

HTAi Interest Group on Information Retrieval (IRG)

Tuesday, June 20, 2017, 13:00 – 14:30

The conference venue, Ergife Palace Hotel, Rome

Present: Elke Hausner, Patrice Chalon, Lisa Tjosvold, Julie Glanville, Kath Wright, Sarah McGill, Arindam Basu, Anthea Sutton, Mark Clowes, David Wong, Ingrid Harboe, Siw Waffenschmidt

Agenda

1. Welcome

- a.** The IRG was established in 1997 and has 170 members.
Our focus is on:
 - Presenting workshops at the HTAi Annual Meeting
 - Engaging in special projects of interest.
- b.** We generally communicate through the IRG email discussion group (ig-informationresources@htai.org).

2. Apologies

- a.** There were no apologies for the annual meeting.
- b.** Nina Hakak, Information Specialist at the Israeli Center for Technology Assessment in Health Care (ICTAHC), sent her greetings. Her team is looking forward to cooperating with the IRG.
- c.** Kate Misso and her Information Specialist team at the Kleijnen Systematic Reviews Ltd. do not have institutional HTAi membership and regret that they no longer are able to be members of the IRG or its discussion list.
- d.** In memory of Dr. Sigrid Droste
After a long illness, Dr Sigrid Droste sadly passed away in Cologne on 1 March 2017. Sigrid Droste worked as a research associate at the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) and was a member of the IRG for many years. The IRG would like to recognize her numerous contributions. Her extensive expertise and international commitment will be deeply missed.

3. Approval of 2016 Annual Business Meeting minutes

The [minutes from 2016 annual business meeting](#) in Tokyo (published on the IRG web page) were approved without any comments.

4. Report from Chair about IRG activities

- a. Chair 2017-2019: former Chair-Elect Siw Waffenschmidt is the new Chair of the IRG. Siw is the Head of the Information Management Unit at the Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) in Köln, Germany.
- b. Chair-Elect 2017-2019: no one put their name forward to become the new Chair-Elect. Former Chair, Ingrid Harboe, has accepted the position of Chair-Elect. Ingrid is a research librarian/senior advisor at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health in Oslo, Norway.
- c. Executive Committee: Lisa Tjosvold and David Kaunelis are new members of the Executive Committee. Lisa is an Information Specialist at the Institute of Health Economics at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. David is the Information Resources Methods Specialist at CADTH in Ottawa, Canada.
- d. Pre-conference workshop
The Executive Committee submitted a proposal for two full day pre-conference workshops:
 - *"Information Retrieval for Health Technology Assessment (HTA) – An Introduction"*
 - *"Rapid Reviews and Text Analysis Tools: Practical Guidance for Advanced Information Retrieval"*Unfortunately the organising committee rejected the proposal for the introductory workshop. The workshop in *Advanced Information Retrieval* was accepted and presented on Sunday, June 18 with 18 attendees. Eleven evaluation forms were returned with generally positive feedback.
- e. IRG eNewsletter
The IRG eNewsletters are usually posted quarterly to the mailing list and published on the IRG web page. The last newsletter ([eNewsletter No.12](#)) was published September 2016. David Kaunelis, Catherine Voutier, Jaana Isojärvi and Dagmara Chojecki have been in charge of the newsletters. Please see the IRG web page for updates.
- f. SuRe Info - 10 minute presentation by Julie Glanville (York Health Economics Consortium, UK)
- g. Cochrane update – 10 minute presentation by Carol Lefebvre (Lefebvre Associates Ltd, Oxford, UK)
- h. HTAi Vortal - 10 minute presentation by Patrice Chalon (Belgian Health Care Knowledge Centre)

5. Objectives for the upcoming term

- a. Follow up work and activities discussed by the Interest Group Steering Committee.

- b.** Continue work on the projects already running:
 - [HTAi Vortal](#)
 - [SuRe Info](#)

The HTAi Vortal and SuRe Info are important and successfully implemented resources.

Patrice Chalon continues as the HTAi Vortal coordinator. When Sari Ormstad (Norwegian Institute of Public Health) stepped down as the SuRe Info coordinator, Julie Glanville (York Health Economics Consortium) agreed to undertake this role. The IRG greatly appreciate their important contributions!

 - Online training courses
- c.** From a survey Siw did among information specialists in preparation for her panel discussion at the annual meeting in Rome, many respondents suggested online training courses. Firstly, IRG will follow this up by compiling available training courses in information retrieval.
- d.** Plan the Pre-Conference workshop and Annual Meeting in Vancouver 2018.
- e.** FastTrack workshops:

This year, the scientific committee rejected the introduction workshop in information retrieval submitted by the IRG which usually has been regarded as an important workshop. The IRG Executive Committee contacted the scientific committee and the HTAi Board. As a result, HTAi is planning a "fast-track"-submissions process for the Interest Groups to ensure that the "usual" workshops do not require acceptance by the scientific committee.
- f.** Information retrieval topics at the annual meeting:

It was suggested to the HTAi Executive Director (Daniel Lalonde) that topics related to information retrieval should be submitted under this label (Information retrieval). At the moment there are two different options: "Information search and knowledge transfer" or "Developing methods for HTA". If the labels are changed, it would be possible to group information retrieval presentations together and make them more visible to the HTA community.

6. IRG Annual dinner

15 people turned up Monday evening at Ristorante Gustosando and we had a great time!

7. Any other business

- a.** New members who would like to sign up to the mailing list need to contact the HTAi Secretariat.

Minutes recorded by: Siw Waffenschmidt (Chair) and Ingrid Harboe (Chair-Elect).