Dear FIP member

The FIP Congress in Abu Dhabi, “New horizons for pharmacy - Navigating winds of change” is less than two months away. I do hope that you are making plans to attend the Congress. Further information about the key sessions that the Health and Medicines Information Section (HaMIS) is involved with, can be found in this issue of Info-Link. As you can see, our sessions in Abu Dhabi are diverse, and highlight the importance of information at all levels of the practice of Pharmacy.

We currently have three active working groups. One of these, the Working Group on Digital Health has recently developed a survey to determine the scope of digital health as it impacts and influences pharmacy, and the role of pharmacy in digital health. This survey will be coming out to members and member organisations, so please take the time to complete the survey, if it applies to your practice.

HaMIS continues to be an active Section within FIP, and you can see some of our activities at https://www.fip.org/hamis-activities. Further information about the Section can also be found here.

Our Business Meeting will be held on September 24, 2019, 1:00-2:30pm in Capital Suite 5 at the Congress Centre. Please come along and see how you can contribute to the Section, and shape health and medicines information globally.

Importantly, please come along to the Section dinner on Monday, September 23, 2019. We look forward to seeing you at the Congress.

Parisa Aslani
President

Content List

- Congratulations Carola van der Hoeff!
- Highlights from the PSA19 conference
- Reflections on the DIA 2019 Global Annual Meeting
Congratulations Carola van der Hoeff, 2019 PCMA Global Business Events Executive of the Year!

On behalf of the FIP Health and Medicines Information Section, please join us in congratulating Carola van der Hoeff, FIP Chief Operating Officer and Congress Director, for being named this year’s Global Business Events Executive of the Year by PCMA.

In a press release published on the PCMA website, PCMA President and CEO, Sherrif Karamat, CAE, was quoted stating that “Her work in the Netherlands and around the world personifies passion, dedication and vision.”

Many congratulations, Carola, on being awarded this well-deserved and prestigious recognition!

Highlights from the PSA19 conference

Peter Guthrey

Australian pharmacists recently met in Sydney at the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia’s national conference. Themed “Pharmacists in 2023: unlocking your opportunities”, the
There was a mood of optimism and excitement for the future of pharmacy, shared between the 1036 delegates, 52 exhibitors and 80 speakers. Highlights of the event included:

- The Australian Government pledging to make medicine safety a National Health Priority Area
- Canadian consumer advocate Melissa Sheldrick championing the introduction of an incident logging and reporting system in community pharmacy
- Launch of Pharmacists in 2023: Roles and Remuneration
- Launch of Connecting the dots: Digitally empowered pharmacists
- Innovative clinical, therapeutic and industry sessions for pharmacists in all practice settings, while focusing on medicine safety and expanded roles for pharmacists

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Drug Information Association's (DIA) 2019 Global Annual Meeting, which was held this year at the San Diego Convention Centre (US) between 22nd - 27th June.

The DIA Global Meeting was a success through the participation of delegates from government bodies, pharmaceutical and medical device industries, and academics and researchers. Conference delegates came together from all four corners of the world to address the challenges, drive progress and advance healthcare through innovation. DIA is a platform for advancing knowledge and networking between regulators, industry and academic researchers, policymakers, and most importantly, patients....
Promoting adverse drug reaction reporting and pharmacovigilance at Nepal Cancer Hospital and Research Center

Sunil Shrestha

A one-day Workshop on Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting, Pharmacovigilance and its Implementation in a Cancer Hospital was conducted on 7th July 2019 at Nepal Cancer Hospital and Research Center, a tertiary cancer care facility located in Province 3 in Nepal. The main objectives of this workshop were to illuminate the concepts and the significance of adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and pharmacovigilance to health care professionals. As underreporting of ADRs is common worldwide, another workshop objective was to increase ADR reporting by providing hands-on training on how to complete ADR reporting for health care professionals.

The schedule of the workshop was divided into 5 sessions:...

2019 FIP World Congress - HaMIS-related sessions and activities

Every year, HaMIS is actively involved in sessions throughout the annual FIP Congress. For this year’s Congress in Abu Dhabi, the sessions that we are involved in are:

C4 - One approach doesn’t fit all: Need for country specific interventions to promote...
The focus of this session will be to review the different interventions implemented globally to promote appropriate use of antibiotics, highlighting what has been successful, and what has been challenging in different developing countries, with a view to determine intervention components that can be transferred to different settings.

