



## Press Release

### **New Medical Writer Joint Position Statement Released by AMWA, EMWA, and ISMPP**

**London, UK, 17 January 2017** - The American Medical Writers Association (AMWA), European Medical Writers Association (EMWA), and International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP) today released a Joint Position Statement on the Role of Professional Medical Writers, which is the first unified position on the role of professional medical writers from three leading professional organizations.

Yvonne Yarker, PhD, CMPP™, Chair of ISMPP's Board of Trustees, who just announced the Joint Position Statement at the European Meeting of ISMPP, in London, stated, "The Joint Position Statement will benefit professional medical writers by helping to share best practices and confirm the value of the profession."

Building on Good Publication Practice (GPP3) guidelines and International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) recommendations, the Joint Position Statement describes best practices for professional medical writers. It also provides a template for appropriately disclosing medical writing support.

The Joint Position Statement explains the value of professional medical writing to evidence-based medicine by summarizing current evidence on the professional medical writer's role in the ethical, accurate, and timely disclosure of research results. "By emphasizing that professional medical writers are appropriately qualified and follow rigorous guidelines, the Joint Position Statement seeks to strengthen the standing of the profession among journal editors, peer reviewers, and readers," said Chris Winchester, DPhil, EMWA Member.

The Joint Position Statement can be accessed on the AMWA, EMWA, and ISMPP websites.

- AMWA – [http://www.amwa.org/position\\_statement](http://www.amwa.org/position_statement)
- EMWA – <http://www.emwa.org>
- ISMPP – <http://www.ismpp.org/advocacy>

“This Joint Position Statement describes, for the first time, a global standard for professional medical writers. This will serve as a valuable reference for ethical publication practices, worldwide,” stated Art Gertel, AMWA Past-President.

AMWA, EMWA, and ISMPP together have a total membership of over 6,500 medical communicators around the world. The Joint Position Statement supersedes previous position statements and guidelines from participating organizations. Individual members are encouraged to update their own publication policies accordingly.

The Joint Position Statement was drafted and reviewed by representatives of AMWA, EMWA, and ISMPP, located in Europe, North America, and Asia. Preparation of the Joint Position Statement was possible thanks to the efforts of four members of the Writing Committee (Art Gertel, AMWA; Chris Winchester, EMWA; Karen Woolley and Yvonne Yarker, ISMPP), the organizational reviewers, and all those involved in the original position statements of the three organizations.

**About AMWA:** The American Medical Writers Association (AMWA) is a not-for-profit organization promoting excellence in medical communication and providing educational resources in support of that goal. AMWA’s over 4,000 members are committed to accurately and ethically making information about health and medicine clear and meaningful.

[www.amwa.org](http://www.amwa.org)

**About EMWA:** The European Medical Writers Association (EMWA) is an association committed to representing, supporting and training medical communication professionals. It has more than 1,000 members from all over Europe and beyond, representing all sectors of medical writing. EMWA is a not-for-profit organisation, run by its members for its members.

[www.emwa.org](http://www.emwa.org)

**About ISMPP:** The International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP) is the only not-for-profit organization founded by medical publication professionals for medical publication professionals. Since its inception in 2005, the Society has grown to more than 1,500 members, with representation from all stakeholders involved in the publication of medical research. [www.ismpp.org](http://www.ismpp.org).

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