Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

What a Congress!

The FIP World Congress in Glasgow was a very well attended congress (well over 3000 delegates!). The sessions were engaging, informative, stimulating and inspirational! The Congress provided a great opportunity to keep up-to-date with changes in practice around the world and hear about the challenges that pharmacists address and overcome globally.

The Health and Medicines Information Section (HaMIS) was again actively involved in several congress sessions, during FIP Council, at the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice, and at the social functions. We also continue to be actively involved in FIP’s vision and strategic direction.

FIP has been actively involved in many areas of pharmacy practice in 2018. One of these areas has been around adherence to medications, and specifically in the elderly population. A report was recently published, titled “Use of medicines by the elderly: The role of pharmacy in promoting adherence”. The full report can be accessed here (https://fip.org/files/fip/publications/Use_of_medicines_by_the_elderly_The_role_of_pharmacy_in_promoting_adherence.pdf); and you can hear about it here (https://twitter.com/fip_org/status/1009345104845393920).


The HaMIS working group on strategic development of medicines information has now completed their work and HaMIS is ready to embark on a number of other challenges through establishing three working groups on Improving Written Discharge Medication Information for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities, Digital Health, and Medicines Information on Immunisation. Information about these working groups can be found in this issue of Info-Link. May I encourage you to read the information provided and express an
Whilst we are preparing for sessions at the next FIP Congress in Glasgow, Scotland, in September 2018, we are also seeking ideas and session plans from our members for the FIP 2019 Congress. As always, we welcome your input.

Parisa Aslani
President

HaMIS 2018 Business Meeting held in Glasgow, UK

HaMIS Section dinner at this year’s FIP World Congress in Glasgow, UK

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HaMIS Secretary Dr Boyan Todorov awarded FIP Fellowship

FIP Fellowship is bestowed upon "individual members of FIP who have exhibited strong leadership internationally, distinguished themselves in the pharmaceutical sciences and/or practice of pharmacy, contributed to the advancement of pharmaceutical sciences and/or practice or pharmacy, and who have served FIP."

At this year's Congress, HaMIS Secretary Dr Boyan Todorov was among 13 pharmacists from around the globe who were awarded FIP Fellowships in recognition of their service to the pharmacy profession.

As a member of the HaMIS and the FIP Board of Pharmaceutical Practice (BPP) and as FIP Council delegate, Dr Todorov has been engaged with key strategic documents such as the FIP report on medicines information strategies, the BPP future trends report, and the FIP statutes. He has co-organised a number of FIP congress programmes and has had the honour of chairing many of these programmes as joint sessions with other FIP groups during annual congresses.

On behalf of HaMIS, many congratulations, Boyan, on becoming an FIP Fellow!!!

HaMIS Poster Awards in Glasgow 2018

Every year, HaMIS poster presentations are evaluated and scored by a panel of judges, with the highest scoring poster awarded the HaMIS Best Poster Award.

At this year's Congress, there were 47 abstracts selected for the Health and Medicines...
The overall quality of the posters was good, and a few posters stood out.

HaMIS is pleased to announce that this year, two posters scored equal highest:

- First author: **Ms Hadiah AlMutairi**
  Poster title: Proton pump inhibitors among older adults with intellectual disability
  Country: Ireland
  (To view the poster abstract, [please click here](#))

- First author: **Ms Diana Shipp**
  Poster title: Developing a national standard for dispensed medicine labels
  Country: Australia

Many congratulations to this year's HaMIS joint poster award winners!!!

*Associate Professor Martin Henman accepting the poster award on behalf of Ms Hadiah AlMutairi*

*Ms Hadiah AlMutairi*
Experience of leading a HaMIS Working Group on strategic development of medicines information

Katri Hämeen-Anttila, Finnish Medicines Agency, FIMEA

During 2012–2017, I had the privilege of leading a HaMIS working group (WG) on strategic development of medicines information (MI). The idea for such a WG came from my work in FIMEA, where I lead the strategic development of MI in my own country within the national Medicines Information Network. I tried to find information and experiences from other countries, but found it difficult. When I was elected to be an executive member of HaMIS, I thought that this is a great international forum where I could increase my understanding of global medicines information strategies in collaboration with colleagues from all around the world... More>
As mentioned in the previous newsletter edition, funding has been granted for a Special Project submitted by HaMIS, titled ‘Improving Written Discharge Medication Information for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities’.

