



World Workshop on Oral Medicine VIII (WWOM VIII)
May 2nd-3rd 2022, Memphis, USA

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Dear Oral Medicine colleagues:

WWOM VIII represents a culmination of the first seven Workshops conducted over the past 25 years. We learn from each successive Workshop, seek to refine our modelling, and improve the clarity and transparency of WWOM policy. It is critical that our Oral Medicine colleagues worldwide remain informed and have an opportunity to provide feedback and advice. To that end we include our mission statement, our goals, our organizational structure, and opportunities for participation in WWOM VIII in the **sections I and II**.

The plans for WWOM VIII are proceeding well and are described in **section III**. This will provide a foundation for continued work leading into WWOM VIII (scheduled for May 2nd-3rd 2022 in Memphis, USA) and WWOM IX (2025, USA, city to be confirmed).

Thank you again for your interest and support. We very much look forward to the next steps leading to 2022.

Sincerely,

WWOM Steering Committee (alphabetic listing)

Arwa Farag
Timothy A. Hodgson
Catherine Hong
Siri Beier Jensen
A. Ross Kerr
Giovanni Lodi
Richeal Ni Riordan
Tom Sollecito



I. World Workshop on Oral Medicine Mission and Goals

Mission: WWOM is dedicated to advancing oral medicine patient care, research and health professional education at the international level.

Goals: WWOM will continue to strive to achieve high impact in the health professions and in science by:

- Fostering collaboration among national and international oral medicine organizations including development of joint research projects, educational programs, and training opportunities.
- Delineating and publishing high quality evidence-based research relative to diseases for which Oral Medicine specialists treat patients and conduct research. The resultant publications will include, but are not limited to, systematic reviews and position papers.
- Integrating multi-professional and interdisciplinary modeling with oral medicine in order to collectively advance the health sciences in relation to nonsurgical management of oral disease. This modeling is centered in, but not limited to: clinical practice, research, and education.
- Contributing to the training, experience enhancement, and career development of health professionals (i.e. students, residents, junior and mid-career faculty).

II. WWOM Organizational Structure

A. Steering Committee Governance:

Steering Committee is principally comprised of Oral Medicine specialists such that expertise in the arenas of clinical practice, research and education is collectively represented. An effort is made to ensure a cross section of committee members that represent the specialty worldwide, and demonstrate administrative leadership skills with a commitment to serve.



Steering is responsible for the overall implementation and management of the Mission and Goals of WWOM. This includes but is not limited to:

- Overall program modelling
- Oversight regarding group selection and faculty calibration
- Fostering collaboration between international oral medicine organizations (e.g., EAOM, AAOM)
- Oversight of decisions regarding publication authorship and production
- Fundraising to support future WWOM activities.

B. Participation in WWOM Opportunities

The following model is being utilized to comprise the participant roster for WWOM VIII. It is similar to the approach utilized for previous workshops. Details of the specific roles are listed in Attachment I

- Steering Liaisons to each group
- Section Heads (appointment by Steering based on a set of criteria)
- Reviewers (competition based on call for applications)
- Assistant Reviewers (competition based on call for applications)
- Consultants (selection by Section Head with approval by Steering, based on the individuals' expertise in the relevant subject matter)

WWOM will soon be sending out a call for applications to participate as Reviewers and Assistant Reviewers for WWOM VIII.

III. WWOM VIII Progress

At this time the following Groups for WWOM VIII are as follows:



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Group 1 – The impact of changes in guidance on antibiotic prophylaxis on the Incidence of Infective Endocarditis. A systematic review

Group Head: Dr. Valeria Edefonti and Dr. Pedro Diz Dios.

Group 2* – Systematic Review of Core Outcome Measures for Oral Lichen Planus

Group Head: Dr. Jairo Robledo Sierra (the second section head is TBD).

Group 3* – Systematic Review of Core Outcome Measures for Dry mouth

Group Head: Dr. Alessandro Villa and Dr. Konstantina Delli.

Group 4 – Future of Oral Medicine: Barriers to Research in Oral Medicine

Group Head: Dr. Luiz Alcino Gueiros and Dr. Caroline Shiboski.

**Note: Groups 2&3 are part of our new WONDER initiative (World Workshop on Oral Medicine Outcomes Initiative for the Direction of Research), exploring Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials (COMET)*



Attachment I

WWOM VIII Participant Roles

Steering Committee Liaisons will serve to facilitate the review and publication processes for each group in relation to Steering Committee oversight. The Steering Committee is comprised of oral medicine specialists with collective extensive scientific and administrative experience relative to the Workshop goals and management.

Section Heads are senior level authorities in the field. They will be selected and calibrated by the Steering Committee, and will be charged to directly coordinate all research related activities for their group. This includes development of study methodology, assigning work, setting deadlines, and overseeing the preparation and reviewing of draft manuscripts before the workshop, and the completion and submission of manuscripts following the workshop. They will be assigned Reviewers and Assistant Reviewers, and will select Consultants in coordination with the Steering Committee liaisons. They will play an important role as mentors to the Reviewers. Section Heads may only serve in this capacity on one workshop. The main criteria for selection are the person's experience in the subject matter and leadership skills while ensuring diversity among those that are selected.

Reviewers are early to mid-career experts in oral medicine (5+ years) and selected by a competition based on call for applications. They will be assigned a topic that is *not* an area of their expertise, which will contribute to objectivity in the group project. Under the direction of the Section Heads, they will be responsible for literature search, data collection, and writing manuscript drafts.

Assistant Reviewers are very early career experts in oral medicine (<5 years) or residents in oral medicine training programs and selected by a competition based on call for applications. Under the direction of the Section Heads, they will contribute to the group activities while at the same time they will observe the overall process and closely interact with the other group members. This strategy providing a nurturing mentorship environment for the assistant investigators.

Consultants will be selected among the most prominent researchers and clinicians that have published in the area related to the group topic over the last 10 years. Consultants may include physicians and members of other disciplines outside of oral medicine, if appropriate. They will help in the study design, contribute to the investigation process, and read and comment on manuscript drafts as deemed appropriate by the Section Head.