

Josep Vergés Milano MD, MSc, PhD
President & CEO at OAFI
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08006 Barcelona, Spain

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Dear Josep,

On behalf of the Associazione Italiana Persone con Malattie Reumatologiche e RARE , I accept becoming a member of the OA Patients Task Force, coordinated by the Osteoarthritis Foundation International (OAFI) and Arthritis Foundation (AF). As members, our voluntary participation will advance the OA Patients Task Force mission, prioritizing activities towards the benefit of osteoarthritis patients.

We believe osteoarthritis to be a preventable condition, yet today it affects a broad spectrum of the world's population. Once considered a disease of aging, we now know the disease to extend to younger populations, particularly athletes and women. We look forward to working together with the other OA Patients Task Force members to promote the prevention and treatment of osteoarthritis, as well as efforts to improve the quality of life of osteoarthritis patients.

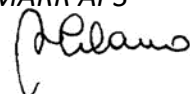
We embrace the goals of OA Patients Task Force to bring together a multi-national consortium of non-profits working to raise social awareness of the impact of osteoarthritis, its prevention and treatment. We applaud the Task Force's advocacy goals that advance understanding of the global burden of the osteoarthritis and facilitate the work of members as they develop national plans to combat osteoarthritis in their own countries.

The Associazione Italiana Persone con Malattie Reumatologiche e RARE, is interested in the potential to partner with OA Patients Task Force members around research goals that survey osteoarthritis patients' populations to build an understanding of patient needs across nations and cultures.

We are pleased to accept the invitation to participate as a member of the OA Patients Task Force.

Sincerely,

Antonella Celano
Presidente APMARR APS



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