

Supplementary material A

Invitation to participate for Health care professionals

Dear xxx

We would like to invite you to participate in an international Delphi exercise, which we anticipate will yield a core domain set for the assessment of Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS).

The aim of the study is to establish multiple stakeholder agreement on which domains should be measured and reported in all interventional trials for HS. Stakeholders include patients, clinician experts (medical and surgical), nurses, regulatory and industry partners. The rationale for developing a core domain set is amongst others to reduce the risk outcome reporting bias and heterogeneity in studies.

The Delphi will be administered online using a Delphi survey tool. We have planned for three to four Delphi rounds to be administered between July and September. The first Delphi round will be preceded by a nominal item generation process through which participants will be able to anonymously list all items felt to be relevant to the disease.

You have been identified as a key stakeholder for HS. We are asking for your participation in this important initiative, as well as your commitment to completing all rounds of the Delphi. An in-person consensus meeting with representatives from the Delphi group is planned for September 27-28 in Vienna, adjacent to the EADV meeting.

Please respond with your commitment by email to irit@regionsjaelland.dk on or before July 8, 2016.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any comments or questions.

Best regards,

Linnea Thorlacius, John Ingram, Amit Garg, Alice Gottlieb, Bente Villumsen, Robert Dellavalle, Robin Christensen and Gregor Jemec

The HISTORIC (Hidradenitis Suppurativa cORe outcomes set International Collaboration) Seering group: a multinational collaboration among IDEOM, Cochrane, and Zealand University Hospital Roskilde



Commitment To Completing the Entire Delphi Process

It is very important that you complete the questionnaires in each round, even if the Delphi group does not share the same opinions as you. The reliability of the results is likely to be compromised if participants drop out of the study before it is complete. If participants drop out because they feel their opinions are in the minority, the final results will overestimate the degree of agreement on the domains.