



Medical writing around the world

Medical writing transcends borders, uniting professionals across geographies, demographics, languages, and cultures. This inherent global perspective has inspired the (above) theme for this issue.

While previous editions have explored medical writing in specific countries and regions, the COVID-19 pandemic has irreversibly reshaped the global landscape. Virtual meetings, remote work, and international collaboration are now commonplace, broadening opportunities for medical writers to connect and work together across continents. This issue aims to celebrate the worldwide medical writing community by integrating insights that reflect our collective resilience and adaptability.

We've curated articles that delve into topics ranging from cross-border collaboration and freelance medical writing to inclusive practices and language-specific challenges. Through these contributions, we aspire to strengthen the bonds within our community, fostering an environment

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where medical writers can thrive both individually and collectively on a global stage.

Our journey begins with an enlightening article by **Shruti Diggavi** and **Mati Kargren**, offering a multidisciplinary approach to fostering effective collaboration among medical writers. **Kelley Hill**, **Marissa Bernstein**, **Amber Reese**, and **Asha Liju** then introduce the innovative "Follow the Sun" model of medical writing, which capitalises on time zone differences to optimise team efficiency and workflow. To learn more about this topic, **Zsuzsa Csik** interviews **Julia Cooper**, a seasoned expert in global medical writing, who shares invaluable insights from her experiences leading international teams.

Professional development remains a cornerstone of our field, and **Michelle Guillemard's** contribution is a standout. She compiles an extensive list of training and growth oppor-

tunities tailored for medical writers worldwide. **Adriana Rocha**, in turn, examines the expanding freelance landscape, discussing the unique challenges and opportunities faced by independent medical writers across the globe.

Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging have become urgent global imperatives, and the medical writing field is no exception. **Jeanette M. Towles** explores this topic, offering strategies to promote these practices within medical communications. **Aurélié Gobet** complements this discussion by addressing the nuances of inclusive language, with a specific focus on French medical texts.

We also highlight the critical issue of representation – or lack thereof – of certain regions in health, science, and medicine. This disparity inevitably impacts medical writing. **Julie Chaccour** provides a compelling narrative on the barriers faced by young researchers from low- and middle-income countries, as they strive to contribute to equitable global health.

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Meanwhile, **Joana Fernandes** examines how the post-pandemic shift to remote working has transformed Portugal into a strategic hub for hiring medical writers, balancing cost efficiency with access to a skilled talent pool. **Syed Jaffar Abbas Zaidi** and **Faiza Khadim Arain** shift our focus to Pakistan, where they underscore the urgent need for enhanced copyediting standards to elevate the quality of the nation's medical literature.

Language diversity is an enduring aspect of global medical writing, and we celebrate this richness by inviting experts to share their experiences and challenges in working with different languages. **Etsuko Amano** (Japanese), **Stephanie Zhu** (Chinese), **Eugenia Radkova** (Russian), **Johanna Chester** (Italian), **Beatriz Viejo Belon**, **Valentina Luridiana Galati**, and **Rita Yanina Rasente** (Spanish from Spain and Latin America), **Ana Sofia Correia** (Portuguese), **Claire Harmer** (French), and **Sofia Urner** (German), generously contribute their knowledge, offering insights that will undoubtedly broaden our horizons.

As you navigate this issue, we hope that it serves as both a resource and an inspiration, enhancing your ability to collaborate effectively across cultures, languages, and disciplines. EMWA, as a truly international and multicultural community, stands as a testament to the power of global integration in medical writing. By deepening our understanding of the worldwide landscape, we equip ourselves to better address the challenges and seize the opportunities that lie ahead.

We sincerely hope you enjoy this edition as much as we enjoyed curating it. May it be a thought-provoking and enriching read, illuminating new perspectives and reaffirming the global nature of our profession.

With warm regards, **Asha & Evguenia**



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