Reply to: Increased prevalence of Sarcoidosis in Ireland

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To the Editor,

Historically, published work has defined the prevalence of Sarcoidosis in Ireland as between 10 and 33 cases/100,000 [1, 2]. Clinicians in Ireland believe this to be an underestimation. Consequently, we sought to define the number of active cases of Sarcoidosis in a defined geographical area, namely County Offaly, in 2011.

The population of this area is 76,806 (Irish Census, 2011). Approval was obtained from the Midlands Medical Ethics Committee. Analysis of medical records identified 65 cases giving a prevalence of 85 cases/100,000. Thirty-three percent presented with Erythema Nodosum (EN). Of the non-EN group, a tissue diagnosis was obtained in 80 % of cases. We have identified a prevalence for Sarcoidosis of

85 cases/100,000 in County Offaly, Ireland. While there may be inter-regional variation within Ireland [2], it suggests that up to 5,400 cases of Sarcoidosis potentially exist within Ireland.

References

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