Notes from ISEAPT Business Meeting (June 22, 2011) and Board meeting, (June 23, 2011)
June 30, 2011
Respectfully compiled by Meryl Gersh, Treasurer

Current member countries (* indicates countries that have Electrotherapy SIG’s)
- Argentina*
- Cambodia
- Lithuania
- USA*
- UK*
- Norway
- Korea*
- Taiwan*
- Hong Kong*
- Singapore*
- Malaysia*

Countries to target for early future membership:
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Egypt
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Kuwait
- New Zealand

Membership Categories and Dues (in US dollars, annual)
1. Full member country
   a. Dues = $1.00 per member of their Electro SIG up to $500 maximum
   b. If country has no SIG, $1 per member x 10% of membership of national organization, up to $500. Special consideration for member countries for which this would be a burden.
2. Individual Associate member – for physical therapists or other health care professionals and associated professionals whose countries are not member countries (Canada for example) - $20.00 per individual
3. Assistant member – for physical therapist assistants whose countries are not member countries - $10.00 per individual
4. Student member – free
5. Corporate members – companies, distributors, manufacturers
   a. Gold level – 2 memberships - $5,000 each
   b. Silver level – 4 memberships - $2,500 each
   c. Corporate level – unlimited number - $1,000
      i. Different levels will have different types of advertisement and links on website
6. Special Member – honorary category – to honor an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the mission and goals of the ISEAPT
   a. To be approved by the Board
   b. Jan nominated Cheng to receive this designation
   c. Cheng nominated Giovanni DiDomenico to receive this designation posthumously
7. Dues will be due January 1, 2012 for one year. Members paying in advance (now) will receive 18 months of membership for one year dues.
8. Need to set up a subgroup checking account with Tracy Bury in London – WCPT
9. Need to figure out how dues will be billed to countries, and how we will collect country and individual dues – ease of credit card via application on web page, but not sure if this is possible. Will check with WCPT and Tracy.
Ongoing Activities:
1. **Member packets:**
   a. Cheng and Liisa will develop a marketing packet for distribution to potential corporate members.
2. Develop a Code of Practice for members, including Corporate Members
3. Establish a Subgroup Bank Account in London with WCPT through Tracy Bury
4. Establish a method of payment for dues from individual members (credit card, Pay Pal?)
5. Plan an interim conference, meeting in 2013 – US? Brazil?
   a. If in U.S., may coordinate education component with another interest group – for instance – Orthopedics (Pain management); Women’s Health (incontinence)
6. Continue to examine definition of ISEAPT and whether list of various interventions should be included in Constitution.

**PAPER #2:**

**Business meeting**

**International Society for Electro Physical Agents in Physical Therapy**

*Time:* 5 p.m. Sunday, February 2nd 2014

*Venue:* Mirage Resort & Casino, Andros room. 3400 Las Vegas Blvd South, Las Vegas, NV 89109 USA

**Agenda**

1. Welcome by the President and approval of the agenda
2. Short status of the Society
3. Participation in WCPT and collaboration with WCPT leadership and administration and other subgroups by the President
4. Financial situation of the Society by treasurer Meryl Gersh
5. Future membership dues structure for ISEAPT, by treasurer Meryl Gersch
6. Webmaster functions – help needed
7. Short presentation of the accepted Focused Symposium in Singapore 2015 WCPT congress by Liisa Laakso
8. Short presentation of the status for application of a pre/post conference course in Singapore 2015 WCPT congress by Ethne Nussbaum
9. Presentation of the research project for development of consensus in ISEAPT on EPA Intervention quality tools, and subsequent database at University of Bergen.
10. Section structure in ISEAPT - Suggested change to four sections where the treatment groups are not based on modalities, but on conditions treated.
    - Measuring methods section (ultrasonography, electrodiagnostic, inclinometers, Thermography, EMG, dynamometers etc.)
    - Wound healing section
    - Musculoskeletal pain section
    - Movement disability section

Minutes respectfully taken by Liisa Laakso and confirmed by Jan M Bjordal

**ISEAPT Business Meeting**

**Mirage Hotel, Las Vegas, NV**

**February 2, 2014**

Attending: Jan M. Bjordal, Jon Joensen, Thiago Fukuda, Oscar Ronzio, Christian Villa, Liisa Laakso, Tim Watson, DAvid Baxter, Steve Tumilty, Ethne Nussbaum, Luther Kloth, Meryl Gersh, Yochy Laufer
President Jan M. Bjordal called the meeting to order: 5:10 p.m.
10 member countries present

