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# An introduction to EMWA

The European Medical Writers  
Association

Presented at a MedComms Networking Event in  
Oxford, UK, on 1 June 2016

[www.MedCommsNetworking.com](http://www.MedCommsNetworking.com)


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EUROPEAN MEDICAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

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### **Disclosures**

Jo Whelan has been a member of EMWA for 16 years. She was a member of the EMWA Executive Committee from 2011 to 2014 (an unpaid role), served on the EMWA Professional Development Committee, and receives travel and accommodation expenses from EMWA to teach workshops at EMWA conferences.

# What is EMWA?

EMWA is an association committed to representing, supporting, and training medical communication professionals



# A network of medical writers in Europe and beyond

- Founded in 1992 as a chapter of the American Medical Writers Association (AMWA)
- Became independent from AMWA in 1997



# Run by and for members

**Not-for-profit,  
independent**

Profits are channelled into

- Running the organisation
- Strategic initiatives

**Driven by  
members for  
members**

Unpaid volunteers in all key association positions

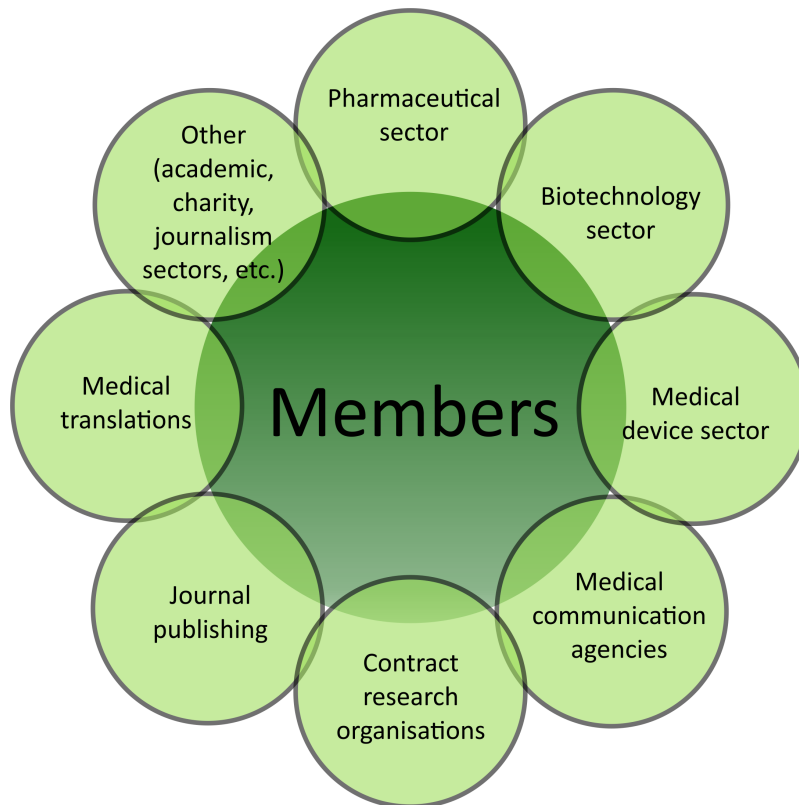
- Executive Committee
- EMWA Professional Development Programme
- Subcommittees, Special Projects, and Special Interest Groups

**Supported by  
professional  
Head Office**

Management company supporting

- Administrative requirements
- IT-related requirements

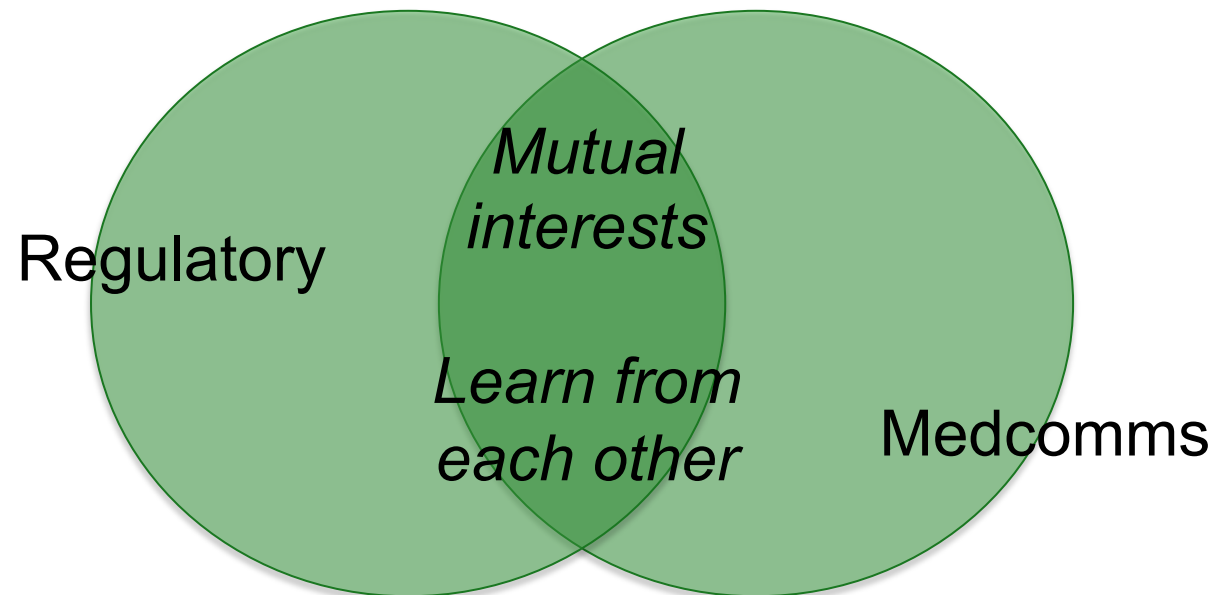
# Who joins EMWA?



