Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Harefield Hospital
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8th November 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

I would like to thank Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis for supporting my attendance at this year's ERS Congress. I am a Research Physiologist, and support from Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis enabled me to present our work looking at muscle weakness in Idiopathic Interstitial Pneumonias to an international audience. I would like to highlight some pieces of research that was disseminated at the Congress that may be of interest to your members:

- Values from impulse oscillometry have been shown to correlate with traditional lung function parameters in patients with IPF. This may be useful in monitoring patients with IPF who are unable to perform spirometry.

- Hand-held fans were assessed as an effective non-pharmacological means of managing breathlessness in patients with ILD.

- In a UK cohort, the most common first symptom recorded in the year prior to diagnosis in patients later identified with IPF was cough (29%). This was a higher proportion than those reporting breathlessness (25%). Five percent of patients reported both on the same day.

Thank you again for the opportunity to attend this year's European Respiratory Society Congress.

Yours faithfully,
Suhani Patel
Research Physiologist