

Evidence-Based Research Network.  
Steering Group Meeting  
Wednesday 21 January 14:00 – 15:00

**Members present:** Matt Westmore, Malcolm MacLeod, Hanna Nykvist, Klara Brunnhuber, Marlies Leenaars, Hans Lund

### **Agenda:**

1. **Comments to the minutes from December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – OK
2. **Press Release** – Everyone present agreed that the latest version of the press release is the one we will use. Hanna will send a reminder to everyone about the suggested text for the website and everyone has 4 days to provide their comments and after that we publish it. Once the website is up and running Matt will ask one of his colleagues to prepare a distribution plan that will be sent to all members of the network after it has been approved by the Steering Group.
3. **Website** – Hanna will publish the suggested text once it has been approved by everyone
4. **Conferences** –
  - Experimental Biology** - Malcolm is going to give a presentation and will add a few slides on the EBRNetwork. Hans and Klara are preparing a presentation for Evidence Live that can be used by other members when attending conferences.
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Research Integrity** - has been added to the list, but it is not clear if anyone from the network will be attending
  - Evidence Live** - the presentation slot at Evidence Live is only 10 minutes so there is not enough time for interaction with the audience. Klara suggested that we prepare a survey that can be distributed with a few questions and perhaps a scoring system to get the participants views on how we should prioritise our work going forward.
  - EQUATOR** - the program for the EQUATOR conference is not finalised so we do not know if we will be able to give a presentation
  - Cochrane Colloquium** – Hans will ask Mona if it is possible for us to hold a workshop, an oral presentation, and/or a poster. Possible we could meet face to face at the Cochrane Colloquium.
5. **Members on the website** – Hanna will set up emails for everyone in the Steering Group e.g. [hanna@ebrnetwork.org](mailto:hanna@ebrnetwork.org), but there will be no contact information to the other members posted on the site. We will only include their names and organisations. Information about each member of the steering group shall not exceed 600 characters including spaces.
6. **Publications** – Hans did a search looking for papers within Evidence-Based Research and found, after going over half of the hits, 10-15 new studies dealing with used prior research. Including that in the BMJ paper might elevate it as it is of course not guaranteed that it will be accepted.

It was agreed that we must stick to open access journals because it is part of our manifesto. Hans will contact Peter Tugwell at JCE and ask what they can offer in terms of open access.

Marlies raised the issue of including animal work, and it was agreed that the best approach is probably to include a section on animal work in each paper. It will be more easily justifiable, more coherent, and more aligned with the spirit of the network. Another possibility could be to include the animal study perspective in a series of articles dealing with different approaches.

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7. **Funding** – everyone will try and get funding from their institutions. We might look into EU funding at a later stage. Also, there will be a possibility for external funding but we will not actively look for it at this early stage. Currently, we have 3 sources of finance – Denmark, Bergen University College and Matt will get some funding from the University of Southampton. It should be used primarily for the press release and papers.
8. **Consumers United for Evidence** – Hans will invite Peg Ford to be a part of the Steering Group with a promise that we will not be funded by the industry. We will also arrange meetings so that it will be at a convenient hour for those in the US, less convenient for those in Europe and vice versa.
9. **Newsletter** – Hans and Hanna will continue to work on a newsletter to be sent to all members
10. **Bibliography** – Mona, Karen, Hans and Hanna are working on finding a program where we can collect references, articles etc. relevant to the network. Hanna will also use it to set up the Bibliography page on the website.
11. **Budget** – all expenses for the Bergen meeting are covered.
12. **Other** – Klara is on the Steering Group for the Evidence Live conference and they will invite the network to be associate partners and she will distribute the information letter to the Steering Group and we need to reach a consensus quickly.

**We agreed on a 4 day rule, which means that if you have not responded to an email within 4 days you will have agreed to its content.**