

The Healthcare Investment Bank

# Medical Publishing Insights and Practices Initiative ISMPP Annual Meeting Presentation



April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

#### About this Presentation

- This presentation, prepared for the 2009 ISMPP Annual Meeting, summarizes the activities to date of the Medical Publishing Insights and Practices (MPIP) initiative
- The work of the MPIP initiative has been supported by Leerink Swann, an independent consulting firm, from August, 2008, to April, 2009, and the contents of this presentation are valid as of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009
- The research phase of this work (August December, 2008) has been conducted under the stewardship of the MPIP Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from Amgen, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer and ISMPP
- For more information about this presentation, please contact members of the Leerink Swann team:
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# **Outline**

# MPIP Goals, Structure and 2008 Activities

MPIP Plans for 2009





The Medical Publishing Insights and Practices initiative is a multi-company project to explore how pharma could develop more effective relationships with journals.

## **Objectives**

- Understand issues and challenges facing medical journals in publishing pharma-sponsored manuscripts
- Identify potential solutions to increase transparency and trust by promoting more effective partnerships between sponsors and journals
- Build pharma collaborations to catalyze future activities to improve pharma-journal relations





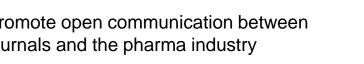
In the long term, this initiative seeks to lay the groundwork for future dialogue and action involving both industries.

# **Research Phase** (2008)

- Identify key issues from journals' perspective
- Gather journals' ideas for potential solutions to outstanding problems
- Promote open communication between journals and the pharma industry

# **Execution Phase** $(2009 \rightarrow)$

- Bring together journals and pharma to identify issues of common concern
- Jointly develop and execute solutions to key issues
- Establish broad collaboration aimed at advancing biomedical publishing









In 2008, we endeavored to gain insights from journal editors and publishers about the publication of pharma-sponsored research in an open, transparent forum.

# **Organization**

- Guided by a Steering Committee of 5 pharma sponsors plus International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP)
- Conducted by an independent strategy consulting group (Leerink Swann) to ensure open feedback











## **Participants**

- Targeted editors and publishers of 88 generalist and specialty journals
  - Wide range of therapeutic areas
  - U.S. and E.U. representation
- Successfully recruited over two dozen participants

#### **Format**

- Combination of interviews and facilitated group discussions
  - Six roundtable forums to promote open dialogue and brainstorming, in both U.S. and E.U.
  - Supplemental one-onone interviews
- All results anonymized from sponsors





Initiative participants included senior editors and publishers from a wide range of generalist and specialty journals, therapeutic areas and geographies.





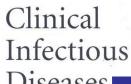
















Medical knowledge that matters











# Clinical Cancer Research











The Journal of Infectious Diseases

**PHARMAC**OTHERAPY





Journal editors and publishers spoke candidly on many issues, and engaged in robust discussions of potential solutions.

# Representative Insights from Editors and Publishers

"We need less room for subjective interpretation and more universal guidelines for conflict of interest."

"Some doctors can't write. Professional help can be useful if properly disclosed."

"It's a waste of effort to turn uninteresting results into a full paper."

## **Key Takeaways**

- Research collected individual opinions of editors and publishers
- Aggregate results reflect prevailing views expressed over course of discussion
- Most issues not "black and white"
- Findings do not imply endorsement by journals or sponsors





Editors and publishers identified four areas of interest that present opportunities for collaboration and advancement of common goals.

# Publication of Results

For perceived transparency, must all trials be published in traditional journals?

- No reserve full manuscripts in traditional peerreviewed journals for highest-impact results
- Explore alternate venues for lower-impact results

# Publication of Raw Data

Should raw data be made publicly available, and if so, how?

- No consensus on specifics
- Journals recognize raw data could aid transparency, but many consider it problematic due to potential misinterpretation and misuse

# Finances and Authorship

What more can be done to facilitate transparent disclosure?

- Journals recognize they have not standardized disclosure process
- Increased direct, proactive disclosure by pharma would be welcome

# Authors' Access to Data

How can pharma enhance the credibility of industrysponsored studies?

- Ensure that at least one author/investigator has access to full data set
- Discussed in detail on following slides





Disclosure of results from all clinical trials would increase editors' perception of pharma's transparency and is a noble goal, but implementation challenges exist.

# Rationale for Disclosure of Results of All Trials

- Important to have "clear line of sight" from trial registration to study outcome
- "Less interesting" results may still be scientifically and clinically important

# **Complicating Factors**

- Editorial resource needs
- Competitive intelligence concerns, particularly around early-stage compounds
- Potential lack of appropriate publication venues





There are potential solutions to these issues, however, stemming from editors' recognition that some results are more important than others.