Jan provided a President’s report:
Participated in leadership meeting with WCPT and other subgroups - March 2013
Also telephone conferences with leadership of other subgroups
WCPT 2015 congress – Our focused symposium application benefits of being an
official subgroup
On our initiative, WCPT will add "pain" to description of Physical Therapy among
components that physiotherapists address, in addition to other areas of practice in their
description of physiotherapy practice.
Next WCPT meeting - Singapore – May 1-4, 2015

Treasurer report – Meryl Gersh
Setting official dues amount: Discussion regarding dues per member v. a set dues
amount per member country. Dues amount should not be a hardship for small
countries, or for countries with large member numbers.

Motion: Membership dues per member country annual -$300 made by Jan. Tim
seconded
5 in favor
0 opposed

Motion passed to set dues at $300 per year for each member country. However, after
Jan checked our bylaws, we found out that a minimum of 6 member countries are
needed to reach a quorum.

Dues will be billed by Treasurer as soon as a specific bank account can be established
through WCPT. There have been challenges to doing this. Hopefully a structure will
be in place with HSBC. Meryl will continue to work with Brenda Myers at WCPT to
set up a bank account.

Ethne's question - Can countries be members even if they don't have a subgroup in
EPAs? - Jan will follow up with WCPT on this question and also the procedure for
becoming a member country if the country does not have an official EPA subgroup.
Also a question as to whether an individual from a member organization can join if the
MO is not a member.

Discussion on alternative income options:
Brief discussion regarding the possibility of a membership category for corporate
members. Jan will check with WCPT to see if a subgroup may have corporate
members.

Additional question to investigate with WCPT:
Are we permitted to have sponsor logos on our WCPT website?

Possible additional sources of income were discussed:
Sponsored International symposia on electrophysical agents - Luther Kloth
outreach to other countries
Sponsored independent research fund
Research and education - independent of the sponsors’ influence
Task force on sponsorship opportunities (Tim, David, Luther)
Letter letting sponsors know what is happening with ISEAPT and inquiring about types of investment they would like to offer
Task force will report prior to Singapore meeting - with plan for action

Website Discussion
ISEAPT - Oscar Ronzio - another initiative update - WCPT Server $30/year WCPT hits on website - 400 people
Would it make sense to establish our own independent external website with domain name

Issues to manage with either website:
content
webmaster
schedule of updating - weekly? monthly?
link to facebook, twitter
update - new research paper every day - Tim
David asked about disclaimers, conflicts of interest, review process, editorial review
Structure
Ernesto Leal - digestion of information - clinical relevance; article review
"here's some new stuff on…" - 12/year - useful review with clinical relevance.

Web team volunteers: Oscar, Tim, Thiago, Ernesto, Liisa will develop content for website.
Perhaps the February 3rd international symposium course can serve as the reviews for the next year's webpage offerings - agreed.

WCPT Focused Symposium update:
94 submissions for focused symposium for Singapore. 25 accepted:
knee osteoarthritis: Jan, David Baxter, Ernesto, Liisa, Cheing pathophysiology, role of pain, role of EPA's in management of pain and healing.
Tim, Ethne, Sluka, Marco Pang (whole body vibration) will coordinate submission for pre-congress course next week.

Broad Topic Discussion: Subgroup structure
Broader categories rather than lists of EPA's
Use of EPA's for…
examination and measurement strategies
management of people with wound and tissue
management of people with musculoskeletal pain and injury
management of people with movement impairment
Liisa raised possibility of also including contemporary technologies that supplement the above, such as smart phone apps/widgets – this may make the group more relevant to others not necessarily interested in EPA alone.

