HORIZ N 2020

PROJECT DELIVERABLE REPORT

OActive

Project Title:

Advanced personalised, multi-scale computer models preventing osteoarthritis
SC1-PM-17-2017 - Personalised computer models and in-silico systems for well-being

Deliverable number	D10.8
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Dissemination Level (PU/PP/RE/CO):	PU
Project coordinator	University of Nicosia (UNIC)
Tel:	**+357 22 841 528**
Fax:	**+357 22 357481**
Email:	**felekkis.k@unic.ac.cy** **&** **giannaki.c@unic.ac.cy**
Project web site address	www.oactive.eu

Revision History

Version	Date	Responsible	Description/Remarks/Reason for changes
1.0	27/04/2021	AXIA (Ioanna Katsavou)	First Draft
1.1	28/04/2021	AXIA (Ioanna Deligkiozi)	Review draft
1.2	30/04/2021	UNIC (Kyriacos Felekkis)	Review draft
1.3	05/05/2021	CETRI (Ioanna Barouni)	Additional Comments

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1   Summary

This report is linked with deliverable D10.8: "OActive final conference" and is part of Task 10.5: Organizing the OActive Conference and training Sessions. The conference is organized by AXIA Innovation, and took place online on April 23rd 2021, at M42 of the OActive project. The title of the event was: "From modelling to clinical predictive and interventional tools to treat OA". The technical organisation of the event was supported by MD Congress. To attend the conference a free registration was required and all registrations were mapped, following OActive's Privacy Policy. A website was set up to host the live video and included all the relevant information about the event. The event was announced to OActive's website, AXIA Innovation's website, the Cordis Wire Platform, as well as on the project's social media platforms. The conference agenda included the event invitation, the timetable of the 5 sessions of the conference and the list of presenters. Among the presenters, representatives of the consortium, invited speakers in the different scientific fields the project covers, as well as coordinators/participants in other EU-funded initiatives, were included. Invited projects were selected based on their focus on providing personalised solutions and treatment of osteoarthritis. The event included five sessions and it was successful with a large number of interested stakeholders attending it. The video recording of the event is available online on YouTube.

2   Introduction

In this document all activities related to the Deliverable 10.8 "OActive final Conference" are summarised. OActive conference titled: "From modelling to clinical predictive and interventional tools to treat Osteoarthritis", was organized online by AXIA Innovation, on April 23rd 2021, due to COVID-19 limitations. The event was realised with the participation of the whole consortium, aiming at spreading the word on how a more comprehensive and holistic understanding of disease pathophysiology, dynamics, and patient outcomes can improve healthcare by transforming and accelerating the Osteoarthritis (OA) diagnosis and prediction. Invited speakers from institutions and companies around Europe were also invited. Similar EU initiatives were also included, describing the main technologies employed around OA prevention, and opened discussions between different scientific fields on how to improve the quality of life of the patients.

The conference was addressed to the medical care industry, research & education communities, stakeholders, and other relevant initiatives in the field of Osteoarthritis prevention, with the view to improve healthcare by transforming and accelerating the OA diagnosis and prediction based on a more comprehensive and holistic understanding of disease pathophysiology, dynamics, and patient outcomes.

2.1   Purpose and Scope

Osteoarthritis (OA) is a degenerative disease of the joints and the most common form of arthritis that causes pain and mobility limitation and, thus, reduces independence and overall quality of life. Osteoarthritis is a complex disease in which biochemical and biomechanical factors are involved and occurs mostly in the weight-bearing joints of the lower limbs, such as the hip and in particular the knee.

This conference that was organized by AXIA Innovation, with the support of MD Congress, had the vision to provide new insights, towards the adoption of multi-scale holistic analysis, where patient-specific information from various levels, including molecular (e.g. biochemical/inflammatory biomarkers), cell, tissue, and whole body, will be integrated and combined with information from environmental, behavioural and social risk factors to generate robust predictors for new personalised interventions for delaying the onset and/or slowing down the progression of OA. Moreover, discussions on how a combination of mechanistic computational models, simulations, and big data analytics can target patient-specific OA prediction and interventions were included. Overcoming the limitation of the current treatment interventions, Augmented Reality (AR) empowered interventions allow patients to experience the treatment as more enjoyable, resulting in greater motivation, engagement, and training adherence.

One of the main objectives of this Conference was to familiarise the audience with the OActive technologies and to give the floor to scientists in relevant fields to express their views and approaches on addressing similar conditions, all related to osteoarthritis. In vivo, in vitro, and in silico model approaches along with personalized modeling and interventions, were presented. Seventeen (17) representatives of the OActive consortium and fourteen (14) invited speakers comprised the panel of presenters and chairs. The project officer, Mrs Saila Rinne, Head of Policy Sector, DG CONNECT, Unit eHealth Well-Being and Ageing of European Commission also attended the event and gave a warm welcome to the conference. Relevant H2020 initiatives also presented their work on the field of osteoarthritis prevention and prediction. Namely, the invited projects are MetaJoint, AutoCRAT, ArthritisHeal, uKNEEversal and ADMAIORA, as a result of the clustering activities, undertaken by CETRI.