#### **Participants' Views of Need for Detailed Annotation**

### **Low Impact**

- Safety (Phase 1) trials
- Confirmatory trials

# **Medium Impact**

- Clinically relevant negative findings
- Weakly positive, but suggestive, results
- Positive results with less clinical relevance

## **High Impact**

Conclusive, important positive results





Although editors believe the highest-impact efficacy studies should appear in

traditional journals, they suggested several possible venues for other results.

# **Low Impact**

- Format: Tables with some description
- Linked to clinicaltrials.gov and/or indexed in PubMed
- Full papers "overkill" for most low-impact work
- Venues: Clinicaltrials.gov, published abstracts



## **Medium Impact**

- Format: Abbreviated "short reports"; full papers in higher-impact cases
- Indexed in PubMed
- Venues: Lower-impact journals, online journals



# High Impact

- Format: Full manuscripts
- Indexed in PubMed
- Venues: Traditional peerreviewed journals only

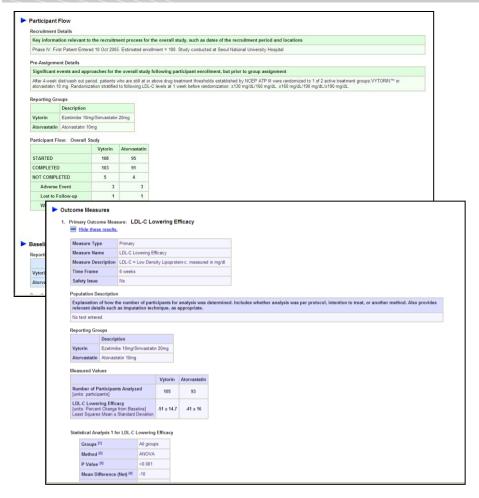


**Impact** 



Form of Publication

For low-impact results, editors support the use of data tables, such as those being incorporated into clinicaltrials.gov in response to the FDAAA.



# Clinicaltrials.gov Results Section

- Information provided about the trial and analysis includes:
  - Inclusion/exclusion criteria
  - Statistical analysis method
  - Summary tables of outcomes
- No introduction or discussion, but allows for links to other sites
- Requires disclosure of Pl/sponsor agreements





For medium-impact results, editors were open to other media besides full-length papers in traditional journals, and cited examples of suitable forums.

#### "Alternative" Journals

- Indexed in PubMed
- Range of clinical areas
- Typically online only
- Full articles of primary research findings
- Some implement peer review for technical merit only
- Often offset expenses with higher article/page charges
- Journals:
  - E.g., PLoS One, BMC journals

#### **Abbreviated Papers**

- Indexed in PubMed
- Range of clinical areas
- Online and print
- Short format for research findings with lower impact
- Full peer review for technical merit and impact
- Generally no or modest publication fees
- Journals:
  - Available for many generalist and specialty journals





Although venues appear to exist for disseminating a larger volume of results, editors recognized that sponsors' and journals' resources will likely be taxed.

## **Concerns Regarding Sponsors**

## **Concerns Regarding Journals**

- Do sponsors have sufficient resources to support the writing, editing and submission of significantly more articles?
- Journals' editorial, reviewing and publication resources are already strained – how will they deal with even more studies?

- · Insufficient resources under "business as usual" to deal with predicted increase in volume
- Need more efficiency and streamlining to meet higher demands in timely fashion







# 2008 MPIP Steering Committee members



- Kristen Mosdell, Pharm.D., Director, Medical Communications, Scientific Affairs
- Melissa Schreiweis, Ph.D., Senior Manager, Medical Communications



John Gonzalez, Global Skills Lead – Publications



· Samantha Gothelf, Pharm.D., Director, Global Scientific Publications



- Bernadette Mansi, Scientific Communications Strategy Head, CVM
- Charles Miller, Scientific Communications Strategy Manager, CVM
- David Richards, Scientific Communications Strategy Head, Respiratory



• LaVerne Mooney, Dr.PH, Director, Publications Management, Global Medical



Larry Hirsch, M.D., Immediate Past President

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# **Outline**

# MPIP Goals, Structure and 2008 Activities

# **MPIP Plans for 2009**





As a follow-up to the research phase, we are discussing with the co-sponsors possible future activities to further advance the solution of common problems.

Present Future

"MPIP 2.0" - Continue Steering Committee meetings to facilitate future pharma collaborations - Ongoing

Share initiative findings at ISMPP

Discuss opportunities for shared policies across pharma companies in critical areas

Prepare and execute pharma/journal collaborative meeting to develop solutions in key areas





During last year's work, editors and publishers suggested that we convene a diverse stakeholder group to explore solutions to key issues.