How do we identify and know ourselves and how to we identify ourselves to others.
Defer discussion to WCPT meeting - agenda item - expanded time frame
Will try to do some discussion prior to Singapore - skype or conference call

Jan summarized Consensus project at University of Bergen
Quality assessment tool for studies on EPAs. - systematic reviews do not work in this area.
EPAQUAL – addresses: incorrect dosing and application of EPAs in studies standards for reporting parameters, calibration (Jan described his research in detail and is seeking feedback.)
Central question: Standardization of assessment of quality of EPA studies. What is essential to include in order to evaluate the efficacy of a given treatment.
Liisa Laakso added this description to the minutes on February 13, 2014
Focused Symposium for WCPT 2015

**Paper #3**

**President’s report ISEAPT 2011-2014**

The achievement of establishing ISEAPT as a subgroup within WCPT was a lengthy process succeeding at the WCPT congress in Amsterdam in June 2011. The process was from ISEAPT led by Ah Cheng Goh. The new status led to new collaborative tasks that had to be performed in conjunction with WCPT. The financial status of ISEAPT has been stable as it has not been possible to transfer our account to United Kingdom and the WCPT system. This has also kept us from demanding membership fees in the period.

A website has been established on the official WCPT website at an annual cost of approximately US$250. The quarterly updates have acted as an information source for members and other interested parties. We have been able to have one business meeting in February 2014 at the Combined Sections Meeting in Las Vegas, USA. This was in conjunction with an EPA course where many of ISEAPT EC members contributed. The President has participated in a number of WCPT activities, including annual teleconferences with the WCPT Secretariat and the other subgroup leaders.

Much work has been put into scientific activities during the Singapore 2015 WCPT congress, and it marks the broadest presentation of EPAs in any WCPT congress to date. ISEAPT will arrange a Pre-congress course, a focused symposium, a Networking session and a Seminar during the congress. We will also give an award to the best EPA abstract at the congress.

Activity in our website has been limited with few contributions. Vice President Oscar has updated ISEAPT activities in social media. Internal communication in the board has been a challenge, and our secretary position has been left with unattended task, and we have tried to compensate for this with board members Liisa Laakso and Vice President Oscar Ronzio helping out in the preparation of GM agenda and papers.

We were surprised and baffled when we saw the first choose wisely recommendation from APTA in USA, which suggested limitation of EPAs use and insinuated that EPAs increased the need for surgery and injections. The President, Vice President and board members Kathleen Sluka and David Baxter responded in a letter to the editor, and pointed out several weaknesses and lack of scientific support for this recommendation.

Two parallel initiatives aiming at improving EPA in clinical use are moving forward in the ISEAPT network. The first is an EPA survey run by Dr. Ah Cheng Goh to map EPA types being used. The second is the EPAQUAL project which aims at developing tools to assess the intervention quality in EPA trials, which is led by the President, Professor Jan M Bjordal.

Although EPAs seem to be under pressure within the PT profession, interest is growing and for the congress we have received new membership applications from SIGs in several countries.

_Bergen, Norway 28th February 2015_
ISEAPT activities in 2011-14 have largely been funded by external sponsor Grieg Foundation. This includes a business meeting during APTA Combined Sessions meeting in Las Vegas, Feb. 5th 2014. Expenses drawn from the ISEAPT joint fund have been limited to WCPT website renewals. There has been an ongoing issue to have an ISEAPT account under the WCPT umbrella, but this has been hampered by regulatory and bureaucratic issues. ISEAPT and WCPT have jointly tried to find solutions for this without success. As a consequence, the below funds are currently deposited by the Academy of Clinical Electrophysiology and Wound Management, APTA in USA.
Incoming balance and expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Paid To</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Line Item</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>02.01.09</td>
<td>APTA</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>$4,000.00</td>
<td>revenues earned from course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.12.11</td>
<td>World Confederation for Physical Therapy</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>$1,275.00</td>
<td>Room rental for ISEAPT Business meeting at the RAI; Convention Center on Wed 22nd &amp; Thurs 23rd June 2011; Room Rental (inc AV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08.04.12</td>
<td>World Confederation for Physical Therapy</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>$238,46</td>
<td>Renewal of ISEAPT website hosted on wcpt.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>06.01.13</td>
<td>World Confederation for Physical Therapy</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>$240,60</td>
<td>Renewal of ISEAPT website hosted on wcpt.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>CSM honoraria payments</td>
<td>C-00-282-000-00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$647.00</td>
<td>EPA pre-con honoraria donated by the speaker back to the Section allocated here</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL $2,892.94</td>
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ISEAPT Joint WCPT Fund

