EQUATOR Network

Iveta Simera
Outline

• Key goals
• Achievements
• Recent developments and plans
Why was EQUATOR set up?

• **Immediate** goal
  To support better publication of research for health

• **Longer term** goal:
  Through improved reporting of current studies increase the quality of future research;
  Promote the generation of relevant, ethical and high quality research
Scope and key goals
Where we wanted to make a difference?

EQUATOR core programme

• Raise **awareness**
  – Problems resulting from inadequate reporting
  – Existence of helpful resources / tools

• Provide **resources**
  – Ensure people have an easy access to reliable, up-to-date resources

• Develop an education and **training** programme
What are our main achievements?
What to include in research article?

- Electronic patient-level dataset
- Completed case report forms
- Clinical study report
- Reporting guidelines
Website hosts the EQUATOR Library
EQUATOR toolkits

Toolkits
This section of our website will help you to use guidance listed in our Library to promote, teach and practice accurate, complete and ethical publication of health research.

In addition we also provide practical resources for groups developing reporting guidelines to ensure the highest standards and usefulness of these guidelines.

Authors
Information and resources for authors

Editors
Information and resources for editors and peer reviewers

Developers
Information and resources for guideline developers

Librarians
Information and resources for librarians

Teachers
Information and resources for teachers

Reporting guidelines for main study types

- Randomised trials
- Observational studies
- Systematic reviews
- Case reports
- Qualitative research
- Diagnostic / prognostic studies
- Quality improvement studies
- Economic evaluations
- Animal pre-clinical studies
- Study protocols

Library index
- Search for reporting guidelines
- Reporting guidelines under development
- Translations of reporting guidelines
- Guidance on scientific writing
- Guidance developed by editorial groups
- Research funders’ guidance on reporting
EQUATOR online resources

Enhancing the QUAlity and Transparency Of health Research

Essential resources for writing and publishing health research

Library for health research reporting

The Library contains a comprehensive searchable database of reporting guidelines and also links to other resources relevant to research reporting.

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See all 271 reporting guidelines

REWARD / EQUATOR conference,
28 – 30 September 2015, Edinburgh

EQUATOR highlights

3/03/2015 - Unique new EQUATOR course for health researchers

News

Professor Doug Altman awarded BMJ Lifetime Achievement Award
Impact: online resource uptake

Sept 2007 – Aug 2015:

886,000 users from 229 countries
Impact: awareness raising

• From 0 to 22,000 users every months

• Collaboration with PAHO

• Increasingly accessed through links in journals’ instructions to authors or submission software
Impact: access from journals

- **54,000** manuscript central
- **2,000** editorial manager

- **8,000** ICMJE

- **Instructions to authors** most from
  - BMJ journals
  - American journal of clinical nutrition
  - Plos journals, Lancet, JAMA, BJOG, BMC, Annals
Impact: awareness raising

- Editorials, commentaries, research articles
- Book
- Linked In group – 651 members
- Twitter – 850 followers
- Prestigious Annual Lectures
Impact: changing people’s skills

- **4** international conferences
- **9** workshops for journal editors
- **16** courses for researchers and students
- **XXX** talks and presentations

I’ll absolutely write better articles. I’ll share this with all my colleagues. We do the best we can, but we can do better.
Impact on completeness of research publications

- Role of EQUATOR and others

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<th>Effectiveness of reporting guidelines</th>
<th>Role of EQUATOR</th>
<th>Other leading players</th>
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<td>Funders ** (require, check, reward or punish?)</td>
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Global collaboration, expansion, plans

• 3 pilot EQUATOR centres set up in 2014:
  – UK EQUATOR Centre (also HQ of the EQ Network)
  – Canadian EQUATOR Centre
  – French EQUATOR Centre

• International collaboration
  – Pan American Health Organization
  – Institutions and individuals
More people – bigger plans

• Awareness – more focused campaigns

• Research activities:
  • Effective interventions to instigate changes in how we do and publish research
  • Evaluations (of training programmes, etc.)

• New forms of training (trainers; online; etc.)

• Financial sustainability and programme stability

• Broader focus – shift upstream to also focus on research planning, study protocols

www.equator-network.org
Impact on completeness and **usability** of research publications

- New EQUATOR Centres – opportunities to broaden the scope (and impact)

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A journey around the globe following **EQUATOR** is very long
but if we keep walking we will be definitively **REWARDed**