- Medical writers
  - Pharma
  - CROs
  - Medcomms
  - Publishing
  - Medical charities
  - Academia
- Medical editors
- Medical translators
- Employed and freelance

# Is EMWA just for regulatory writers?

- No! EMWA is for medical writers from all specialisms



# Why join EMWA?

Writers  
Freelance  
Resources  
Directory  
Editors  
Journal  
Medical  
Webinars  
Guidelines  
Conferences  
Networking  
Training



# Professional Development Programme

Gain CPD credits!

More than 70 foundation workshops and 40 advanced workshops in drug development, language and writing, medical communication, medical science, and professional techniques available

## FOUNDATION CERTIFICATE

Credit in 8 foundation workshops  
Option to obtain a multidisciplinary certificate or specialised certificate

## ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

Credit in 8 advanced workshops

# Professional Development Programme

- Half-day workshops, run at EMWA conferences
- Taught by experts working in the field
- Complete a homework assignment to gain credit
- Build up credits to gain a certificate
- A great way to:
  - keep up to date
  - deepen and broaden your knowledge
  - create a personal professional development record



# Workshop topics

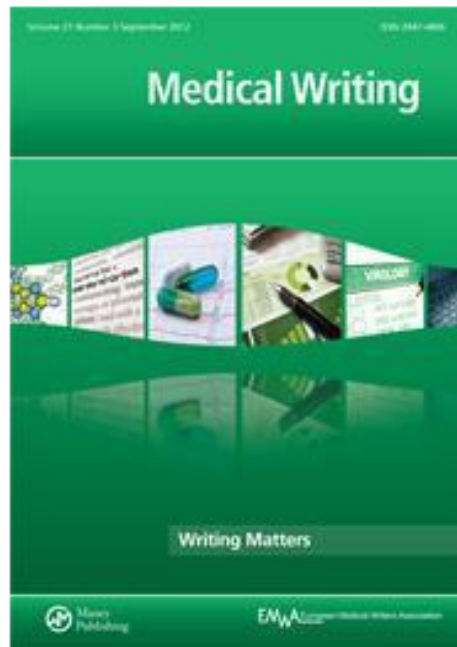
- **Drug development** – e.g. trial design, writing study documents, pharmacokinetics
- **Language and writing** – e.g. writing skills, grammar, editing skills
- **Medical communications** – e.g. manuscript writing, publication ethics, publication planning, posters
- **Professional techniques** – e.g. statistics, data presentation, quality of life
- **Medical science** – e.g. haematology, immunology

# EMWA spring conferences

- Training workshops
- Seminars
- Expert Seminar Series
  - focuses on key developments and issues affecting medical writing
  - aimed at experienced medical writers and managers
- Annual Symposium
  - one-day symposium on a hot-topic issue
- Special Interest Group meetings
- Freelance Business Forum
- Social programme and networking opportunities



# Medical Writing Journal



- 4 print issues per year
- Online archive
- Wide range of topics
  - Regulations and their implications
  - Writing and communications
  - Publications and publishing
- Feature articles (open access)
- News and updates
- Members-only sections
- Language tips

# Webinars

- ~ 10 webinars per year, exclusive to EMWA members
- Diverse topics
  - Updates on latest guidelines
  - Practical training on documents and techniques
  - Business and personal development
- Webinar archive available on the website (members-only section)

# Guidelines and initiatives

CURRENT MEDICAL RESEARCH AND OPINION®  
VOL. 21, NO. 2, 2005, 317-321

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COMMENTARY

European Medical Writers  
Association (EMWA) guidelines  
on the role of medical writers  
in developing peer-reviewed  
publications

Adam Jacobs<sup>a</sup> and Elizabeth Wager<sup>b</sup>



EUROPEAN MEDICAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

# EMWA benefits for freelances

- Freelance directory – get listed on EMWA’s searchable directory of freelance medical writers, editors and translators
- Freelance resource centre on website
- Freelance Business Forum at conferences
- Freelance section in journal (members only)
- Discounts on insurances (depending on location)
- Discounts on books (all EMWA members)
- **Become part of a network and make friends and colleagues!**





# Help shape EMWA's future

- **EMWA – the only organisation run by and for medical writers**
- **Come and join us and help shape EMWA to serve medcomms writers better!**
- **Your ideas and enthusiasm would be warmly welcomed**

## Find out more

Go to [www.emwa.org](http://www.emwa.org) or check out our LinkedIn group, Twitter or Facebook page



**LinkedIn**