

President's Message

Dear EMWA Members

I was asked if the time between conferences is a quiet time. Having been in post just over 2 months at the time of preparing this report, I can most definitely state – NO! New initiatives are regularly proposed and I am often reminded of how active our EMWA members are, with their great breadth of experience and knowledge, boundless energy, and enthusiasm!

To note just a few recent actions and initiatives:

- Members of the Ambassadors Group have attended several career events and participated in a video for medics considering a move to medical writing; check out the video, which you can access through *EMWA News* on the website.
- Also on the website, EMWA's *Resources for Medical Writers* are a considerable plus for its members. Have you seen the recent addition? Under *General* resources, the CCJ Checklist for authors writing scientific manuscripts provides lots of useful reminders.
- A Hebrew version of the Joint Position Statement (JPS) on the Role of Professional Medical Writers has been added to the collection of different language translations, bringing the total to 12. Perhaps you can add to this? We are looking for someone to translate the statement into Arabic; if you can help, please email me.
- A second JPS has just been finalised on the hot topic of predatory publishing, which was the subject of a very interesting session at the Vienna conference in May. EMWA representatives worked closely with the American Medical Writers Association and the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals to produce the JPS. Hopefully, it will also be translated into several languages, so helping to widen its impact.
- The CORE Reference development team has published in *Research Integrity and Peer Review*: Critical Review of the TransCelerate Template for Clinical Study Reports (CSRs) and Publication of Version 2 of the CORE Reference (Clarity and Openness in Reporting: E3-based) Terminology Table, available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s41073-019-0075-5>.
- Webinars are now an established part of the offering to EMWA members. Grab a mug of coffee (or your lunch depending on the time



zone!) and join in. With a wide variety of topics in both the current programme and in the library of past webinars, something is sure to be of interest. Many thanks to the Webinar Team, and thanks, of course, also to the presenters.

- Education Committee (EPDC) members have worked with EMWA Head Office to plan a diverse offering of workshops for the November conference in Malmö, Sweden. The EPDC also actively supports people developing new workshops. To help, they have developed a new workshop proposal form and timelines for developing a workshop, so that a potential workshop leader knows exactly what is needed and when! If you are considering giving a workshop, have a look at the website.
- Several new workshops will be run in Malmö including one in the increasingly important area of Medical Devices, which will complement the work of the Special Interest Group for Medical Devices (MD SIG). We now have five SIGs: Pharmacovigilance, Regulatory Public Disclosure, Medical Communication

and Veterinary Medical Writing (newly formed at the May conference), as well as the MD SIG; these greatly contribute to planning the Expert Seminar Series and Symposium held at each May conference.

- If you would like to be more involved with EMWA and can spare a little time, we are always looking for more volunteers. Keep an eye on *EMWA News* on the website and the monthly *Newsblast* email for updates and opportunities. All are welcomed.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Malmö at our 49th EMWA conference: November 7–9, 2019. Registration is open – go book! If you haven't yet made up your mind about coming, check out the August webinar, which can be accessed by both EMWA and non-EMWA members.

And if you cannot come to Malmö, remember to save the dates of our special 50th conference in Prague next year: May 5–9, 2020.

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