#### Initiative Format

#### Goals and Stakeholders

# Participants' Perception

Pharma/Journal One-on-Ones

- Explore journal-specific issues
- One editor and one sponsor



 Some wariness of direct one-on-one interactions

Meetings of Editors and Sponsors

- Jointly explore policy issues
- Groups of editors and sponsors



 Better communication viewed positively

Broad Meetings of Many Stakeholders

- Discuss wide range of publication issues
- Editors, sponsors, authors, NIH, etc.



 Enthusiasm for multistakeholder meetings





#### **MPIP Plans for 2009**

In a follow-up survey, editors and publishers identified several preferred topics around which to structure such a follow-up event.

# **Topic Descriptions**

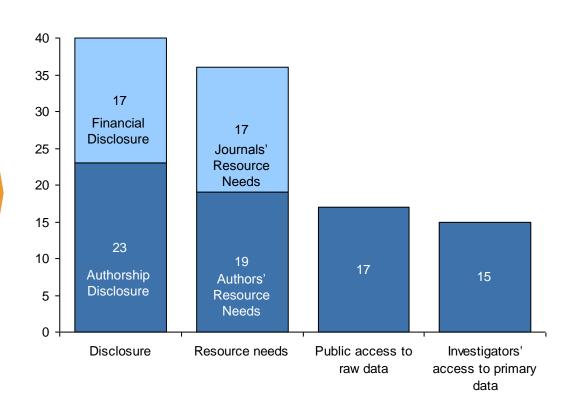
#### Authorship/financial disclosure

- Guidelines, trends, unmet needs and potential solutions
- Resource needs for publication
  - Authors/sponsors: e.g., alternate article formats and venues for lowimpact or negative studies, assistance for writers, etc.
  - Journals: e.g., financial resources, reviewing resources, etc.

#### Public access to raw data

- Whether raw data should be made available, and if so, how, to whom and under what circumstances
- Investigators' access to primary data
  - Guidelines, trends, unmet needs and potential solutions

#### **Preferred Topics for Follow-Up Event**





Note: Survey polled 34 medical editors and publishers; data represent frequency each topic was selected in the top 3 (of 6) most preferred



Among other ideas, several co-sponsors support holding a roundtable with journal and pharma representatives to jointly define submission "best practices".

## **Objectives**

- Visibly demonstrate sincere commitment on part of pharma to increase trust and transparency with journal editors
  - Communicate steps already taken by pharma to meet this objective
  - Present data from phase 1 of MPIP Initiative for information and further validation
- Partner with editors to define article submission "best practices"
  - Discussion areas could include better journal targeting based on editorial policy, and abbreviated formats and/or template-based "provisional acceptance" for low-interest studies

# Logistics

 Immediately preceding Sixth International Congress on Peer Review and Biomedical Publication (Vancouver; September, 2009) as unaffiliated "satellite" event





In summary, in 2008 the MPIP aimed to explore editors' and publishers' views of challenges to publishing pharma-sponsored trials, as well as potential solutions.

- The Medical Publishing Insights and Practices (MPIP) initiative was established to foster increased trust and transparency in the disclosure of pharma-sponsored clinical trial results
- To begin to accomplish this goal, five pharma companies and ISMPP came together last year to research key concerns and potential solutions
- Through roundtables and interviews with over two dozen leading editors and publishers, we sought to gain insights from journal editors and publishers in an open, transparent forum





Last year's efforts laid the groundwork for additional potential activities in 2009 aimed at addressing key issues in publishing pharma-sponsored trial results.

- Our research last year highlighted areas in which editors and publishers saw opportunities for collaborative advancement of common goals by journals and pharma, e.g.,
  - They support increased data dissemination, and are interested in jointly exploring ways to meet the resource needs of journals and authors/sponsors;
  - They recognize that authorship and financial disclosure rules could benefit from standardization between journals as well as continued proactive disclosure by pharma; and,
  - They support continued efforts to ensure that at least one study author has the ability to access the primary data set for all pharma-sponsored studies
- By bringing together several pharma companies and ISMPP as co-sponsors and engaging many leading editors and publishers, we laid the groundwork for future potential activities
  - The MPIP co-sponsors are discussing the possibility of continuing to jointly explore areas of mutual concern and interest, as well as potential collaborative activities
  - Several co-sponsors support hosting an unaffiliated "satellite" event before the Vancouver Peer Review Congress for journal and pharma representatives to discuss submission "best practices"





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