

EMWA social media team

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Social media are instruments of two-way communication. Social media are not just sources of information but also ways of interacting. EMWA is currently using social media to interact with its members on a daily basis, to promote discussions, and share information.

Changes to the EMWA social media team

First, we would like to thank *Leynna Prince*, who has managed the EMWA LinkedIn discussion group for many years and has recently decided to step down. She has done a great job and we have all very much appreciated her commitment.

We also would like to welcome two new members of the team:



Maria Koltowska-Hägström has recently taken over responsibility for the EMWA LinkedIn discussion group. Maria is a paediatrician and independent consultant affiliated with the Department of Women's and Children's Health at Uppsala University, Uppsala,

Sweden and is the Medical Director at Proper Medical Writing, Warsaw, Poland. She has 22 years of experience at global senior positions in the pharmaceutical industry, both on the medical and marketing sides of the business. Maria has been a leading member of numerous research groups, which have produced more than 60 peer-reviewed publications.



Julianne Chaccour will be in charge of the EMWA Twitter account. Julie is a freelance medical writer currently based in Pamplona, Spain. She previously worked as a cell biologist and immunologist in Germany, the UK, and Venezuela.

We also want to thank *Karin Eichele*, who is in charge of the EMWA Facebook account. The Facebook page has gone from 300 followers in early May 2013 to almost 600 in November.

Finally, if you are not following EMWA on social media, we would like to invite you to join in, as it is a great way of staying in contact with EMWA colleagues, follow-up on interesting discussions, and staying up to date with EMWA news.

News from the EMA

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Update from the European Medicines Agency on development of its policy on publication and access to clinical-trial data

From the European Medicines Agency, 13 November 2013 – The European Medicines Agency is currently reviewing and analysing more than 1000 comments received during the public consultation on its draft policy on publication and access to clinical-trial data, which ran from June to end of September 2013.

The public consultation on the policy has generated input from an unprecedented range of stakeholders. Patients, healthcare professionals, pharmaceutical industry representatives, researchers, transparency campaigners, academic and public institutions, health technology assessment bodies, and a range of others sent their comments to the Agency. Many of the contributors provided detailed in-depth comments, some of them substantial, some of them technical, including suggestions relating to methodological and technical aspects of the implementation of the policy.

The Agency is grateful for this exceptional contribution from its stakeholders. As part of its collaborative

approach to developing a methodology for the release of clinical-trial data with its stakeholders, the Agency is currently devoting attention to all comments received and reaffirms its commitment to transparency and the principles of publication and access to clinical-trial data.

In order to conduct the appropriate in-depth analysis required, the Agency will spend additional time in this reviewing phase which may therefore delay the finalisation of the policy initially planned for the end of 2013. An update on timelines will be provided at the latest following the EMA Management Board meeting on 11–12 December 2013.

The Agency has embarked on the development of a policy on publication and access to clinical-trial data, because it believes that the release of data is about establishing trust and confidence in the system. The Agency is also firmly of the opinion that the availability of data broadens the scientific knowledge base, fosters innovation, and encourages investment in the development of medicines and ultimately benefits public health.

More information on the work of the European Medicines Agency can be found on its website: <http://www.ema.europa.eu>.