2.2   Conference Website

A website dedicated to the Conference was designed, where all information related to the event was included. The **Home Page** included the program and the registration link and it was easy to access. **Videos tab** included the OActive introductory video that could be accessed any time before the meeting, and the video link that was broadcasted live during the event. All participants would need to register in order to have access to the live recording. The **Schedule tab** included all presentations categorised per session, along with the presenters per session and finally, in the **Speakers tab,** anyone could have a clear view of the presentations and sessions every presenter is participating/chairing.
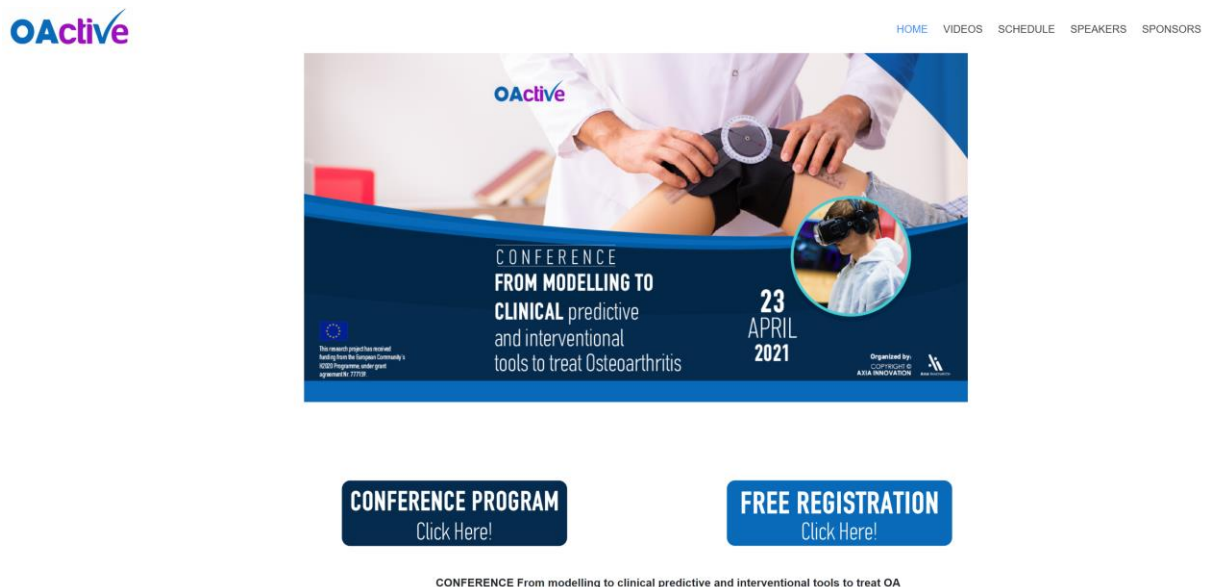

Figure 1 Conference's Website

2.3   Programme and communication material

The programme includes a short invitation, the sessions and presentation along with the presenters' and chairs' details and pictures. A consortium meeting was organized to decide the main topics of the Conference, the sessions and to make a list of the possible invited speakers. The Conference programme can be found in Figure 2, as well as online on the conference's website.

OActive

AGENDA

The Conference Agenda time is in Central Europe Summer Time (CEST)

PLENARY SESSION
Chairs : **Saila Rinne**, OActive Project Officer, Head of Policy Sector, DG CONNECT, Unit eHealth Well-Being and Ageing, European Commission
Prof Kyriacos Felekkis, OActive project coordinator, Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus

09.00-09.10	**Opening speech** *Saila Rinne, OActive Project Officer, Head of Policy Sector, DG CONNECT, Unit eHealth Well-Being and Ageing, European Commission*
09.10-09.20	**OActive Project Vision** *Prof Kyriacos Felekkis, OActive project coordinator, Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus*
09.20-09.30	**Ethics related activities** *Mahault Piéchaud Boura, Legal Consultant, Timelex, Belgium*

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SESSION I : OSTEOARTHRITIS BIOMARKERS EVALUATION IN VIVO
Chairs : **Prof Christoforos Giannaki**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus
Dr Ramon Messeguer, Head of the Drug development Area Health and Biomedicine Department, Leitat Technological Center, Spain

09.30-09.45	**The oxymoron of shoulder arthopathy: Are biomarkers the key to optimal therapies?** *Dr. Emmanouel Antonogiannakis, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Director, 3rd Orthopaedics Dpt., Hygeia Hospital, Greece*
09.45-10.00	**Impact of environmental and socioeconomic factors on pain and function in knee OA** *Dr Thijs Swinnen, Postdoc researcher Research Group for Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation, KU Leuven, Belgium*
10.00-10.15	**OA-related exosomal and microbiome biomarkers** *Dr Ramon Messeguer, Head of the Drug development Area Health and Biomedicine Department, Leitat Technological Center, Spain* *Mr Radu Ghemis, R&D Microbiome Researcher, LEITAT Technological Center, Spain*
10.15-10.30	**Inflammation and degradation biomarkers in OA patients** *Dr Christos Papaneophytou, Assistant Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus*
10.30-10.45	**Impact of the clinical evaluation and the OActive database** *Dr Christos Papaneophytou, Assistant Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus* *Mr Efthymis Stathakis, Senior Data Scientist, CETRI, Cyprus*
10.45-11.00	**Short break**

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SESSION II: IN VITRO MODELS
Chairs: **Prof Kyriacos Felekkis**, OActive project coordinator, Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus
Dr Ioanna Katsavou, Chemical Engineer, Dissemination Manager at Axia Innovation, Germany

