

President's Message



Dear EMWA Members,

The time has been passing so quickly, with 2017 coming to an end and the holiday season now upon us.

I am sure we all have enjoyable memories of our very successful conference in beautiful Cascais.

Since my last message, the Executive Committee has been quite busy planning our annual Spring Conference in Barcelona, May 1–

5, 2018. Speakers are currently being lined up for the symposium on medical devices and we have now organised four Expert Seminar Sessions covering both regulatory and medical communications topics.

You have already been receiving the EMWA News Blast since September. These are monthly newsletters that we have been preparing featuring short digests of current news items about our conferences, webinars, and information that we think will be of general interest to most of you. Since these are abridged articles we also provide links to the EMWA website to find out more. We hope that you have been enjoying these newsletters. Please contact our Public Relations Officer, Maria Almeida, if you have any newsworthy items to submit or if you have any feedback.

In other news, we have translated the Joint Position Statement on the Role of Medical Writers in preparing scientific manuscripts into German, Italian, French, and Spanish and have posted these translations on the EMWA website. Our aim by doing this is to spread the word to non-native English speakers. Our colleagues in the American Medical Writers Association and

the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals are also informing their members about the translations as they appear on our site. The translations have been posted each month since September; the Spanish translation is due for publication in December.

The raw data from the EMWA salary survey (the last one was published in 2012) are currently undergoing evaluation, with the results expected to be published in the March issue of *Medical Writing*.

Our webinar programme continues to host engaging presentations with topics including writing clinical study reports for medical devices, new regulations governing medical devices, information regarding patient registries, practical tips for project management, and the first steps to launch a freelance business. New webinars are being planned for 2018, so please check the EMWA website for dates and times.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Medical Writing* dedicated to preclinical studies, and we would like to wish you all happy holidays and the best of luck in the New Year.

Abe Shevack

aspscientist@googlemail.com

A large, vibrant photograph of Park Güell in Barcelona, Spain, taken from an elevated perspective. The image shows the colorful, mosaic-covered buildings and the iconic blue and white tiled tower. The sky is a clear, bright blue. Overlaid on the top half of the image is the text "Save the date" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, in the bottom left corner, is the text "The 46th EMWA Conference in Barcelona, Spain" in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by "May 1-5, 2018" and "Featuring a symposium on medical devices" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.