curriculum:

<p><b>Clinical experience</b></p> <p>2 years in the field of rare kidney diseases</p> 	<p><b>Webinars</b> 3 years every 2 weeks</p> <p>54 topics pediatric &amp; adult diseases</p> <p>Requirements: Attendance to 80% of ERKnet Webinars ≥ 75% correct answers in the exams</p> <p>including Webinar-related exams</p>	<p><b>eLearning cases</b></p> <p>topic related cases basic &amp; complex tests</p> <p>Requirements: Processing of 80% of all cases ≥ 75% correct answers</p> 
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**Diagnostic, Clinical & Therapeutic Education Programme**

on Inherited Metabolic Disorders

Supported by the European Reference Network | MetabERN  
European Commission

Accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME)



**ERKucation**  
Postgraduate Curriculum in Rare Kidney Diseases

## Curriculum

- 1. Basic concepts and methodologies**
  - 1.1. Variations and Mutations in the Human Genome
  - 1.2. Mendelian and non-Mendelian Inheritance
  - 1.3. Genetic Testing: Basic Concepts and Clinical Practice
  - 1.4. Stem cell technologies
- 2. Glomerulopathies**
  - 2.1. Idiopathic nephrotic syndrome

## COURSE CONTENT

Currently, the course consists of **11 modules**, each including different lessons presented as video lectures by different experts in the field of IMDs, chosen among MetabERN members. It is designed to be continuously updated by adding new modules.

 <p><b>MODULE 01: BASIC KNOWLEDGE IN INHERITED METABOLIC DISEASES</b></p>	 <p><b>MODULE 02: ACIDS &amp; BASES</b></p>	 <p><b>MODULE 03: SUGARS &amp; ENERGY METABOLISM (I)</b></p>
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## Working group on Trans ERN Postgraduate curriculum

Adult and paediatric neurologists, patient representatives,  
educational expert

Chaired by Holm Graessner (Coordinator ERN-RND)

Administrative support by Christine Diaite-Hecht (ERN RND)

## Roadmap for a competency-based educational curriculum in epileptology: report of the Epilepsy Education Task Force of the International League Against Epilepsy

Volume 21, issue 2, April 2019

Consensus on:

- ▶ Competency-based educational programme
- ▶ Blueprint: Roadmap of ILAE
- ▶ 5 domains summarizing competencies
  - ▶ General/Theory
  - ▶ Diagnosis/Neurogenetics
  - ▶ Specific Disease management
  - ▶ Treatment/Therapy
  - ▶ Communicating with and counselling patients