11.00-11.20	**Mechanically induced MSC chondrogenesis: Using movement to drive biological responses** *Prof Martin Stoddart, PhD, FRSB, Program Leader – Regenerative Orthopaedics, Principal Scientist, AO Research Institute Davos (ARI)	AO Foundation, Switzerland*
11.20-11.35	**QREM CYTOKINE: A lab-in-a-box technology to treat osteoarthritis** *Núria Noguera Ferrer, Co-founder and CTO of Tecnologia Regenerativa QREM, Spain*
11.35-11.50	**Biomarkers: The manufacturing and regulatory aspect** *Dr Dimitrios Karathanasis, BScHons, PhD, MBA/ Biochemist-Cellular Engineer, Scientific Director, Allegene Pharmalabs Hellas, Greece*
11.50-12.05	**Tissue engineering and osteoarthritis models** *Dr Roberto di Gesu, Post doc researcher, Ri.MED Foundation, Italy*
12.05-12.20	**Impact of in vitro musculoskeletal models** *Prof Riccardo Gottardi, Principal Investigator, Ri.MED Foundation, Italy*
12.20-13.00	**Lunch break**

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SESSION III: IN SILICO MODELS
Chairs: **Prof Bill Baltzopoulos**, Biomechanics, Liverpool John Moores University, UK
Prof Konstantinos Moustakas, Associate Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, University of Patras, Greece

13.00-13.20	**Musculoskeletal Biomechanics modelling** *Dr David Britzman, Research Associate in Biomechanics, Liverpool John Moores University, UK* *Dr Dimitris Tsaopoulos, Researcher on computational modeling and biomechanics, CERTH, Greece* *Prof Konstantinos Moustakas, Associate Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, University of Patras, Greece*
13.20-13.35	**Musculoskeletal models and joint loading: a quest towards dynamic consistency** *Dario Cazzola, Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Biomechanics, Department for Health, University of Bath, UK*
13.35-13.50	**Deep learning-based Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Image Analysis for Improved Guidance of Repaired Tetralogy of Fallot Arrhythmia Interventions** *Dr Archontis Giannakidis, Assistant Professor in Data Science, School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University, UK*
13.50-14.05	**Impact of the in silico musculoskeletal models** *Prof Bill Baltzopoulos, Biomechanics, Liverpool John Moores University, UK* *Prof Paulo Lisboa Professor in Applied Mathematics, Liverpool John Moores University, UK*

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SESSION IV:ICT-BASED PERSONALIZED MODELING AND INTERVENTIONS
Chairs: **Dr Dimitris Tsaopoulos**, Researcher on computational modeling and biomechanics, CERTH, Greece
Dr Ioanna Katsavou, Chemical Engineer, Dissemination Manager at Axia Innovation, Germany

14.05-14.20	**Real-time Musculoskeletal Kinematics and Dynamics Analysis Using Marker- and IMU-Based Solutions in Rehabilitation** *Dr Dimitar Stanev, Postdoctoral researcher, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland*
14.20-14.35	**Automatic generation of personalized skeletal models of the lower limb using the open source STAPLE toolbox** *Luca Modenese, Research Fellow, Imperial College London, UK*
14.35-14.55	**Impact of augmented reality (AR) interventions in Osteoarthritis** *Prof Konstantinos Moustakas, Associate Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, University of Patras, Greece*
14.55-15.10	**Short break**

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SESSION V: RELEVANT H2020 INITIATIVES
Chairs: **Ioanna Barouni**, Innovation Manager CETRI, Cyprus
Prof Kyriacos Felekkis, OActive project coordinator, Professor in the Department of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia, Cyprus

15.10-15.25	**MetaJoint: Novel MRI strategies for osteoarthritis** *Prof Harrie Weinans, Associate Professor, UMC Utrecht, University Utrecht, Dpt. Orthopedics, Netherlands*
15.25-15.40	**AutoCRAT: for automated manufacturing of novel, next generation regenerative therapies for osteoarthritis** *Prof Mary Murphy, Professor in Regenerative Medicine, Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDI), National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland*
15.40-15.55	**ArthritisHeal: Lipid biology in the rheumatic diseases, the ArthritisHeal consortium** *Dr Martin Giera, Head Metabolomics group, Leiden University Medical Center, Netherlands*
15.55-16.10	**uKNEEversal: towards a mechanically active fully human osteoarthritic (OA) joint on chip model to screen the efficacy of anti-OA drugs and medical devices** *Paola Occhetta, MSCA-IF Postdoctoral fellow at Politecnico di Milano and CEO of BiomimX S.r.l., Italy*
16.10-16.25	**Nanocomposite hydrogels and ultrasound to treat OA: the ADMAIORA paradigm** *Dr Lorenzo Vannozzi, Technologist, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*
16.25-16.45	**CLOSING REMARKS AND EVALUATION** *Prof Kyriacos Felekkis, OActive project coordinator* *Dr Ioanna Katsavou, Dissemination Manager, Axia Innovation*
16.45	**END OF CONFERENCE**

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Figure 2 Conference's Agenda

Dissemination material

The dissemination material designed for the conerence is presented below in different sizes to fit different templates

