

EMWA News

New Webeditorials

Webeditorials are opinion pieces published online that touch on a topic related to medical writing. A webeditorial may be serious or light and descriptive or opinion.

EMWA's webeditorials can be found at <https://www.emwa.org/about-us/emwa-news/web-editorial/>.

Three new webeditorials were published recently:

- Jack Aslanian muses about the life and death of words in a thought-provoking article
- Amadora Díaz-Palacios tells how she got into medical writing in a personal account
- And in his second contribution, an issue of *Le Parisien* caught Jack Aslanian's attention...and that of many people in France with an interest in alternative medicine



Statement on the UK withdrawal from the EU and its impact on clinical trials

On September 6, the European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety published a statement on the UK withdrawal from the EU and its impact on clinical trials. The statement discusses the main consequences of the UK withdrawal from the EU, which include:

- supply of investigation medicinal products;
- establishment requirements for the sponsor or the legal representative; and
- submission of clinical trial information

The statement is available at https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/notice_to_stakeholders_brexit_clinical_trials_final.pdf.



Why you shouldn't miss the next EMWA conference in Vienna

EMWA's spring conference will be held in Vienna, Austria, in May 2019. If you are not yet sure whether you should register or not, listen to Carolina Rojido's thoughts after her first conference and Laura Collada's discussion of why attending conferences is so useful on EMWA's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkaSwnvUozkgCiknWeysYA>.



Delphi study participation

EMWA members were invited to contribute to the development of a new outcome reporting standard for clinical trial protocols and reports of completed trials, called the Instrument for reporting Planned Endpoints in Clinical Trials (InsPECT).

A need was identified for internationally harmonised and comprehensive guidance applicable to all outcome types, disease areas, and populations for reporting outcomes in clinical trial protocols and reports.

Inadequate and poor-quality outcome reporting in clinical trials is a well-documented

problem that impedes the ability of researchers to evaluate, replicate, synthesise, and build upon study findings and affects evidence-based decision making by patients, clinicians, and policy makers.

To improve clinical trial reporting quality, reporting guidelines have been developed for clinical trial protocols (SPIRIT) and completed trials (CONSORT and CONSORT extensions). InsPECT will build upon these guidelines through two evidence-based reporting extensions, one specific to trial protocols (SPIRIT-InsPECT Extension) and one specific to trial reports

(CONSORT-InsPECT Extension).

This project is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. InsPECT is led by Drs. Nancy Butcher, Martin Offringa, An-Wen Chan, and David Moher, and more information can be found on the InsPECT website at <http://www.inspect-statement.org> and on Twitter: @InsPECT2019.

The protocol for InsPECT development and project details are publicly available on the Open Science Framework at <https://osf.io/arwy8/>. Anonymised project data will also be made publicly available here.

Updated NewsBlast instructions to contributors



Contributions to the NewsBlast should be sent to pr@emwa.org by the 22nd of each month so that it can be published in the following month. Updates should be concise (150-200 words) and can be included on one of the EMWA webpages.

The full archive of EMWA NewsBlasts can be accessed at <https://www.emwa.org/about-us/emwa-news/>.

Best attended EMWA November conference of all time!

A total of 214 attendees (a record number for an EMWA November conference) made their way to the 47th EMWA Conference in Warsaw in early November. There was a large proportion of first-time attendees, some 95 in all. All of the delegates attended some of the 31 workshops on offer, 8 of which were completely full.

In addition to the workshops, the conference offered a number of events outside of the formal education programme, such as the traditional networking reception, freelance business forum, early morning yoga, as well as a free seminar entitled "Introduction to Medical Writing" and daily interactive short seminars for a quick "English" fix looking at

major and minor issues with the use of English led by Alistair Reeves. On Friday evening there were a number of social events. These were attended by 95 old and new EMWA friends.

The opening session was led by Tiziana von Bruchhausen, the current EMWA president, and Slávka Baróniková, the EMWA conference director. A CORE Reference update was given by Sam Hamilton and Art Gertel.

Artur Dziejewicz then gave an entertaining presentation about the past, present, and future of Polish cardiology and cardiac surgery. The city of Warsaw was introduced by Maria Kołtowska-Hägström and Anna Reichel. Their talk was accompanied by some wonderful photography.