## POSTGRADUATE CURRICULUM FOR ERN EURO-NMD

- XX Modules - one per DG
- Module contains domains

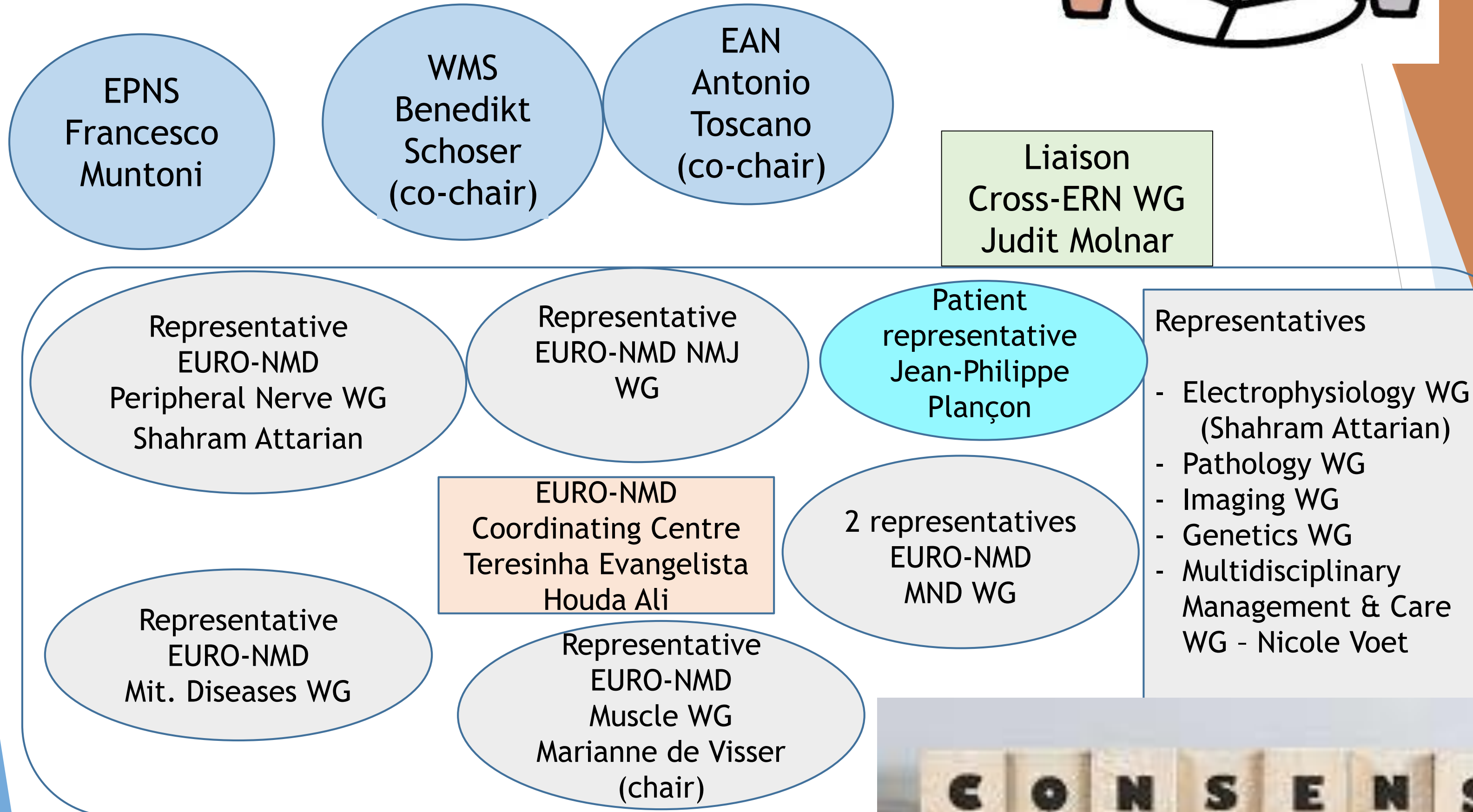
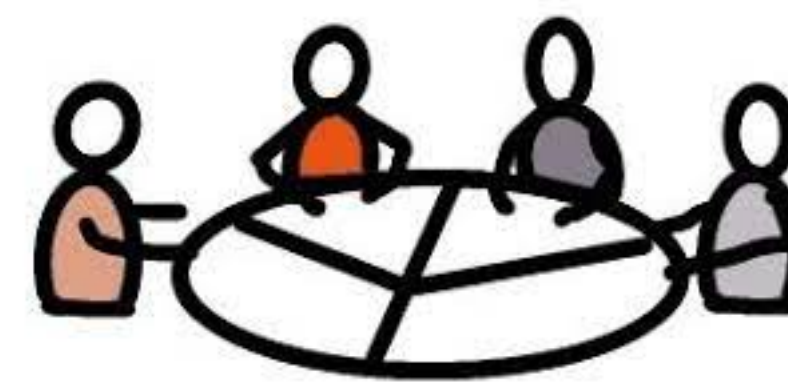
1. Motor neuron disease and SMA
2. Acquired and hereditary neuropathies
3. Neuromuscular junction disorders
4. Acquired and hereditary myopathies
5. Mitochondrial diseases



Code	Domain	Specification
1.0	General/Theory	Competencies and learning objectives
2.0	Diagnosis	Competencies and learning objectives
3.0	Disease Management	Competencies and learning objectives
4.0	Treatment	Competencies and learning objectives
5.0	Patient perspective	Competencies and learning objectives

- Align with EAN, EPNS, UEMS, ESHG curricula

# Neuromuscular working group





# Module - Inherited neuropathies (example)

Introduction	
Level (Basic/Advanced)	
Domains and Competencies (cf. <a href="#">BoK</a> )	<p><b>1 General/Theory</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Demonstrate working knowledge of aetiologies for Inherited Neuropathies</li><li>- Demonstrate general knowledge of clinical presentation, disease onset and progression and natural history aspects</li></ul> <p><b>2 Diagnostics/Neurogenetics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Demonstrate knowledge of specific diagnostic criteria and measures, differentiating between pediatric and adult patients if appropriate</li><li>- Demonstrate knowledge and use of EURO-NMD endorsed diagnostic flowcharts including differential diagnosis</li><li>- Demonstrate in whom, when and how genetic testing should be applied and why</li><li>- Demonstrate a working knowledge of lab tests and neuroimaging</li><li>- Demonstrate a working knowledge of assessment of various disease aspects</li><li>- Accurately order and interpret neuroimaging and neurophysiology</li></ul>

# Module - Inherited neuropathies (example)

## - cont'd

### 3 Specific disease management aspects

- Demonstrate knowledge and use of available **EURO-NMD** endorsed care standards: clinical rating scales and guidelines
- Demonstrate knowledge about care of pediatric and/or adult patients including multidisciplinary teamwork
- Demonstrate knowledge of neurogeriatric aspects if appropriate
- Demonstrate knowledge of neurological aspects in palliative care

### 4 Treatment/Therapy

- Demonstrate up-to-date knowledge in pharmacological treatment of the respective disease
- Demonstrate up-to-date knowledge about multidisciplinary care and neurorehabilitation and non-pharmacological treatment in **Inherited Neuropathies**