Figure 3 Conference's Dissemination Material

2.4   Registration

Through the website, registration to the conference was requested, providing general information such as email address, name, affiliation, entity and country (
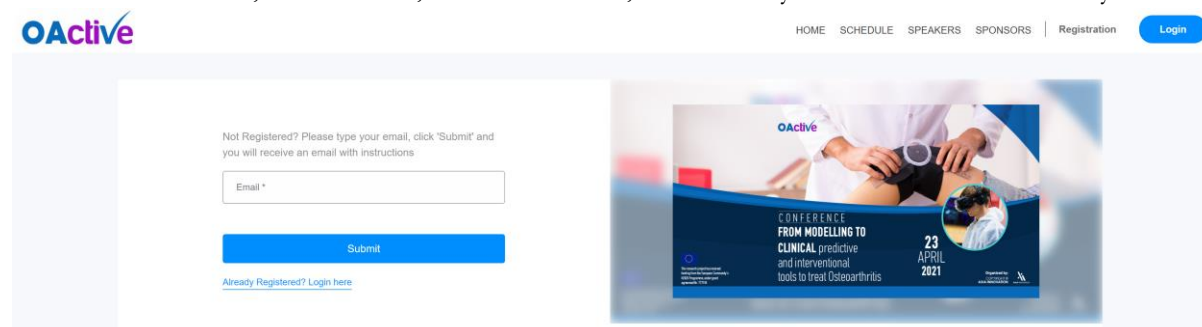

Figure 4). The registration was performed through the dedicated platform designed for the conference (see section 2.2).

Before finalising the registration, the participants have received an e-mail, in order to validate their email addresses. The overall number of registrants was 200.
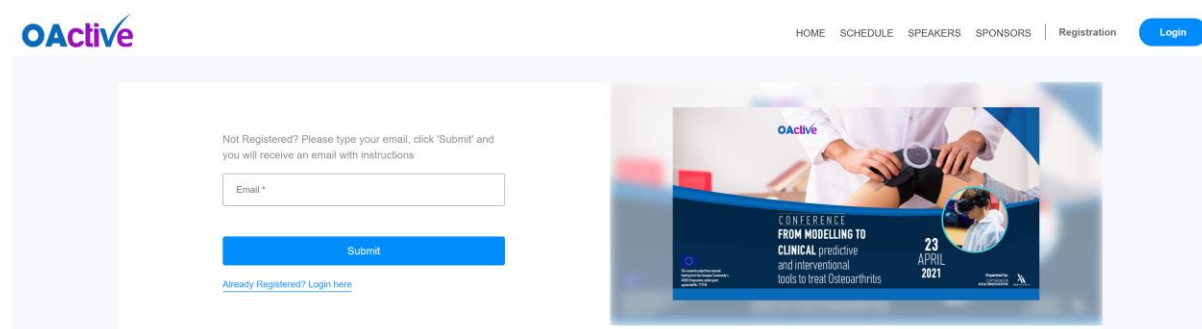

Figure 4. Conference registration

2.5   Event promotion

2.5.1   Social media activity

Campaigns in all three social media platforms (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter) were organised using the dissemination material already designed for the conference. Overall 5 posts per social media platform were uploaded.

Figure 5. Indicative social media post

Events were also created on LinkedIn and Facebook to engage even more participants, as presented below.
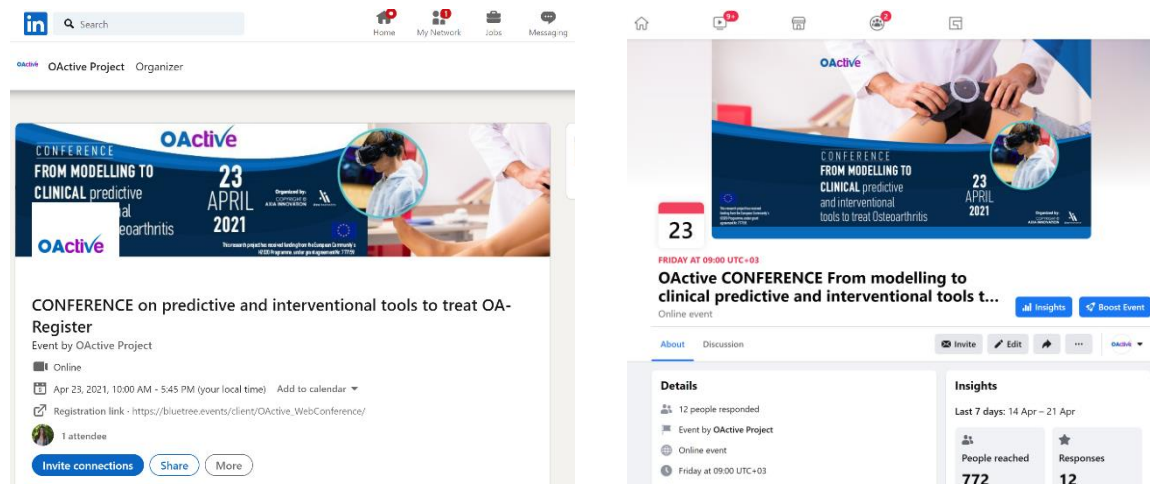

Figure 6. Social media events

2.5.2   OActive Website

The conference was announced also on the OActive website on the home page.

