

President's Message

Dear EMWA Members,

Our Munich 2016 Spring conference was a great success that showcased a mature association leading on important topical issues. EMWA's outward-looking perspective developed over the past couple of years is the focus of my final President's Message.

EMWA has set new standards with the publication of the CORE Reference (Clarity and Openness in Reporting: E3-based) – the outcome of a 2-year enterprise. This open-access resource to support authoring of

clinical study reports for interventional studies can be downloaded from: <http://www.core-reference.org>. In addition, EMWA's involvement in 2016 with external protocol template initiatives has come about because we are now a recognised and respected industry player.

Two Special Interest Groups (SIGs) – the Pharmacovigilance (PV) SIG and Regulatory Public Disclosure (RPD) SIG – allow experienced members to engage in important 'conversations' in developing areas with external industry counterparts and regulators. Stay updated through the dedicated EMWA web pages.

The Expert Seminar Series (ESS) provides experienced and senior professionals with an in-depth perspective on cutting-edge topics. ESS has the effect of returning experienced members to conferences and thereby encouraging cross-fertilisation of ideas that benefit all members.

EMWA's influence and reach are increasing as a direct result of these, and other, initiatives. Your voluntary efforts have contributed to the success that we all share.

In Munich, I stepped down as President and handed over to Alison Rapley. Welcome to the new Executive Committee members, Abraham Shevak, Vice President and Marian Hodges, Education Officer. Good luck to the new EC and you, as together you shape the EMWA of the future.

Finally, "thank you for having me", to all of you, and especially to my wonderful and highly professional EC colleagues who have supported, challenged and accepted this (sometimes) outspoken Yorkshire woman with smiling good grace and the gift of friendship.

Best wishes,

Sam Hamilton

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Dear EMWA Members,

Firstly, I would like to thank Sam and the rest of the EC for sharing their experience and ideas with me over the last 12 months, and for making my job as Vice President both enjoyable and productive.

The last few years have seen the development of a number of new initiatives for EMWA including, the ESS programme, the development of two new SIGs, the development and publication of the CORE Reference by the Budapest Working Group (BWG) and further development of the webinar programme with a monthly programme of live webinars.

In order to ensure initiatives such as these are sustainable and continue to develop, one of our main aims this year will be the streamlining of the behind the scenes infrastructure of the organisation. This will make life easier for the EC, Head Office and all our volunteers. We have already begun with the development of a document repository available to all EC members via the website, and the development of standard formats and templates to increase efficiency.

We are already planning for the next conference in Brussels in November, and for the 2017 conference in Birmingham to include a symposium on Public Disclosure and a full ESS programme.

All of this involves a lot of work behind the scenes, something that I have been made very aware of during my term as Vice President. We are a voluntary organisation and need you to get involved. The more volunteers we have the less pressure there is on existing volunteers.

Finally, I send my best wishes to our new EC members, Abraham Shevak and Marian Hodges. I look forward to working with both new and longstanding EC members and our many volunteers over the coming 12 months to ensure our organisation continues to prosper.

Best wishes

Alison

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