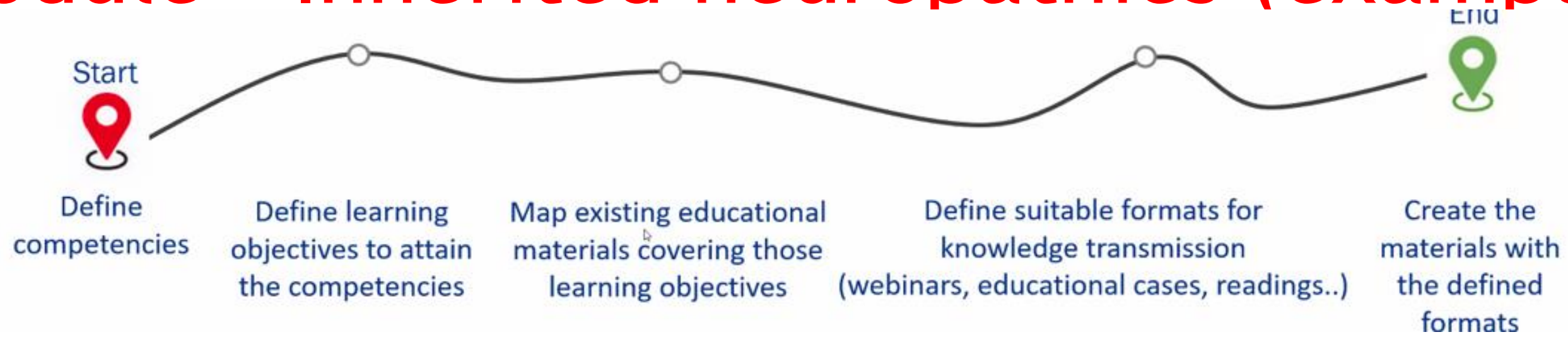
# Module - Inherited neuropathies (example)

## - cont'd

### 5 Communicating with and counselling patients

- Know and use Patient Journeys as working documents to identify gaps in care and adapt care pathways and better meet the needs of patients living with rare neurological disease
- Communicate information about genetics in an understandable, comprehensible and sensitive way, helping patients to make informed decisions and choices about their care
- Demonstrate awareness on specific social and life style issues related to the respective disease
- Communicate information about the causes and consequences of the disease and its treatments
- Offer appropriate psychological and social support to patients and families affected by a genetic condition.
- Counsel women of childbearing age about the implications and management of Inherited Neuropathies

# Module - Inherited neuropathies (example) - cont'd



Parts of the curriculum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) [number] Webinars</li> <li>2) e.g. 3 Patient Cases</li> <li>3) Stay at expertise centre ?</li> </ol>
Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Webinars: e.g. 5 knowledge tests, 1 per domain (differentiated between basic and advanced)</li> <li>2) Educational Cases: certain percentage of questions must be answered correctly</li> <li>3) Confirmation by expertise centre</li> </ol>
Authors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Webinar Speakers</li> <li>2) Authors of the Educational Cases</li> </ol>
Recommended Readings	
Schedule/ Process	1) List of Webinars to watch (with learning objectives, cf. BoK)
	2) Patient Cases
	3) Stay at expertise centre

# Implementation - to be discussed

- ▶ Platform: EanCampus
- ▶ Entry level: Basic, Advanced
- ▶ Target audience: (paediatric) neurologists, ?geneticists, ?physiatrists
- ▶ Duration: 1-3 years
- ▶ Stay at expertise centre
- ▶ Certification (UEMS)



**Together ...**



**... We Can**

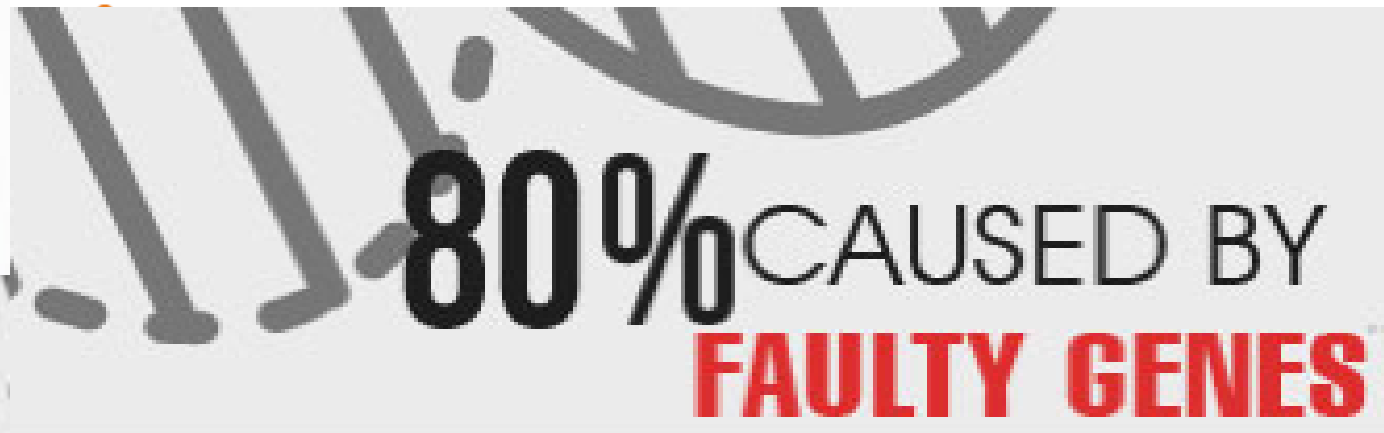
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