Figure 7. OActive's website announcement

2.5.3   Cordis wire

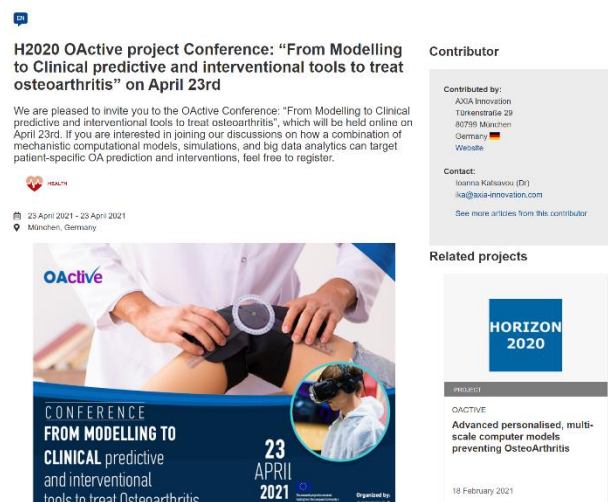The event has been also promoted in CORDIS wire in order to reach a wider audience.

Figure 8. Conference announcement on Cordis Wire

2.5.4   Other online Announcements

AXIA Innovation's website-home page:

Figure 9. Conference announcement on AXIA's website

MD Congress's website-upcoming events:

Figure 10. Conference announcement on MD Congress's website

Other announcements

Table 1. Other announcements of the event

A/A	Entity	Links

1	Piraeus medical association	https://wwwiatrikospeiraia.gr/synedria/
2	Larissa medical association	https://www.isli.gr/
3	Magnisia medical association	http://www.ismagnesia.gr/el/events-conferances_results.php
4	Fthiotida medical association	https://www.isf.gr/index.php/synedria?limit=10&start=20
5	Kavala medical association	https://www.iskavalas.gr/index.php/sinedria?start=30
6	Hellenic Society of Bone Metabolism	http://www.eemmo.gr/%cf%83%cf%85%ce%bd%ce%b5%ce%b4%cf%81%ce%b9%ce%b1-%ce%b1%ce%bb%ce%bb%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%b5%cf%84%ce%b1%ce%b9%cf%81%ce%b5%ce%b9%cf%89%ce%bd/
7	Orthopedic Society of Northern Greece	https://www.orthotemath.gr/
8	Medical congresses	https://medicalcongress.gr/iatriko-synedrio/oactive-from-modelling-to-clinical-predictive-and-interventional-tools-to-treat-oa/

2.6   Invitations – Group of stakeholders

Newsletters were sent in different groups of interest in order to disseminate the event:

- OActive newletter subscribers
- OActive consortium
- OActive consortium's network
- OActive cluster projects
- Scientific community in relative fields
- Medical organisations
- Rehabilitation centers
- Physiotherapy centers

AXIA and MD Congress disseminated widely the event. CETRI, supported AXIA on the identification of stakeholders and similar projects, as being responsible for building the OActive community. Overall more than 600 contacts were made and regular reminders were sent.

2.7   Preparatory actions

A test meeting was organised among smaller groups of speakers, to check the online platform and to solve any potential technical drawbacks. The meeting's scope was to give guidelines on the responsibilities of the chairs and the presenters, and check if there are any technical drawbacks for the conduct of the conference.

A zoom link was shared among the presenters in order to join the event at the day of the conference. Presenters were encouraged to use their cameras when presenting. After the end of each presentation presenters will receive questions, asked by the chairs. Moreover, a presentation template was shared to all speakers, which however was not mandatory to use.
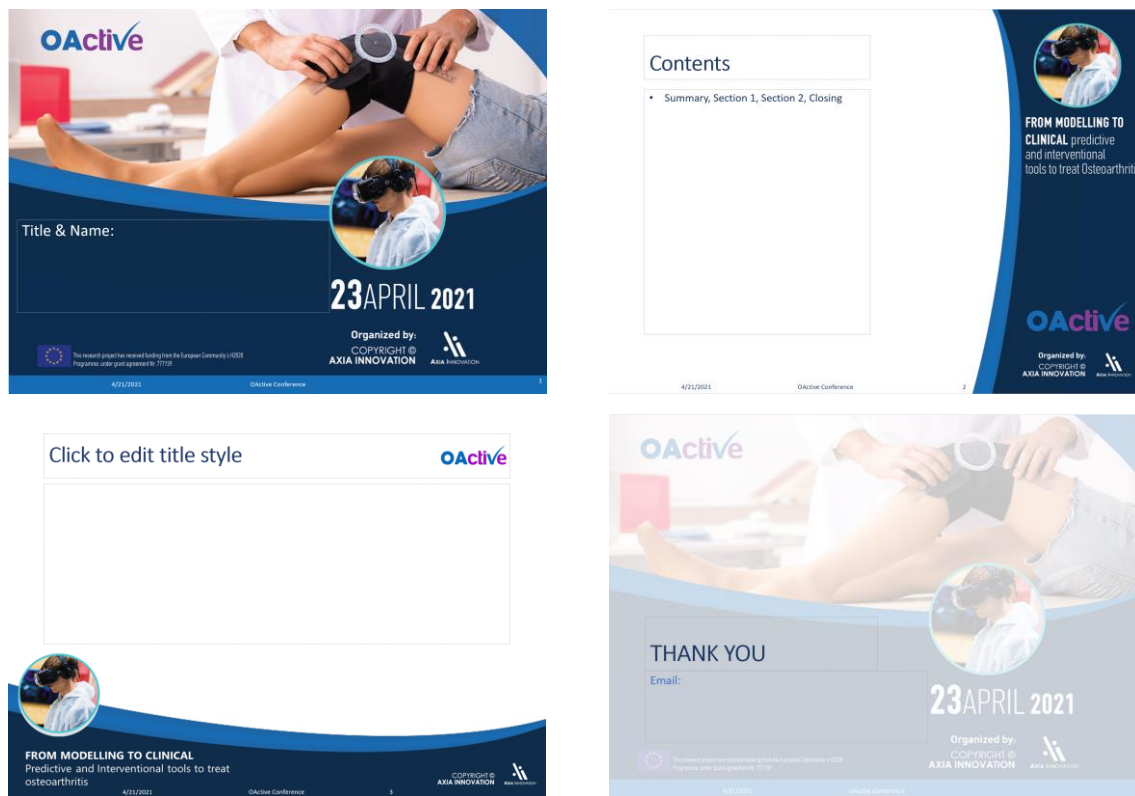
Figure 11. Presentation template

