EMWA News

AMWA-EMWA-ISMPP Joint Position Statement on Medical Publications, Preprints, and Peer Review

The AMWA-EMWA-ISMPP Position Statement on Medical Publications, Preprints, and Peer Review, published in Current Medical Research and Opinion (CMRO), provides recommendations to protect the integrity of published scientific and medical research.

The Joint Position Statement has been developed to provide practical and implementable suggestions to uphold data integrity and quality and the transparency of medical publications. The full text of the statement is reprinted in this issue on p. 68.

#EMWA BuzzItUP Initiative

The #EMWA-BuzzItUp initiative aims to provide one Buzzword – relevant to the Medical Writing /Communications community – every week to our EMWA members via EMWA’s LinkedIn channel. After posting the Buzzword, we aim to moderate the post with additional online information such as links, comments, videos, and graphics. This way, we would like to increase awareness and proactive engagement on individual topics among our community.

EMWA journal updates

We have two new regular journal sections for 2021:

- The Crofter: Sustainable Communications, with Kimi Uegaki as section editor
- Digital Communication, with Nicole Bezuidenhout as section editor

In addition, we have revived Gained in Translation, with Aurélie Gobet/Paolo Rega as section editors!

Do you know that we now provide the option to be completely paperless? You can opt out of receiving a paper copy of the journal by going into your membership profile.

New contents, nifty art covers, snazzy fonts! We are soliciting input, ideas, and suggestions on enhancing the “look” of our journal. Please share your thoughts and drop us a line at editor@emwa.org.

Good news for EMWA members based in France

We are delighted to say that after a lot of hard work and dedication from two of our EMWA members, Stéphane and Marielle Romet, and assistance from our former Honorary Secretary Claire Harmer, EMWA is now Datadock-registered. In order to be accepted for Datadock registration, EMWA had to prove it met Datadock’s 21 stringent criteria on the quality and variety of training offered, corresponding assessments, teaching programme, current objectives, and plans for the future. We also had to give evidence of EMWA’s educational tools, techniques, and management of the available training. This is a considerable achievement which we hope will help some of our members a great deal. It means that EMWA members based in France will be able to apply for a subsidy to attend EMWA conferences and participate in training activities as part of their allocated CPD costs, provided that they are registered with an official, approved organisation in France that supports vocational training (an OPCO or ‘Opérateur de Compétence’). If you are based in France and would like more information on how to apply, please contact the Opérateur de Compétence you are affiliated with.
Scam EMWA e-mail: please be vigilant

We have been made aware of a scam e-mail purporting to come from someone connected to EMWA.

Please report anything suspicious you receive to Head Office (info@emwa.org). Do not respond with any personal or payment information.

Thank you for your vigilance on this issue.

EMWA Ambassador’s Programme

The EMWA Ambassador’s Programme is continuing to reach out to new audiences even in these trying times to promote medical writing and EMWA.

On February 10, 2021, Claire Gudex gave a virtual presentation on becoming a medical writer for a group of PhD candidates attending the University of Southern Denmark in Odense. The students found the presentation helpful, and Claire will be repeating this talk in the near future to interested students.

On February 26, 2021, Abe Shevack held a virtual presentation on careers in medical writing and the benefits of joining EMWA for members of the Science and Medical Writing Network in the Netherlands organised by Sally Hill. Altogether 16 participants were online for the talk. Abe spoke for half an hour, followed by an interesting and lively Q&A session.

On March 11, 2021, Alison Rapley gave a well-received virtual presentation on medical writing combined with a workshop on improving writing skills to 20 attendees (40 were on the waiting list) for the University College, London (UCL) during their annual Life Sciences Career Week. The session was well organised, with questions raised through the chat function, managed by UCL, that were answered at specific points during the presentation. A recording of the session was made available to those unable to attend, and exercises were mailed out after the virtual session with a provided answer sheet.

If you are an experienced medical writer and EMWA volunteer and are interested in becoming an EMWA Ambassador, or if you know of any upcoming career events in your locality, please contact Head Office (info@emwa.org) or Abe Shevack (aspscientist@gmail.com).

Certificates for webinars

If you attend a live webinar, you can now request a certificate of attendance. Simply e-mail info@emwa.org to order your certificate in exchange for an administrative fee of 20€. Please note, at present, this is only an option for live, but not for archived, webinars.

Credly badges

Have you gained a foundation or advanced certificate and want to display it more prominently as an electronic certificate on LinkedIn, your website, and e-mails? Then contact Head Office at info@emwa.org.

Bulgarian and Czech translations of the Joint Position Statement (JPS) on Predatory Journals

We are proud to announce the posting of the first JPS translations into Bulgarian and Czech.

Mariya Dobreva translated the JPS into Bulgarian with editing and review by Irina Dobreva and Ivailo Alexiev. The translation is available on the EMWA website: https://www.emwa.org/about-us/position-statements/joint-position-statement-on-predatory-publishing/Bulgarian/.

Marcela Covic Sr. & Marcela Covic Jr. translated the JPS into Czech. Read the Czech translation on the EMWA website: https://www.emwa.org/about-us/position-statements/joint-position-statement-on-predatory-publishing/czech/

We are currently looking for translators. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Head Office (info@emwa.org) or Abe Shevack (aspscientist@gmail.com).