

# Newsletter n°3



## Summary newsletter MFM N°3 October 2009:

- 1 Validation study of the MFM-20 is finished
- 2 New French and English editions of the User's Manual
- 3 The Dutch and Portuguese version
- 4 The first meeting of users of the MFM
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- 6 Initial training on the MFM for physical therapy students :
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### ► 1. The validation study of the MFM-20 is finished :

The validation study of the MFM-20 in children less than 7 years old with neuromuscular disorders is finished. Within the framework of this study, 88 children were included between April 2009 and March 2009 by 13 French, Swiss and Belgian teams. The results will be analyzed. The study of sensitivity to change in this population is in progress.

### ► 2. New French and English editions of the User's Manual :

Translations into different languages and exchanges during numerous training sessions for the utilization of the MFM have brought more precision in the text to the scoring of the items on the test. These minor modifications should facilitate the scoring of the patient's performance and lead to better inter-observer reproducibility. These new editions take the items of the MFM-20 into account. These editions will be downloadable on the website in December. The print edition of the French version will be available by the end of the year. It will be distributed by the Affaires Medicales Department of AFM ([mminous@afm.genethon.fr](mailto:mminous@afm.genethon.fr)).

### ► 3. The Dutch and Portuguese version :

**The Dutch version** which was validated during a workshop in Amsterdam in November 2008 will be available and downloadable from the website at the end of the year.

**The Portuguese version** which was validated by a Brazilian team has been the subject of a publication in *la Revista Brasileira de Fisioterapia* 2008; 12:417-424.

### ► 4. The first meeting of users of the MFM :

The first meeting of users of the MFM took place on 2009 July 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was attended by about 50 health professionals, physicians and physical therapists from Switzerland, Belgium and France. It provided an occasion for exchanging information on clinical studies which have used the MFM, and to review the main principles of scoring by discussion of the videos.

A second meeting is planned for 2010 May 4 at the Institut de Myologie in Paris.

### ► 5. The MFM Database on the Internet :

The MFM Database which stores the results from the MFM for each patient is available on the Internet and therefore accessible in all countries. If you are interested in [adding to this database](#) by depositing your data collected during the MFM testing, you should sign the charter and send a message to [c.payan@institut-myologie.org](mailto:c.payan@institut-myologie.org), who will send you a log-in and password. The database is directed by [the Pilot Committee for the MFM](#) which defines its function and utilization of its data. It will make a large quantity of data available which will facilitate the study of the natural history of

the diseases and the effect of therapeutic measures. Anyone who provides data is included in the "MFM Study Group." The [mfm-nmd.org](http://mfm-nmd.org) site and the last version of the charter have information about participation in this group. Analyses of data on DMD, FSH, Steinert myotonic dystrophy, CMT and SMA are provided at the end of the publications, which will mention the name of the MFM Study Group. Other suggestions for analysis may be submitted to the Pilot Committee ([carole.berard@chu-lyon.fr](mailto:carole.berard@chu-lyon.fr)).

#### ▶ 6. Initial training on the MFM for physical therapy students :

Initial training on the MFM for physical therapy students. The development of the MFM has encouraged the Training Institutes in Masso-physiotherapy to ask for training sessions for the students. We invite all Institutes teachers who would like to provide this training to their students [to contact us](#).

#### ▶ 7. The usefulness of the MFM in Duchenne muscular dystrophy :

An article describing the usefulness of the MFM in Duchenne muscular dystrophy is available on-line from the site of the journal [Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology](#).

#### ▶ 8. Posters during the annual meeting of the World Muscle Society :

During the annual meeting of the World Muscle Society which was held on 9-12 September 2009 in Geneva, [three posters](#) were presented :

.An article describing the usefulness of the MFM in Duchenne muscular dystrophy is available on-line from the site of the journal .During the annual meeting of the World Muscle Society which was held on 9-12 September 2009 in Geneva, were presented :

- The Motor Function Measure: Sensitivity to change
- The Motor Function Measure: Construction of a short form (MFM-20) for children with neuromuscular diseases aged between 2 and 6 years old
- Use of the Motor function measure to assess motor function in patients with spinal muscular atrophy

The MFM has also been used by two groups from Lausanne and Leuven for Duchenne muscular dystrophy patients who could still walk in which they distinguished 2 severity groups (>or<87% of the total score) and studied their motor activity (PY Jeannet).

#### ▶ 9. Meetings :

[Treat-NMD](#) Network meeting in Brussels in November  
Neuromuscular Disease Meeting in Montpellier in March 2010  
2nd meeting of MFM users in Paris, May 4, 2010

#### ▶ 10. Project :

The preparation of a self-training DVD for the use of the MFM has just begun. It will be available at the end of 2010. How to acquire this DVD will be explained in a coming newsletter.

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