

AMWA–EMWA–ISMPP Joint Position Statement on the Role of Professional Medical Writers

Introduction

This joint position statement of the [American Medical Writers Association \(AMWA\)](#), the European Medical Writers Association (EMWA), and the [International Society for Medical Publication Professionals \(ISMPP\)](#) describes the appropriate role of professional medical writers in the development of medical and scientific publications, including:

- articles and supplementary content (eg, video abstracts) for publication in peer-reviewed journals
- abstracts, posters, and oral presentations for dissemination at scientific congresses.

This joint position statement is in line with up-to-date guidelines from several other international organizations.^{1–13}

Responsibilities of professional medical writers

Professional medical writing support helps authors and sponsors to disclose their research in peer-reviewed journals and at scientific congresses in an ethical,¹⁴ accurate,^{15,16} and timely¹⁷ manner, with the ultimate aim of advancing patient care.

Professional medical writers have extensive knowledge of ethical publication guidelines.^{18,19} When assisting authors with communication of the results of company-sponsored research, they must:

- follow Good Publication Practice (GPP3) guidelines and International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) recommendations^{1,2}
- consult appropriate reporting guidelines (eg, CONSORT²⁰ and others collated by the EQUATOR network²¹)
- ensure that the authors and sponsors are aware of their obligations under these guidelines^{1,2,20,21}
- keep up to date with advances in medical communications ethics and best practices.

Responsibilities of authors who collaborate with professional medical writers

Authors who choose to collaborate with a professional medical writer on manuscripts or congress presentations must:

- ensure that they, as authors, have access to all relevant information (eg, protocols, statistical analysis plans, statistical analyses, and clinical study reports)
- provide intellectual input before writing commences and throughout content development
- ensure that the final text fully reflects the views of, and is approved by, all authors

- affirm the appropriateness of the final choice of journal or congress
- acknowledge the provision of medical writing support, including the nature of the support, and the name, highest relevant qualifications (eg, degree or professional credential), and affiliation of the professional medical writer accountable for the support provided (see Box), and acknowledge the funding sources for the provision of medical writing support
- recognize as a co-author all contributors (including a professional medical writer) who meet the ICMJE authorship criteria.¹

Box. Example of template disclosure statement for professional medical writing support.

“The authors thank [name and qualifications] of [company, city, country] for providing medical writing support/editorial support [specify and/or expand as appropriate], which was funded by [sponsor, city, country] in accordance with Good Publication Practice (GPP3) guidelines (<http://www.ismpp.org/gpp3>).”

1. References

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AMWA–EMWA–ISMPP : Déclaration de position commune sur le rôle des rédacteurs médicaux professionnels

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Introduction

La présente déclaration de position commune de l'Association américaine des rédacteurs médicaux (American Medical Writers Association, AMWA), de l'Association européenne des rédacteurs médicaux (European Medical Writers Association, EMWA) et de la Société internationale pour les professionnels de la publication médicale (International Society for Medical Publication Professionals, ISMPP) décrit le rôle précis des rédacteurs médicaux professionnels dans l'élaboration des publications médicales et scientifiques, dont :

- les articles et le contenu supplémentaire (comme les extraits vidéo) pour publication dans des revues à comité de lecture,
- les résumés, les posters et les présentations orales diffusés lors de congrès scientifiques.

Cette déclaration de position commune est conforme aux directives actuelles émises par de nombreux autres organismes internationaux^{1–13}.

Responsabilités des rédacteurs médicaux professionnels

Le soutien à la rédaction médicale professionnelle aide les auteurs et les promoteurs à divulguer leurs recherches dans des revues à comité de lecture et lors de congrès scientifiques d'une manière éthique¹⁴, précise^{15,16} et dans le respect des délais¹⁷. L'objectif final est de faire évoluer les soins prodigués aux patients. Les rédacteurs médicaux professionnels connaissent l'intégralité des directives de publication éthique^{18,19}. Lorsqu'ils assistent les auteurs dans la communication de résultats sponsorisés par des entreprises, ils sont tenus de :

- respecter les directives des Bonnes pratiques de publication (GPP3) et les recommandations du Comité international des rédacteurs de revues médicales (Committee of Medical Journal Editors, ICMJE)^{1,2},
- consulter les directives sur les rapports adéquates (par exemple, CONSORT²⁰ et les autres directives rassemblées par le réseau EQUATOR)²¹,
- s'assurer que les auteurs et les promoteurs sont conscients de leurs obligations selon ces directives^{1,2,20,21},
- rester au courant des dernières avancées dans le domaine de l'éthique et des bonnes pratiques en communication médicale.

Responsabilités des auteurs qui collaborent avec des rédacteurs médicaux professionnels

Les auteurs qui optent pour la collaboration avec un rédacteur médical professionnel pour leurs manuscrits ou leurs présentations en congrès sont tenus de :

- s'assurer d'avoir accès à toutes les informations pertinentes en tant qu'auteurs (comme les protocoles, les plans d'analyses statistiques, les analyses statistiques et les rapports d'études cliniques),

- fournir leur savoir intellectuel avant le début de la rédaction et tout au long du développement du contenu,
- s'assurer que le texte final est approuvé par tous les auteurs et reflète fidèlement leurs points de vue,
- affirmer avoir choisi la revue ou le congrès approprié,
- reconnaître avoir reçu un soutien sous forme de rédaction médicale en incluant la nature de l'aide ainsi que le nom, les qualifications pertinentes les plus élevées (par exemple, grade universitaire ou qualifications professionnelles) et l'affiliation du rédacteur médical professionnel qui a fourni l'aide ; il convient également de remercier les sources de financement pour l'aide à la rédaction médicale (voir encadré),
- reconnaître tous les contributeurs (y compris le rédacteur médical professionnel) comme des co-auteurs qui répondent aux critères de paternité de l'ICMJE¹.

Encadré. Exemple de modèle pour la déclaration de reconnaissance de l'aide à la rédaction médicale professionnelle.

« Les auteurs remercient [nom et qualifications] de [entreprise, ville, pays] d'avoir fourni son (leur) soutien à l'écriture médicale/son (leur) aide à la rédaction [préciser et/ou développer si nécessaire], financé par [promoteur, ville, pays] conformément aux directives des Bonnes pratiques de publication (GPP3) (<http://www.ismpp.org/gpp3>) ».

Références

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