



EMWA's 2016 Webinar Programme

In 2015 EMWA launched its webinar programme, providing members with an online training resource. Your feedback has been valuable in helping us to shape an exciting and extended programme for 2016, presented by inspirational speakers, all highly experienced in their field.

What is a webinar?

A webinar is 'a seminar or other presentation that takes place on the internet, allowing participants in different locations to see and hear the presenter, ask questions, and sometimes answer polls.'¹

Why is EMWA offering this?

What's the purpose of a webinar and of the webinar series?

EMWA webinars allow for distance learning and for updating and refreshing basic medical communications skills and knowledge, for newcomers and old hands alike. This is especially useful for subjects that might not be practical or possible to be presented during EMWA conferences. Webinars also allow for timely training for specific issues as they arise, although this means that the schedule may be adapted as the year progresses.

How are the webinars selected?

Several factors go into selecting webinar topics. First, we select webinars based upon the feedback received from the audience of previous webinars. Additionally, we judge from attendee numbers the topics that are of special interest to medical writers. Second, we try to cover a wide range of topics specifically related to medical writing as well as universal topics such as statistics and project management. We also intend to provide updates on the latest guidelines, such as the new risk management plan summary template, which is expected to be published in mid-2016. Lastly, we plan for one disease-specific webinar per year. All presentations are peer-reviewed, and we ensure that the speakers are experts in their fields.

The current webinar programme can be accessed at www.emwa.org/webinars, and the preliminary webinar programme for 2016 is summarised in the table.

How do the webinars work?

How do I access live webinar

platforms and the webinar archive?

Webinars usually last 1 hour, with time reserved for a short question and answer

session at the end. Webinars are free for EMWA members. Attendees use the Citrix GoTo Webinar platform. The technology is best-in-class and does not require a phone or complicated installation or permissions. Registration will open at least 2 weeks prior to each webinar and will be announced via LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. Once open for registration, you can register for any webinar simply by following the green "Register here" button found at www.emwa.org/webinars.

Once registered, reminders are adapted to the user's time zone. The system allows for sharing of handout material, polls, and surveys as needed.

If you missed a webinar, you can still access it via the webinar's archive. Simply click the respective "View the archive" link at the bottom of www.emwa.org/webinars. Webinars are posted approximately 2 weeks after broadcast.

We wish you a good and joyful learning experience and welcome your feedback at pr@emwa.org.

The webinar team

- Beatrix Doerr, Public Relations Officer
- Patrick Bohan, Webinar Manager
- Gail Zona, Editor

References

1. Dictionary.com. Definition for webinar. [Accessed on December 30, 2015] <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/webinar?s=t>

Beatrix Doerr

Clinical Research and Management
Consultant, Medical Writer
Beatrix.doerr@gmail.com

Patrick Bohan

PharmaMar
pbohan@pharmamar.com

Emwa's 2016 Webinar Programme

Month	Webinar Title	Speaker	Webinar Description
January*	Practical tips for effective project management and communication	Alison Rapley	Alison will share her experience of over 20 years in the medical writing department of a large CRO
February*	Introduction to statistics	Magda Joana Silva	This webinar is intended for medical writers who want to understand more from statistics. It will include basics such as mean and median, p-value, confidence intervals, and risk ratios.
March	First steps into freelancing –	Jonathan Edwards	Jonathan will reflect on his initial experiences, including initial experience considerations during the pre-freelancing 'set-up' period; approaches to contacting and winning clients; and how hopes and expectations met with reality during his first few months as a freelancer. He will also comment briefly on aspects of business set-up (such as tax status), but by necessity this part of the presentation will be UK-specific.
April	Linguistic panel	Amy Whereat, Alistair Reeves, and Laura C. Collada Ali	We will discuss linguistic topics such as sentence building, introductory phrases and link words, comparing and contrasting, as well as some 'language myths'. If you have any questions regarding grammar and style, please send them to pr@emwa.org and we will endeavour to answer them during the webinar.
June	Introduction to MedDRA coding	Ursula Oestringer	This webinar will provide an overview of Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (MedDRA); an introduction to MedDRA coding; and some practical "how to" tips for those who might already have preliminary experience with MedDRA.
July	New risk management plan summary template	Inga Abed	The EMA's Inga Abed will discuss the outcome of the EMA pilot on RMP summaries which began in March 2014 and the updated template of the RMP summary, highlighting the main changes and guidance for completing it.
August	Make Word behave as it should	Gail Zona	This webinar shows Word users how to solve some of the most common formatting problems that occur when working in a Word document, how to use Word's formatting styles, how to deal with table of contents problems, and how to create internal and external links.
September	Practical guide for writing clinical study protocols for medical devices	Beatrix Doerr	This webinar will give practical, step-by-step guidance on how to write a clinical study protocol for a medical device.
October	Client management	Kathryn White	In this webinar, Kathryn addresses several questions she received during her time as EMWA Freelance Advocate, such as points to address at a first interview with a potential new client. She will also offer tips on gaining and retaining clients.
December	The cardiovascular system	Monica Meyer	This webinar will focus mostly on the heart, its anatomy, physiology, and associated diseases such as aortic stenosis and coronary heart disease.

* Available in the webinar archive.