

POSTER #48



Training New Protagonists: Analysis of a “Patients in Publications” Course

Amanda Boughey^a, Jacqui Oliver^a, Dawn Lobban^b (ORCID: 0000-0002-3312-4857), Karen Woolley^{c,d,e} (ORCID: 0000-0003-4626-7723), Ana Amariutei^f (ORCID: 0000-0001-5803-1166), Zack Pemberton-Whiteley^g, Jan Geissler^{h,g} (ORCID: 0000-0001-9058-5097)

^aEnvision Pharma Group, Wilmslow, Cheshire, UK; ^bAmica Scientific, Stockport, UK; ^cAdjunct Professor, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; ^dAdjunct Professor, University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs, Australia; ^eCaregiver author; ^fWorkgroup of European Cancer Patient Advocacy Network (WECAN), Germany; ^gPatient author

Key Takeaway

The “Patients in Publications” course is successfully attracting new and diverse participants

Has the “Patients in Publications” course been:

Popular?

Attracted patients?

Reached diverse audiences?

✓

✓

✓

Background

- Patient involvement in authorship of peer-reviewed publications is on the rise, as multiple stakeholders recognize the value of patient voices to enhance research understanding, design, and outcomes^{1,2}
- The Workgroup of European Cancer Patient Advocacy Networks (WECAN) collaborated with publication professionals (Envision Pharma Group) to cocreate an open-access training course to enable patients to publish peer-reviewed publications^{3,4}
- The course was the first evidence-based, open-access, modular publications training course, cocreated with and for patient advocates^{3,4}
- There was an ambition to promote diversity in publications by supporting patients from a range of backgrounds to have access to this training course

*“By completing these modules, patient advocates gain knowledge on publication processes becoming **empowered to meaningfully contribute high quality work to publications**”*

Course participant

Objective

- Our objective was to evaluate the extent and diversity of participation in the “Patients in Publications” training course

Methods

- The training course was launched in March 2021 and was migrated to an online learning platform in March 2022 that allows for interactive learning and higher engagement
- We looked at participation metrics from March 2022 to January 2024

Results

1. Was the training course popular?

The publications course was a new and popular option among the 4 courses available on the WECAN training platform

– Of the 203 participants who registered for 1 or more courses, 57% registered for the “Patients in Publications” course

Registered for the “Patients in Publications” course

Registered for other WECAN training courses

57%

116/203

43%

87/203

2. Why did participants take the course?

Pre-course data show that most people took the course because they wanted to become more involved with publications

Reasons for participating in the course

To enhance proficiency in the publications process, as they had previously attempted to publish

Increase engagement in manuscript publications

To equip themselves with knowledge after receiving an author invite

Anticipated future involvement in publications

70%

15%

10%

5%

N = 116

4. How diverse were the participants?

- Participants were diverse in terms of geography, therapeutic area background, and sector (see Q3, Did the training course attract patients?)
 - However, participants were mainly from high-income countries (70.7%*) and most participants were women (65.2%)

High-income country

Middle- or low-income country

Within the patient and carer sample (n = 47), participants were diverse in terms of geography (17 countries) and therapeutic area background (34% from non-cancer backgrounds); however, most participants were from high-income countries (85.1%)

*Country not specified (n = 5)

United States

Canada

United Kingdom

France

Portugal

Netherlands

Belgium

Poland

Germany

Bulgaria

Switzerland

Italy

Spain

Egypt

Pakistan

Afghanistan

China

Japan

Korea

India

Indonesia

Australia

Brazil

Diagnosis of course participants

Cancer diagnosis

Not specified

No cancer diagnosis

52.6%

5.3%

42.1%

N = 116

Gender

Men

Women

Other

30.4%

65.2%

4.3%

N = 116

Limitation

- Due to the change in platform, it was not possible to have data from the launch of the training course to the end of 2023



Please scan this QR code to view a digital version of the poster

Contact: Amanda Boughey; amanda.boughey@envisionpharma.com

3. Did the training course attract patients?

Most participants were patients (including carers), but the course also attracted people from other sectors

Participants' affiliation

Patient or patient advocate

Academia

Healthcare professionals

Pharmaceutical industry

Other

Carer

38.8%

7.8%

8.6%

23.3%

19.8%

1.7%

N = 116

Conclusions

*“This course promotes patient-centered care by equipping patient advocates with skills on **critical thinking, scientific writing and so much more**”*

Course participant

This new “Patients in Publications” course has been popular, attracted patients, and reached relatively diverse audiences

Participant diversity may have been enhanced by plain language content (reducing language barriers), open access (reducing cost barriers), online delivery (reducing travel/logistics barriers), and co-creation with patients (increasing trust and awareness among patient communities)

Efforts to enhance participant diversity continue

References

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