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Eva Vrščaj

Continuous movement monitoring in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

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| Duration | 1.9.2022 – 31.12.2022 (the exchange lasted for 7 months in total - till 31.3.2023, but it was financed by EJP RD fellowship for 4 months) |
| Short Bio | I am a resident in paediatrics at the Children's Hospital of the University Hospital of Ljubljana. My great passion is paediatric neurology especially neuromuscular diseases, medical research, and rare diseases in general as well. I am also enrolled in an interdisciplinary PhD programme in Biomedicine at the University of Ljubljana. |
| Home Institution | University Children's Hospital Ljubljana, Slovenia - Department of Child, Adolescent and Developmental Neurology, University Medical Center Ljubljana, Slovenia |
| Host Institution | Neuromuscular reference center (CRMN), Liège, Belgium |
| Project Description | A key issue in Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) research is identifying objective, reliable and sensitive outcome measures to measure drug effects. Wearable devices present an excellent opportunity to provide new outcomes for clinical development, as demonstrated by the 95th centile stride velocity (SV95C), which represents the most rapid 5% of strides during real life assessment. The ActiLiège Next study is a multicenter clinical study with the aim of gathering baseline and longitudinal data issued from a magneto-inertial wearable device, the ActiMyo® or Syde® (Sysnav, France), in order to validate new outcomes in DMD. The device is designed specifically for clinical trials to identify and measure the spontaneous limb movements of ambulant and non-ambulant patients with neuromuscular diseases in daily life. |
| Personal Statement | The EJP fellowship has been a great opportunity for my further research, projects, medical career, and PhD studies. It has had a significant impact on my academic growth and career as a future physician and researcher. I firmly believe that working with a team of outstanding researchers has allowed me to develop as a researcher as well as a person and a doctor. I gained a lot of experiences in research work, clinical work and project management as my mentors are experienced researchers, data and project managers and physiotherapists. In addition, working in a multidisciplinary team opened the knowledge dimensions and aspects that I would not have been able to acquire otherwise. |