# MedComm SIG meeting – June 17th, 2020 h. 17.00

Attendees: A. Bucceri (AB), A. Rossi (AR), S. Baronikova (SB), J Donelly (JD), Tim Van Hantervelt (TvH), Aurelie Gobert (AuG), Paolo Rega (PG). A. Gertel (AG), Catherine Hill (CH), Carola Krause (KC), S. Shenoy (SS), Amy Whereat (AW), T. Schindler (TS).

Apologies: M. Delahunty (MD), C. Winchester (CW), M. Tauchi (MT), D. De Faiote (DDF), P. Leventhal (PL), L. Collada (LC), L. Chamberlain-James (LCJ), B. Doerr (BD), T. Von Bruchausen (TvB).

* Welcome and update from other SIGs and the EC (AR-SB-BD)
  + - SS has been introduced as a new member of the SIG
* Logos for SIGs (KC)
  + - Logos of SIGs have been presented
    - There’s a drop in the number of members. Thus some initiatives on social media are looked forward to increasing EMWA visibility.
    - Anyone having proposals is asked to provide its ideas to the EC
    - Thank you cards are an ongoing initiative. Any volunteer is expected to provide their photo to continue this initiative
    - The subscription to congress costs has been proposed to be reduced, also to promote the organisation with low costs of access.
    - EC is meeting any other week to evaluate how to transform f2f workshops to webinars. Collaboration with AMWA could help (issues with receiving an invitation for the survey has been highlighted by workshop leaders) – KC will follow-up on this
    - The symposium on research integrity is expected to be on Friday - suggested reading <https://www.responsiblejournals.org/information/expectationsofpeerreview>
* Subgroups update
  + SciComm ESS program: alignment with SIG (SS)
    - The ESS will go on with the same speakers
    - Speakers have been asked to focus on RWE in the pandemic.
    - The ESS is now planned for October but the date has not yet been established
    - SS asks all SIG members for other names and topics that could add value to the SIG coordinators
    - SS will update the SIG on the ESS next steps
  + Collaboration with “Chiedi le prove” (AR)
    - A collaboration with the most important organisation of fact-checking in Italy has been requested for AR. He’s started sending links to the EMWA website to this organisation to enhance EMWA visibility in Italy.
    - Establishing similar collaborations with groups having the same objective could enhance EMWA visibility in other countries.
    - Standards for collaboration and training for EMWA members to participate in this type of collaborations (code of conduct: use AMWA or ISMPP? Create a new one?) need to be established possibly to be published in a journal. EC will decide how to move forward and will share it with members. EC members will update the SIG on next steps
    - KC suggests enlarging the ambassador program to include this initiative. KC will contact Abe for next steps and will update the SIG
    - Educate on medical communication on medical journalism to properly manage this type of collaborations: AW will propose a possible training for EMWA members
  + Predatory publishing (MD, CW, AB, AR, SB)
    - Art proposes an editorial on peer review and the consequences of bad processes to highlight the role of MWs as gatekeepers for good medical communications.
    - Increase in data transparency is felt like the only way to overcome the peer-review limits
    - SB suggests to increase the collaboration with the retraction watch; she’ll follow-up on this and update the SIG
    - Conjunct position statement on the pandemic and its effect on scientific communications is proposed. The ones involved (AG, AW, SB, AR) have already started to talk on it off-line. Others that are willing to be involved in its development are asked to let AR and SB know to be included in the project, too.
    - The SIG EC members will discuss this proposal at the next EC meeting and will update the SIG.
    - Suggested read <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01589-x?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=32f40c7910-briefing-dy-20200528&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-32f40c7910-44609217>
    - Update from MD (not attending): ORCID has not yet answered his mail for a possible collaboration to develop the next step of the JPS. This reading could be interesting and authors (Kelly Cobey and David Moher) could be involved in this initiative. Suggested readings <http://blogs.biomedcentral.com/on-medicine/2020/04/21/we-need-to-develop-counter-adaptations-to-predatory-journals/>
  + Translations (AuG – PG)
    - Who’s going to read the translations? A paper on who’re targets for medical translations is proposed by AuG
    - The use of Latin and Greek terms in modern medicine could be another interesting topic for an article from PG
    - SIG looks forward to both publications.
  + Custodian of MedComms SIG webpages (SB)
    - This topic was not touched during the meeting, sorry. The SIG website has a growing volume of info that is becoming difficult to be found. None of the attenders has agreed to take responsibility for the management of the info included in the SIG. Any volunteer is looked forward to helping DDF in this activity.
  + RWE generation, disclosure, and publishing - From the previous SIG meeting: (CK, TvH, AB)
    - This topic was not touched during the meeting, sorry. This is an update from the minutes of the May 13th meeting. AB and TvH have prepared the slides on RWE. CH will provide her contribution to finalise them.
    - RWE publication’s quality improvement could be included in one of the 2021 conferences. SB ensures some space the congress program aligning with the EC.

**This is to remind you that the next meeting will be on July 15th.**