This project will be led by HaMIS President, Parisa Aslani, in collaboration with researchers and pharmacy clinicians in Sydney, Australia. The project aims to develop clear and understandable written discharge medication information in several languages to be used in culturally and linguistically diverse communities by pharmacy staff.

At the present time, the languages of interest for which information will be developed and evaluated are Mandarin, Arabic, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek, Hindi, Spanish, Punjabi, and Tagalog.

If you are fluent in any of these language(s) and/or are interested in assisting with this project where possible, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Parisa Aslani (parisa.aslani@sydney.edu.au) or Vivien Tong (vivien.tong@sydney.edu.au). This work will also involve updating the FIP Statement of Policy and Guidelines for the Labels of Prescribed Medicines (which was last approved by FIP Council in 2001).

Digital Health Working Group
- Call for Active Volunteers

Digital health is a fast growing area, thanks to the emergence of digital technologies. The convergence of health and technology enables an abundance of health information to be generated and shared. Pharmacists can work with digital health in multiple roles. As such, pharmacists need training to develop their skills when working with, or alongside digital health.

FIP is an international organisation that provides support, guidance and standards of practice for the pharmacy profession, as well as individual pharmacists. Currently, FIP does not have a policy statement specifically on Digital Health. Therefore, the Health and Medicines Information Section is keen to set up a working group to develop a policy statement to ensure pharmacists, government organisations, non-government organisations, FIP member organisations and pharmacy associations have a set of principles when dealing with digital health information.

The initial approach is to determine the scope of digital health as reported in the literature. In this working group, we are looking for active volunteers who can work to develop a definition and scope for digital health. Ideally, potential volunteers will be committed to the project and would like to be involved up to and including policy development. Furthermore, a background or experience in digital health or digital health policy is desired.

If you are interested, please send an email to ardan.mirzaei@sydney.edu.au with a brief CV and paragraph outlining your interest in the working group.
- **Call for Active Volunteers**

Vaccines is a topic of great importance worldwide, due to the impact that immunisation has on public health at country, regional and global levels.

In 2016, FIP produced a publication called “An overview of current pharmacy impact of immunization, A global report”. This publication identified the perceived barriers and challenges to immunisation and proposed strategies to overcome those barriers; for example, increasing access to information about vaccines and providing education to patients.

Therefore, the FIP Health and Medicines Information Section is organising a working group on this topic in order to standardise the information on vaccines given to people and propose communication channels to best disseminate the information according to the particular characteristics of each region, and taking into consideration the cultural and socioeconomic contexts and factors. After this stage, we intend to propose a statement to help pharmacists in their daily practice when educating people about vaccines.

Whilst the project will have an initial phase focused on Latin America, the call for active volunteers is broad, and not restricted to Latin American pharmacists. This is because in a later phase, the project will be covering all regions. Right now we are looking for volunteers who speak English and Spanish or Portuguese, and who also have an interest in the topic.

If you are interested, please send an email to victoria.hall@ucr.ac.cr and sofiaelena.segura@ucr.ac.cr with a brief CV and paragraph outlining your interest in the working group.

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**Upcoming event**

#RxWritingChallenge

Another #RxWritingChallenge will be happening during Oct 14-27. Pharmacy writers from around the world will be committed to try to write 30 minutes a day, Monday through Friday during these 2 weeks.

If you wish to learn more and sign up for the daily emails (Oct 14-27), please visit: [https://bit.ly/2EZBtVZ](https://bit.ly/2EZBtVZ)

Twitter: @RxWritersUnite.
Hashtag: #RxWritingChallenge.

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**Upcoming conferences**

47th ESCP Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy, 24 - 26 October 2018, Belfast, Northern Ireland
[http://www.escpweb.org/Belfast](http://www.escpweb.org/Belfast)

22nd ESPACOMP Conference, 29 November - 01 December 2018, Dublin, Republic of Ireland

APSA Annual Conference 2018, 02 - 05 December 2018, Adelaide, Australia
2016-2020 HaMIS Executive Committee

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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.