3   The Event

The event took place online with a great participation from interested stakeholders around Europe. Overall, 150 unique participants connected on the platform on the day of the event. The event started at 9.00 am CEST and ended at 17.00 pm CEST.

In brief, the sessions are summarized below:

- PLENARY SESSION
- SESSION I: OSTEOARTHRITIS BIOMARKERS EVALUATION IN VIVO
- SESSION II: IN VITRO MODELS
- SESSION III: IN SILICO MODELS
- SESSION IV:ICT-BASED PERSONALIZED MODELING AND INTERVENTIONS
- SESSION V: RELEVANT H2020 INITIATIVES

3.1   Presenters

Conference presenters were a combination of consortium members, who presented the results and lessons learnt during the project, as well as experts working on biomarkers, tissue engineering, predictive models, musculoskeletal models and augmented reality interventions, among other, aiming to the early diagnosis and prognosis of OA.

Overall 31 presenters participated in the conference. The presenters were invited to the ZOOM platform, while the audience would attend the meeting through the website designed for the conference, under the tab "Videos". Among the presenters, consortium members were represented by UNIC, LJMU, University of Patras, CERTH, RIMED, KULeuven, LEITAT, TIMELEX and CETRI. Moreover, 14 invited speakers

participated, including the OActive's project officer Mrs Saila Rinne, Head of Policy Sector, DG CONNECT, Unit eHealth Well-Being and Ageing of European Commission. The invited speakers are summarised below:

- **Núria Noguera Ferrer** Co-founder and CTO of Tecnologia Regenerativa QREM, Spain
- **Prof Martin Stoddart,** PhD, FRSB Program Leader – Regenerative Orthopaedics, Principal Scientist AO Research Institute Davos (ARI) | AO Foundation, Switzerland
- **Dr Emmanouel Antonogiannakis** Orthopaedic Surgeon, Director, 3rd Orthopaedics Dpt., Hygeia Hospital, Greece
- **Dr Dimitrios Karathanasis** BScHons, PhD, MBA/ BiochemistCellular Engineer, Scientific Director, Allegene Pharmalabs Hellas, Greece
- **Dario Cazzola** Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Biomechanics, Department for Health, University of Bath,UK
- **Dr Dimitar Stanev** Postdoctoral researcher, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland
- **Dr Archontis Giannakidis** Assistant Professor in Data Science, School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University, UK
- Luca Modenese Research Fellow, Imperial College London, UK
- Professor Mary Murphy Professor in Regenerative Medicine, Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDI), National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland
- **Dr Martin Giera** Head of Metabolomics group, Leiden University Medical Center, Netherlands
- **Radu Ghemis** R&D Microbiome Researcher, LEITAT Technological Center, Spain
- **Paola Occhetta** MSCA-IF Postdoctoral fellow at Politecnico di Milano and CEO of BiomimX S.r.l., Italy
- **Dr Lorenzo Vannozzi** Technologist, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy
- **Prof Harie Weinans** Associate Professor, UMC Utrecht, University Utrecht, Dpt. Orthopedics , Netherlands

Among the invited speakers, 5 were representatives of the 5 invited projects seen below.

- **MetaJoint:** Novel MRI strategies for osteoarthritis
- **AutoCRAT:** for automated manufacturing of novel, next generation regenerative therapies for osteoarthritis
- **ArthritisHeal:** Lipid biology in the rheumatic diseases, the ArthritisHeal consortium
- **uKNEEversal**: towards a mechanically active fully human osteoarthritic (OA) joint on chip model to screen the efficacy of anti-OA drugs and medical devices
- Nanocomposite hydrogels and ultrasound to treat OA: the **ADMAIORA** paradigm

The sessions were chaired by 2 chairs per session, coming from CETRI, AXIA. UNIC, CERTH, LEITAT, LJMU, and University of Patras, along with our Project Officer (Mrs Saila Rinne), chaining the plenary session.

