1. Information about the Section
The Community Pharmacy Section (CPS) is the largest of the FIP Sections, with 1506 members as per 31st December 2017.
During the FIP Congress in Seoul, South Korea, Luís Miguel Lourenço (Portugal) was re-elected as Professional Secretary and Lars-Ake Soderlund (Sweden) as ExCo member.

2. Meetings
The ExCo held 3 live meetings in 2017: one in Beirut (mid-year meeting – March), one right before the congress (Seoul) and the other one right after (Seoul).

The CPS ExCo was represented by Paul Sinclair (President), Martin Astbury (Vice-President) and Luís Miguel Lourenço (Professional Secretary) on the BPP mid-year meeting that took place in The Hague, The Netherlands, on March 10th, 11th and 12th.

3. Promotion
ExCo members have actively promoted CPS/FIP at different national and International congresses and have given interviews in media/newspapers about the benefits of the membership of CPS/FIP.

4. Communication with members
4 issues of ZOOM (May, August, November and December) were released.
CPS Social media accounts have been active and updated. On Feb 17th there were 7 447 followers on FB and 2 376 on Twitter.
CPS area on the FIP website was updated.

5. Congress activities
Seoul 2017
CPS organized or co-organized 8 sessions during the FIP Congress in Buenos Aires.
Promotion of the Section was done at the FIP Booth and during the First Timers’ Meeting.
CPS coordinated “Speakers’ corner”, a booth standing on the exhibition hall of the congress where participants were able to share their professionals and personal views about pharmacy and FIP.
The Steering Committee meeting included a presentation by Per Troein, Vice-President Strategic Partners at IMS Health (UK), with the title “Indicators for Pharmaceutical retail markets”.
3 awards were given for the best posters presented at the congress, thus fostering the interest in research and innovation amongst our members.
The Section dinner was full, and members had the time to socialize and celebrate another year of activities.

Glasgow 2018
CPS is organizing or co-organizing 8 sessions in Glasgow. All official meetings have been set and logistics have been taken care of.
CPS has shown availability to participate on the First Timers’ Meeting.

6. Webinars
Six sponsored webinars were run, in English and Spanish, from March to September focusing on falsified medicines, patient safety and patient counselling. These webinars were open to any pharmacist or pharmacy student in the world, and were marketed extensively and actively through FIP network and FIP and CPS social media.
The activity that CPS is particularly proud of and how it is related to the overall objectives listed in the BPP strategic plan:

Six sponsored webinars were run, in English and Spanish, from March to September focusing on falsified medicines, patient safety and patient counselling. These events were highly attended, with more than 5,500 registrants from more than 100 countries.

From these registrants, 2090 of who qualified for a free electronic personalised certificate of attendance, that will help improving the branding of FIP and CPS when printed and exposed at the pharmacies and homes of attendees. These webinars also helped to access potential FIP individual members, since most of the registrants (90% of them) did not provide an FIP member number. The work done developing these webinars was recognised with a mean satisfaction rate from attendees of 4.39 out of 5.

Some of the comments from attendees were:
- ✔ For us, events like this will help to improve the therapy results.
- ✔ One of the best webinars so far =) Learned a lot from this! Please do conduct more webinars on patient counselling tips
- ✔ I got enough knowledge and tips in my pocket after this webinar, thank you for preparing this.
- ✔ The issue was made very clearly webinar and dealt with a very actual problem. Thank you and look forward to another webinar.

With this activity, it was possible to advance evidence based-practice and improve the quality of pharmacy practice, two of the BPP strategic emphases.

Goals for 2018:

Goal #1: Run a series of webinars (topic to be decided)
Goal #2: Improve the quality of the congress sessions;
Goal #3: Promote CPS/FIP to increase membership