In light of the fact that antibiotic resistance is an important global health problem, especially in low and middle-income countries, it is important to know what can be done to reduce this problem, and identify what opportunities exist for pharmacists.

**B1 - Empowering women as agents of better health**
Tuesday 24 September 2019, 14:30-17:30, Conference Hall A - Section D

This session aims to highlight the role of the pharmacist in empowering women to be agents of change in the healthcare of societies, from the individual to the group level. One of the primary roles of pharmacists is educating people about their health, medicines and medical conditions, and providing information in a way that can be understood and acted upon. Patient and public awareness and education are fundamental roles of pharmacists within any setting.

**D17 - What’s new in practice? Part 1**
Tuesday 24 September 2019, 09:00-12:00, Conference Hall B2

**D18 - What’s new in practice? Part 2**
Tuesday 24 September 2019, 14:30-17:30, Conference Hall B2

The above two sessions showcase research in the practice of pharmacy, and are joint sessions between several of the FIP Sections.

**A4 - Internet pharmacy - Risks versus benefits**
Wednesday 25 September 2019, 09:00-12:00, Conference Hall A - Section D

This session has a diverse group of speakers who will discuss Internet Pharmacy, looking at the scope of pharmaceutical services available, online and the potential harm and benefits of access to medicines online. Country case studies will also be presented on online pharmacy services, focusing on the appropriateness of the services and how well they can be adapted to other settings.

**A8 - Integrating science and professional practice in pharmacy degrees**
Thursday 26 September 2019, 09:00-12:00, Conference Hall A - Section B & C

This session is a joint session with the Academic Pharmacy Section and intends to demonstrate how to develop, implement and evaluate units of study within pharmacy degree programmes that integrate science with practice. There will be a well-represented group of speakers discussing their pharmacy course from around the globe. Delegates will also get an opportunity to plan such integrated programs as part of the workshop time.
In addition to these sessions, you may also wish to mark the following events / activities in your Congress calendars!

**HaMIS Poster sessions**
HaMIS posters will be on display on Monday 23 September and Tuesday 24 September, 09:00 - 18:00

**HaMIS Section dinner**
Monday 23 September, 20:00 - 22:30
Venue TBC

**HaMIS Business Meeting**
Tuesday 24 September 2019, 13:00-14:30
Capital Suite 5

**Meet the SIGs meeting**
Tuesday 24 September 2019, 17:15-17:45
Capital Suite 8

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**Upcoming conferences**

1. **FIP Regional Conference - European Region**
   Ankara, Turkey
   23-25 October 2019
   Theme: ‘Delivering primary health care: Pharmacists taking the next leap forward’
   Website: [ankara2019.congress.pharmacy](http://ankara2019.congress.pharmacy)

2. **23rd ESPACOMP Conference**
   Porto, Portugal
   21-23 November 2019
   Theme: ‘Digital health and patient empowerment’
   Website: [http://www.espacomp.eu/](http://www.espacomp.eu/)

3. **APSA 2019 Annual Conference**
   Melbourne, Australia
   1-4 December 2019
President
Parisa Aslani
(Australia)

Secretary
Boyan Todorov
(The Netherlands)

Treasurer
Lindsay McClure
(United Kingdom)

Executive Committee Representative for Africa/Middle East
Wael Kamel Ali Ali Mazrouh
(Egypt)

Executive Committee Representative for The Americas
Victoria Hall Ramirez
(Costa Rica)

Executive Committee Representative for Asia/Pacific
Vivien Tong
(Australia)

Executive Committee Representative for Europe
Rian Lelie- van der Zande
(The Netherlands)

YPG Representative (co-opted)
Carolyn Dewart
(USA)

IPSF Representative (co-opted)
Petra Orlić
(Croatia)
About the FIP Health and Medicines Information Section

FIP’s Health and Medicines Information Section (HaMIS; previously known as the Pharmacy Information Section) was founded in 1951. The membership has gradually broadened to include pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists from all over the globe who are interested in information related to health and medicines across a number of different capacities.