3.2   Photo gallery

During the virtual event, several pictures were taken. The photos can be shared and used for dissemination purposes among the consortium and beyond.
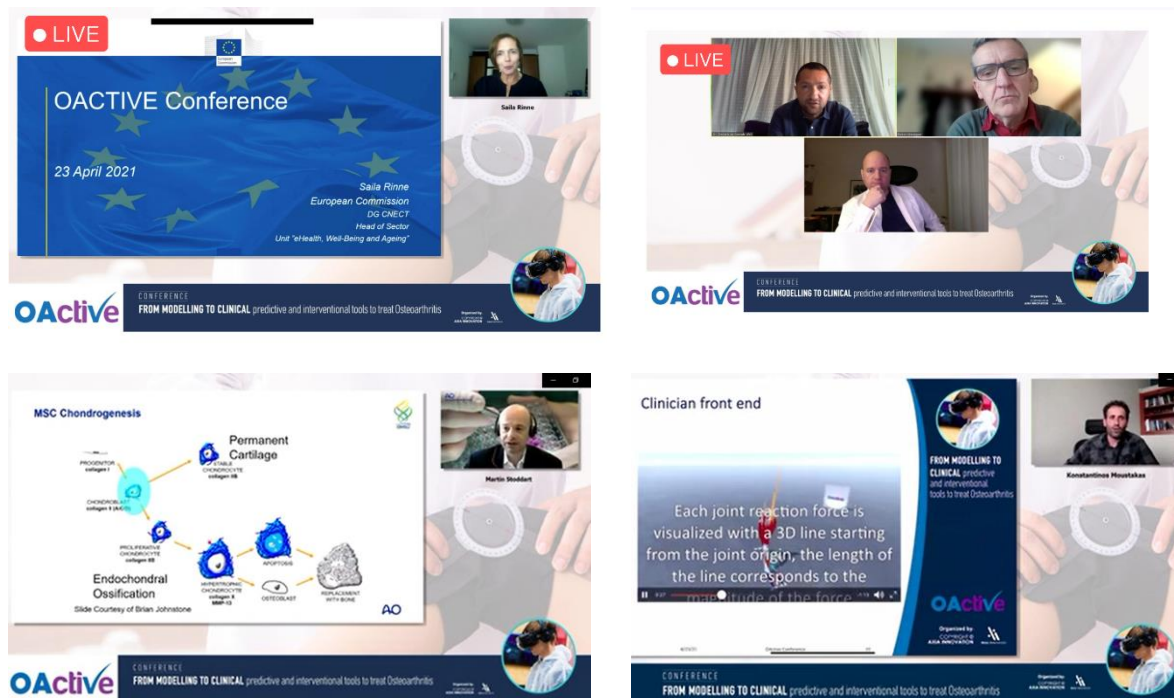
Figure 12. Pictures during the conference

4   After the event

4.1   Social media post

A post related to the organisation of the Conference was posted on the OActive website and social media platforms, mentioning that the recording and training material will be shortly available on YouTube.
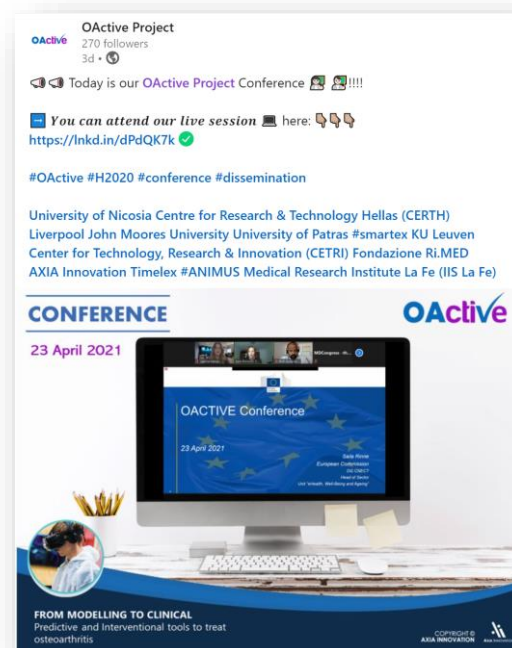

Figure 13. Social media post

4.2   Video recording

The OActive Conference was recorded and the video is kept for future use and for those that did not have the chance to attend the Conference on the day of the event. Participants were informed that the sessions were being recorded and that would be distributed after the event. The conference recording can be found on YouTube.
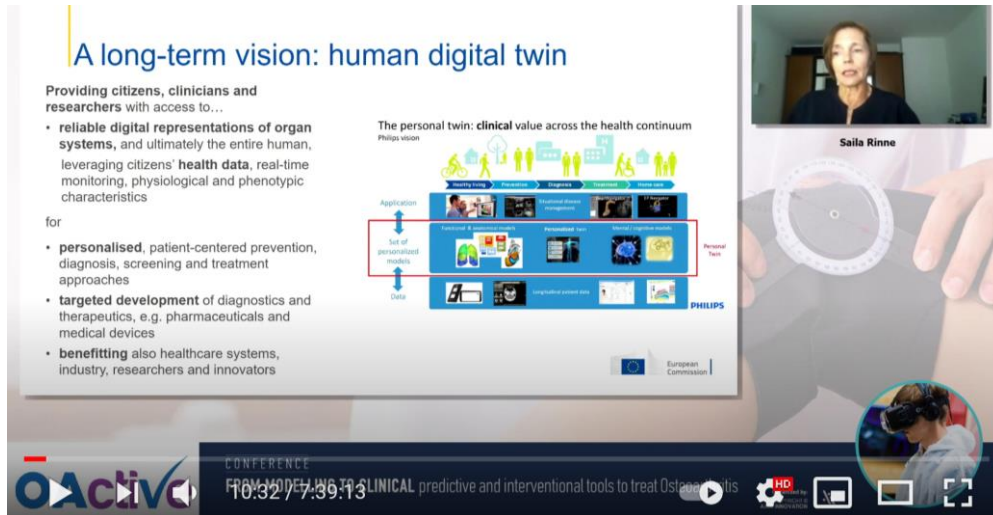

Figure 14. YouTube video for the OActive Conference

4.3   OActive conference survey

A final survey was sent to the conference participants after the completion of the event. The aim was to collect information on the evaluation of the conference organisation and content, as well as the OActive concept and the field of personalised/predictive models. The Conference survey was created in Google forms and has gathered the general thoughts and the impact of the event.