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>13.01.14</td>
<td>Annual Website Renewal</td>
<td>-$2,761.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>31.03.14</td>
<td>Donation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>YEAR END 2014 Balance</td>
<td>$2,616.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.01.15</td>
<td>Annual Website Renewal</td>
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<td>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</td>
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<td>$2,381.01</td>
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Account confirmed on February 16th, 2015 by

Oscar Ronzio  Jan M Bjordal  Meryl Gersh
Vice-President  President  Treasurer

Paper #5

Subgroup reconfirmation form

Submitted on February 2nd, 2015 by the President Jan M Bjordal (see separate pdf attachment)

Paper #6
Election for the executive committee

The nomination of candidates to the executive committee was slow and all suggestions were received less than 4 months before the General Meeting. Due to this fact the President proposed to the Executive committee to form a Nomination committee lead by the Vice President and assisted by the President. The Nomination committee asked for suggestions and received several. The committee asked for confirmation of acceptance form the suggested candidates, but only a few were received.

The suggestions were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position/ Nominator</th>
<th>Norway</th>
<th>Cambodia</th>
<th>Singapore</th>
<th>Hong Kong</th>
<th>Argentina</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oscar Ronzio</td>
<td>Liisa Laakso</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Liisa Laakso</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ah Cheng Goh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Baxter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gladys Cheing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan M Bjordal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Selkowitz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Celia Tan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the suggestions we received, attempts were made to compose an EC team where gender and geographical regions were evenly distributed. In addition, individual suitability and previous performance and contributions to ISEAPT and the EPA research field were weighted. It is the Nomination Committee’s opinion that the team composed and listed below will be the most suitable to bring ISEAPT forward in the coming period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Tim Watson</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Oscar Ronzio</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Liisa Laakso</td>
<td>Singapore/Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Ah Cheng Goh</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 1</td>
<td>David Baxter</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 2</td>
<td>Jan M Bjordal</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 3</td>
<td>Gladys Cheing</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 4</td>
<td>David Selkowitz</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member 5</td>
<td>Celia Tan</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February 28th 2015    Oscar Ronzio    Jan M Bjordal
Membership application from Kuwait

27/1/2015

Dear Professor Jan Magnus Bjordal

Re: Request for membership
My name is Dr Maryam Almandil, Assistant Professor Kuwait University. I would like to apply to ISEAPT as a member.

I am heading an interest group for EPA in Kuwait and the following are the members:

Sharifa Almutairi, BSc PT
Maryam Borhama, BSc PT
Nadia Albader, BSc PT
Khalid Alkhayat, BSc PT
Hebatallah Ibrahim, MSc PT

Myself and all the above mentioned physiotherapists are certified and members of the Kuwait Physical Therapy Association, which is a member of WCPT.

As for the fees of membership I am willing to pay in any method your prefer.

I am hoping that you would consider my application in your next general assembly in Singapore WCPT 2015.

Yours truly;

Dr Maryam, Almandil
Assistant Professor
Chairperson- Physical Therapy Department
Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

PAPER # 7

ISEAPT activities during 2015 WCPT Congress

Thursday April 30th
16.00 to 18.00

Venue: Pan Pacific Hotel, Level 22, “Philippines” room (Congress venue hotel)

ISEAPT GENERAL MEETING
Pre-congress course: Acute and Chronic Pain Management: Evidence-Based Role of Electrophysical Agents
Nussbaum E., Watson T., Sluka K., Pang M.

Description
Pain can be a symptom associated with acute injury, or the disease itself when it becomes chronic. Electrophysical agents are commonly used as adjunct treatments to help therapists and patients manage their pain. This course aims to provide a comprehensive and in-depth appreciation of the role of EPAs in the management of both acute and chronic musculoskeletal pain. We will further discuss how EPAs are integrated in a pain management plan that includes education, exercise, self-management and interdisciplinary care. Basic and clinical evidence for EPAs, including thermal agents, ultrasound, laser, electrotherapeutic agents, and vibration therapy will be presented. Using an evidence-based approach, clinical reasoning for modality selection will include a discussion of appropriate parameters and doses, patient population, and outcome measures. Specifically, this course will cover: 1. The chemical and neurophysiological basis of musculoskeletal pain; 2. Evidence supporting the use of EPAs to address common problems that underlie the symptoms of pain in musculoskeletal disorders, such as swelling, sprains, strains, and muscle weakness; 3. Evidence supporting the use of EPAs to directly address the symptoms of pain associated with common musculoskeletal disorders. 4. Use of EPAs as part of a comprehensive pain management plan. The format will include presentations by experts in EPAs and provide adequate time for an interactive discussion. We will further provide time for small and large group activities centered on case studies. The course will provide key references that include systematic reviews, literature reviews, and primary literature on pain neurobiology and EPAs. The target audience includes academics, clinician scientists and clinicians involved in pain management including those in pediatrics, elderly, sports, orthopedics, rheumatology and general practice. Information will be relevant to patients of all ages and applicable in diverse treatment setting.
Focused symposium

