ISN Scientific Writing Course

Cohosted by and jointly supported by the Balkan Cities Association of Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation and Artificial Organs (BANTAO) and the Turkish Society of Nephrology (TSN) in Eastern & Central Europe

The course

The ISN Scientific Writing Course (SWC) is a 3-days course given by experts in the field of scientific writing to help physicians and researchers from a range of backgrounds and specialization in nephrology to improve their scientific writing skills, so they achieve the skills needed to publish their research work. The selected participants from the region will receive hands-on and one to one mentoring from faculty on writing skills for their respective research work. The process of translating research projects into publications will receive sustained ongoing guidance from faculty after the course.

Purpose

Achieving and maintaining high standards in science writing is crucial to advancing research as much as sharing, testing and comparing new ideas and discoveries. This course is designed to incorporate:

- skills in conducting clinical research in nephrology - and getting the results published
- the art and science of manuscript writing and responding to reviewers

Venue and schedule

The ISN Scientific Writing Course (SWC) 2023 cohosted and jointly supported by the Balkan Cities Association of Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation and Artificial Organs (BANTAO) and the Turkish Society of Nephrology (TSN) in Eastern & Central Europe will be organized and held as the following:

- Venue: Sheraton Istanbul Atakoy Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey (view more here)
- From 16 February (afternoon) to 19 February (morning) 2023

A computer/laptop is required to participate in this course.

Teaching method and content

During this course, talented investigators who are in the process of writing a manuscript are guided step-by-step to proficiently review and complete their manuscripts based on world-class methods. The course consists of a series of didactic lectures, group activity, demonstrations and discussions. It includes a process of critical analysis, constructive feedback and sharing of experiences in the field of research. The participants should ideally come away with:
• The necessary knowledge base to succeed in publishing scientific papers in top international journals or to prepare a grant application
• An in-depth understanding of scientific peer-review publishing
• How to best present their work in general
• Inspiration and motivation to write but also to do more basic research and launch projects in their own countries
• A better basis for undertaking and/or setting up international collaborative efforts
• Ability to write cover letters, write reviews and evaluate the work of others
• Ability to plan and outline papers in an organized, systematic way, and to incorporate their colleagues’ suggestions and observations.

Teachers/ Faculty

English-based tutorials will be delivered by a group of international expert scientists. Current faculty members are Marcello Tonelli (Canada), Neesh Pannu (USA), Arpana Iyengar (India) and Giovanni Strippoli (Italy). These teach and help to mentor the participants.

Participants

A maximum of fifteen (15) participants from the Eastern & Central Europe region will be accepted for the ISN Scientific Writing Course. Seats are therefore limited.

The responsibility for functioning computer/laptop remains with each participant. The ISN cannot be held liable for weak or unstable internet connection or malfunctioning devices during the course.

Eligibility criteria

The course is open to ISN members from the region who:

• speak and write English fluently
• are young scientists (age <40y)
• work predominantly in clinical research (i.e. health research requiring approval from a human ethics board) and basic research in a low and/or middle income country (as per World Bank status)
• can initiate research and conduct research
• have manuscript(s) published in a peer-reviewed journal, or who have other indicators of high potential in clinical research
• are demonstrably motivated to improve their scientific writing skills.

Application Process and Selection

Candidates need to apply via an online form by November 15, 2022. The application must include:

1. Filled in application form in English
2. CV (max. 4 pages, PDF or Word format only, in English)
3. List of publications (max. 6 items)
4. Letter of reference from Institution/national society in English.
The applications received will be reviewed and scored by the ISN Clinical Research and Young Nephrologists Committees, and BANTAO/TSN. Clinical Research Committee will make final decisions on eligibility as required.

The selection process is competitive to keep high-quality standards. To note that prior clinical research experience is mandatory. Learners with an active research project that can be used as the basis for participation in the SWC are more likely to be accepted.

Program

The final program will be shared in due time.

Contact for inquiries

For all inquiries, please contact the Course Coordinator via swc@theisn.org.