Figure 15. OActive Conference survey

Based on the evaluation of the survey it was found that 60.5 % were male and 39.5 female, while 34.9% were in an age range between 20 and 29 y.o., 32.6% between 30 and 39 y.o., followed by 23.3% being between 40-49.
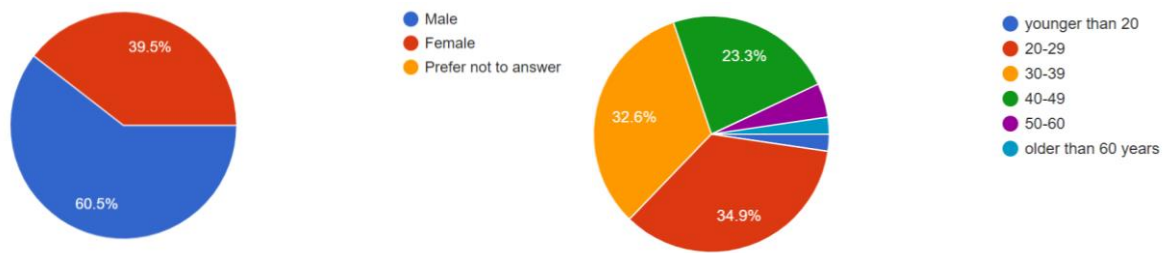
Figure 16. Conference participants a. gender and b. age

Attendees' countries of residence were mainly: Greece, Spain, Belgium, and UK, followed by Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands and Cyprus, among others. Most attendees were healthcare providers (doctors, caregivers etc) at a percentage of 30.4%, followed by scientists with a background on i. computational models, musculoskeletal models (17.4%), ii. biomarkers (15.2%) and iii. Tissue engineering (15.2%).

Based on the audience's opinion on the Conference most participants seemed to be very much satisfied with the Conference content, type, duration and time for questions.
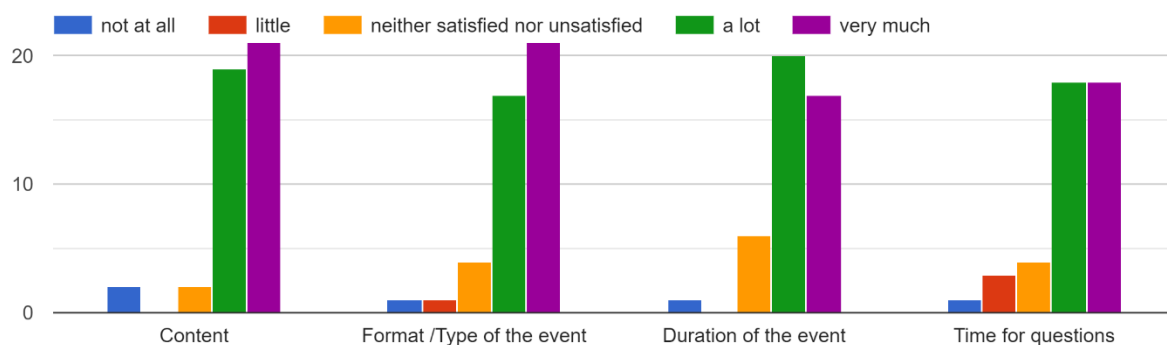

Figure 17. How satisfied were you with the following aspects of the event?

Overall, 45.5% replied that they benefit very much (score 5 on a scale of 1 to 5) from the event, followed by 45.5 replying they benefited a lot (score 4 on a scale of 1 to 5).

5   Conclusions

The Conference described in this deliverable is part of the dissemination activities organised in the framework of the OActive project. The Conference was aimed to highlight the need to shift the emphasis in OsteoArthritis treatment from reaction to prevention, reduce trial-and-error prescribing, adverse drug reactions & high-risk invasive testing procedures and surgeries, increase patients' adherence to treatment and control the overall cost of OsteoArthritis treatment for the society and the patients.

The panel of presenters was comprised of partners from the OActive consortium as well as invited speakers from different scientific fields and also representatives of similar EU initiatives. The conference started with a plenary session, and then 4 thematic areas were covered: The OSTEOARTHRITIS BIOMARKERS EVALUATION IN VIVO, the IN VITRO and IN SILICO MODELS, as well as the PERSONALIZED MODELING AND INTERVENTIONS, representing a separate session in the agenda. Finally, session 5 included 5 RELEVANT H2020 INITIATIVES also active in the field of osteoarthritis prevention and prediction. All these cutting-edge technologies that were discussed can be part of the future treatments for Osteoarthritis and other similar pain-related, chronic diseases.

The conference was a full-day virtual conference and was broadcasted LIVE on a dedicated platform and the recording is currently available on YouTube. The event was attended by a large number of interested stakeholders, doctors, and scientists leading to successful and effective dissemination of the project results and a place where fruitful discussions took place on matters regarding Osteoarthritis treatments.