



Health and Medicines Information Section Annual Report 2020

HaMIS ExCO 2020-24 Election

The FIP Virtual 2020 saw the first Health and Medicines Information Section Virtual Business Meeting, where the newly elected Executive Committee of the Section has been installed. The newly elected section officials represent all regions of the world and for the first time the election was held online over a few days allowing the entire membership of the section to vote online. The new officers of the section are:

- Boyan Todorov (Switzerland), President
- Bidhata Khatri (India), Secretary
- Froukje Harkes-Idzinga (Netherlands), Treasurer
- Luna El Bizri (Lebanon), Representative for Africa/Middle East
- Amy Kruger Howard (USA), Representative for the Americas
- Vivien Tong (Australia), Representative for Asia/Pacific
- Parisa Aslani (Australia), Immediate Past President
- João Guedes (IPSF), Representative at large (co-opted for the term 2020-21)
- Renly Lim (YPG), Representative at large (co-opted for the term 2020-21)

The Incoming ExCO would like to acknowledge and express sincere gratitude to the outgoing members of the HaMIS ExCO for their stewardship of the section activities in the past years:

- Lindsay McClure (UK), Treasurer 2012-20
- Wael Ali (Egypt), Representative for Africa/Middle East 2016-20
- Rian Lelie - van der Zande (Netherlands), Representative for Europe 2012-20
- Victoria Hall Ramírez (Costa Rica), Representative for the Americas 2012-20
- Sherly Meilianti (YPG), Representative 2019-20
- Aya Jamal (IPSF), Representative 2019-20

Membership Engagement Webinar with YPG, PPR and SAPS

The Health and Medicines Information Section took part in the introductory webinar to sections/SIGs (HaMIS, PPR and SAPS) organized in collaboration with the Young Pharmacist Group. The focus of the webinar was to introduce the new members of the Federation to the ongoing activities of the sections and in particular to outline ways to engage with projects in the field of Health and Medicines Information within FIP. The webinar has 310 registrants, with attendance rate of 36% (112 attendees).

Stipend 2020 Each year the Health and Medicines Information Section offers a stipend to financially support pharmacy students, pharmacists or pharmaceutical scientists from developing countries to attend the FIP World Pharmacy Congress. In 2020, we received 60 applications (compared to 165 in 2019). Applicants were from 23 countries (compared to 36 in 2019): Albania,

Bangladesh, Brazil, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, The Philippines, Turkey, UAE, Uganda, Zambia. Fernanda Lacerda da Silva Machado from Brazil, an academic with an interest in medicines information, was the successful applicant. However, as the FIP Congress due to be held in Sept 2020 in Spain has now been delayed to 2022, the HaMIS ExCo in consultation with the winner will be deciding on the deferral of this stipend.

FIP 2020 Virtual Meeting and beyond

The Section took part in the 2020 virtual Congress and is currently planning to take part in the activities of the upcoming Virtual Meetings and FIP Congresses, including developing original programming for these events.

Info-Link

In 2020, four issues of the Section newsletter InfoLink were published by the end of the calendar year in addition to a Special Elections issue. Several highlights from each quarterly publication include:

- Q1: COVID-19 and COVID-19 related resources; a comparative analysis of the communication efficacy of pictograms and written instructions for use;
- Q2: a look at pregnancy and breastfeeding women's health literacy in the context of complementary medicines use; insights from a pharmacist embedded in a GP clinic; media coverage during COVID-19 pandemic: behavioural sciences perspective
- Q3: a collaboration with the Military and Emergency Pharmacy Section examining the role of humanitarian pharmacists particularly during a public health crisis, a findings summary of awareness and knowledge surrounding chronic kidney disease in Lebanon (originally presented as a HaMIS short oral presentation during FIP Virtual 2020)
- Q4: an introduction of our new HaMIS ExCO; a feature about a learning model for pharmacy student work placements (originally presented as a short oral presentation during FIP Virtual 2020); telehealth modalities with refugee populations during the COVID-19 pandemic, and digital health acceleration in the setting of the pandemic.

Working Groups

The Section currently has three Working Groups:

1. Vaccines – led by Victoria Ramirez-Hall.
2. Digital Health – led by Ardi Mirzaei.
A survey will be sent to member organisation soon. The working group is complementary to and work in close cooperation with the FIP Digital Forum objectives.
3. Improving Written Discharge Medication Information for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities – led by Parisa Aslani.
We have developed the written discharge medication information in 4 languages: English, Vietnamese, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional

Involvement with FIP Activities

Members of Health and Medicines Information Section have been involved with various FIP initiatives, including FIP Pharmacy Development Goals WG; FIP Patient Safety Reference Document and Policy Statement WGs; FIP Technology Forum; and Policy Committee on FIP's Role in Medicine Shortage amongst others.

Goals for 2021:

- *Goal #1: Delivery against the Section program of activities, including educational projects and working group activities.*
- *Goal #2: Promote diverse coverage of health and medicines information-centred projects / initiatives globally to increase awareness within the Section membership*
- *Goal #3: Provide further opportunities for members to engage with the Section via the Section Newsletter and raise awareness of ongoing health and medicines information-related activities*