1. All patients must sign an informed consent form.
2. Two options of enrolment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FSHD1 patients</th>
<th>FSHD2 / FSHD Like patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Reported Form</strong> <em>filled by the patient</em></td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Evaluation Form</strong> <em>filled by the NMD specialized physician</em></td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Data are entered and validated by clinical and molecular curators.
4. A unique patient identification number (PIN) is generated.
5. Patient and referring physician access to the data thanks to the PIN via the website.

**Data content** is related to: genetic diagnosis, muscular and extra-muscular involvement, pain and patient care. A Manual Muscular Testing (MMT) is collected in the Clinical Evaluation Form.
300 patients: 143 women, 157 men, age from 11 to 89, mean age 54.2
95.9% are FSHD1 (1-11 D4Z4 RU); 4.1% are FSHD2/FSHDlike
✔ DYSPHAGIA

sensation suggesting difficulty in the passage of solids or liquids from the mouth to the stomach.

✔ WEIGHT

✔ OSTEOPOROSIS

✔ DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS
1) Oropharyngeal Phase:

**Buccal Phase**
Food bolus is voluntary pressed by the tongue up against the roof of the month and backwards towards the pharynx

**Pharyngeal Phase**
Swallowing center in the medulla initiate reflexes that prevent food entry in respiratory pathways.

- **Uvula contraction** closes the nasal passages
- **Laryngeal muscles contraction** closes the glottis on the top of trachea and epiglottis covers closed glottis. The respiration is temporarily inhibited.
- The **Upper Esophageal Sphinter** relaxes and pharyngeal contraction drives the bolus into esophagus

2) Esophageal Phase:

- **Primary ways of perilstalsis** initiated by swallowing center pushes the bolus throught the oesophagus.
- The **Lower Esophageal Sphyncter** relaxes allowing entering of the food into the stomach


**Dysphagia**: sensation suggesting difficulty in the passage of solids or liquids from the mouth to the stomach.

Dysphagia is classified into three major types:

- **Oropharyngeal dysphagia**
  - inability to control food or saliva in the mouth,
  - difficulty initiating a swallow,
  - gurgly or wet voice after swallowing, nasal regurgitation,
  - coughing, choking, frequent pneumonia, unexplained weight loss.

- **Esophageal dysphagia**
  - inability to swallow **solid food**, which the patient will describe as 'becoming stuck' or 'held up' before it passes into the stomach;
  - **Achalasia**: difficulty in **swallowing fluids** due to peristaltic failure throughout esophagus length.

- **Functional dysphagia**
  - No organic cause found, paraclinical examination normal.
Crossing of respiratory and digestive pathways: risk of food being ingested into the bronchial system (pulmonary aspiration):

- choking
- aspiration pneumonia
- dehydration, malnutrition
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pt</th>
<th>Problems with oral transit</th>
<th>Pharyngeal delay</th>
<th>Laryngeal penetration/aspiration</th>
<th>Problems with pharyngeal transport and compensations*</th>
<th>Pharyngeal residue</th>
<th>DOSS score</th>
<th>Tongue volume, cm³†</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Once/aspiration, with cough</td>
<td>Reduced tongue base retraction, Extended pharyngeal transit/laryngeal elevation <em>(m)</em>, Multiple swallows to clear the pharynx*</td>
<td>Yes (sc)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>131.3</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Piecemeal deglutition</td>
<td>Yes‡</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Reduced tongue base retraction, Multiple swallows to clear pharyngeal residue*</td>
<td>Yes (sc)</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>Slight struggle with pharyngeal transit</td>
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<td>Piecemeal deglutition</td>
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<td>Moving head backward to facilitate bolus transit through the pharynx*</td>
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*Wohlgemuth, Neurology 2006*
20 FSHD1 patients genetically confirmed
12M, 8W, mean age 38.1, mean disease duration 16.7
8 patients (40%) complain of dysphagia: 5 oropharyngeal, 3 esophageal

Dysphagia in FSHD1 may be due to heterogeneous causes

- 2 patients with ineffectual pharyngeal contraction
- 2 patients with cricopharyngeal and upper esophageal relaxation
- 2 patients with pharyngeal (Zenker’s) diverticula
- 1 patient with difficulty in primary peristalsis

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<th>Patient</th>
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<th>Disease duration (years)</th>
<th>AMS (10)</th>
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</table>
Most of the patients with dysphagia have facial weakness (orbicularis oculi and orbicularis oris). Some of them also have dysarthria. Few of them have tongue atrophy.

Complications:
- Weight loss: frequent
- Aspiration pneumonia: less frequent
- Choking to death: rare but dangerous
INFANTILE FORM of FSHD

Multisystemic involvement, early onset, rapid progression

- Early onset < 10 Y
- Symmetric muscular weakness and atrophy
- Loss of ambulation
- Marked hyperlordosis, 
  *pectus excavatum*
- Swallowing problems
- Tongue atrophy
- Weight loss
- Restrictive respiratory insufficiency

Chen et al, 2014
DYSPHAGIA and FSHD

Speech Therapy and Diet

Swallowing therapy:
- Swallowing exercises
- Support during meals and first aid for choking

Dietary changes: insure correct caloric intake and hydration, have a balanced diet and respect patient quality of life and safety

Feeding tubes: percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy only in case of severe malnutrition
FSHD and weight

Body Mass Index (weight in kilograms divided by height squared in meters)

BMI Limits:

- Underestimate fat in older patients and in patients having muscle atrophy
- Different values for children
FSHD and weight

French National FSHD database (www.fshd.fr)

N patients available = 284

Underweight seems to be more frequent in infantile onset patients, while classical and late onset are more in overweight

Low and high BMIs seem to be detrimental for patients

Statin may increase muscle pain and CK values in FSHD patients

Wheelchair bounded patients seem to have higher risk of osteoporosis/osteopenia
FSHD and Osteoporosis

Risk factors that we found statistically associated to osteoporosis/osteopenia development are:

- Loss and reduced ambulation
- Low Vitamin D3 level
- Post menopause
- Low BMI (<18)

RECOMMENDATIONS from ESCEO:

- Adequate dietary protein
  (1.0-1.2g/kg body weight/d, 20-25g of high quality protein each meal)
- Adequate vitamin D intake at 800IU/d
  (serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels >50nmol/L)
- Adequate calcium intake of 1000mg/d
- Regular physical activity/aerobic exercise when possible
- Hormone replacement therapy when appropriate

Rizzoli et al, Maturitas 2014
In a survey conducted in our center on 72 FSHD patients, 32 patients commonly use auto-prescribed dietary supplements including: vitamin E, vitamin B6 and B12, vitamin C, folate, green tea extract, coenzyme Q10, zinc, melatonin, and creatine, among many others.

Be cautious about taking dietary supplements or giving them to a child. They may have side effects or interfere with others therapies!!!
In medio stat virtus
Aristoteles, *Nicomachean Ethics*
Thank you for your attention!!