Evidence based use of electrophysical agents for managing musculoskeletal pain
Bjordal J.M., Baxter D., Leal Junior E., Cheing G., Laakso L.

Description
The primary aim of this focused symposium is to revisit electrophysical agents (EPA) and to reassert their value as one of the pillars of physiotherapy. During the past decade we have seen more than a doubling of published EPA trials. According to PEDro, EPA records have risen from 1219 to 2791 RCTs. In addition, the more recent EPA trials score high on methodological quality, with 78 trials receiving scores of 9 or 10 out of 10 in the PEDro database. This new evidence partly overthrows the myth that EPA trials are lacking or of poor quality. A number of EPAs now have a strong evidence-base and the symposium will provide examples of where the evidence is powerful and in the context of a degenerative clinical condition that is often refractory to conservative management. Convenor (JMB) will introduce the session and make the case for why EPA are safer than and just as effective as simple analgesia for managing pain symptoms in some acute and chronic musculoskeletal disorders. In a relatively recent systematic review, Presenter 1 (GDB) and colleagues found that there were a few select predictive variables for progression of knee osteoarthritis (OA) for which there was strong evidence and which can be easily evaluated and utilized in clinical practice. One such predictor was generalized or multiple joint OA which may reflect an underlying systemic influence on cartilage. The influence of acute inflammatory cytokines has recently been associated with the development of cartilage erosion and synovial inflammation in OA. Hence, Presenter 2 (ECLJ) will discuss the pathophysiology of OA and examples of how one specific EPA (low level laser therapy) has been shown to have an effect on the inflammatory mediators involved in the acute stages of joint disease. As another example, Presenter 3 (GLYC) will revisit TENS and discuss the optimization of its use for chronic OA pain relief in the clinical setting. Presenter 4 The Chair (LL) will then invite questions from the floor and mediate an interactive discussion with Symposium panel members of matters raised in the presentations. Finally, the Convenor (JMB) will summarize the outcomes of the Symposium and draw some conclusions that will assist delegates to apply EPA for acute and chronic joint disorders using an evidence-based approach; and suggest a likely future for EPA as part of the total management of acute and chronic joint conditions.
Sunday May 3\textsuperscript{rd}

Time: 08:30 to 10.00

Place: Room 331-332

Subgroup seminar: The ISEAPT evidence-based initiative for assessing and improving intervention quality and reporting in studies with Electro Physical Agents.

The International Society for Electrophysical Agents in Physical Therapy (ISEAPT) will present a seminar in which the following questions will be explored:

- Is the prevailing Cochrane-model for assessment of scientific evidence valid and suitable for EPAs?
- How can we identify dose-response patterns by systematic reviews and subgroup meta-analyses?
- Is it possible to measure the quality and validity of EPA interventions in published trials? (Presentation of the EPAQUAL initiative).
- Is a new benchmark for reporting parameters needed: outcome timing and assessments in trials with transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS)?

Seminar contributors:
Prof. Jan M. Bjordal, Norway (Chair and President)
Prof. G. David Baxter, New Zealand
Assoc. Prof. Jon Joensen, Norway
Prof. Kathleen Sluka, USA

Sunday May 3\textsuperscript{rd}

Time: 10:45 to 12.15

Place: Room 310-311

Networking session: Electrophysical agents (International Society for Electrophysical Agents in Physical Therapy)

- What is the status for EPA recommendations in current clinical guidelines of common musculoskeletal disorders like neck and back pain, tendinopathies and osteoarthritis?
- How can we bring forward neglected evidence of clinically relevant effects and make them more visible in clinical guidelines?

Contributors: Jan M Bjordal and EC members from ISEAPT