



PRESS RELEASE

Hold for release until: 2 May 2018

The end of a successful “pilot” ... GAPP retires after 6 years

The Global Alliance of Publication Professionals (GAPP) was set up in 2012 as a rapid response mechanism to counter misinformed or outdated articles about professional medical writing, publication planning and pharmaceutical industry sponsored publications. The original team incorporated individuals who served in leadership roles in the three main professional organizations – the American and European Medical Writers Associations (AMWA, EMWA) and the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP) – and who were located in different regions of the globe. Individuals have come and gone since the founding team, but we have always maintained that mix and geographic spread.

The conversation about industry funded research has been moving toward data disclosure and clinical trial transparency for some time. The volume of articles about industry sponsored medical publications has decreased, and though misinformed or poorly researched articles are still being published, they have been focussing less and less on professional medical writing support. We responded to only 4 articles in 2017.

So, after 6 years and ~50 responses, we feel that GAPP has served its purpose and the professional organizations have evolved to a point that we can hand back responsibility for rebuttals and responses to the respective governing bodies. We are confident that the professional organizations will act in concert to develop timely and influential responses that will serve to educate our colleagues and our critics. We are therefore announcing the retirement of GAPP, effective as of the close of the upcoming ISMPP meeting on May 2, 2018.

The GAPP website and response archive will be maintained, and the contact@gappteam.org email address will still be monitored for any member of our profession to report an article they think justifies a response.

The retiring GAPP team would like to thank previous GAPP members as well as those who have referred articles to us over the years, and urges people to continue to be vigilant for inaccurate, misinformed or outdated articles about our profession.

Jackie Marchington, Caudex, a McCann Health Company, Oxford, UK; ISMPP Advocacy & Outreach Committee co-Chair

Cindy Hamilton, USA; Past AMWA President and Founding Member of GAPP

Art Gertel, Principal, MedSciCom, LLC, Lebanon, USA; Past AMWA President and Founding Member of GAPP

Serina Stretton, Proscribe, part of the Envision Pharma Group, Macquarie Park, Australia

Julia Donnelly, Julia Donnelly Solutions, Derbyshire, UK; Past EMWA President.

Contact

<http://gappteam.org>

contact@gappteam.org

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