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IUPHAR Education Section Report

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There are two major ongoing projects currently under the umbrella of the Education Section of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR-Ed). An update of these initiatives is provided below.

Pharmacology Education Project

IUPHAR Pharmacology Education Project

The Pharmacology Education Project (PEP; www.pharmacologyeducation.org) continues to be developed. This open access learning resource which aims to support education and training in pharmacological sciences, celebrated its 3 year anniversary on April 1, 2019. Data retrieved via Google Analytics (see Figure 1 below), clearly show that PEP user sessions are continuing to grow, with over 20,000 sessions recorded each month in 2019.

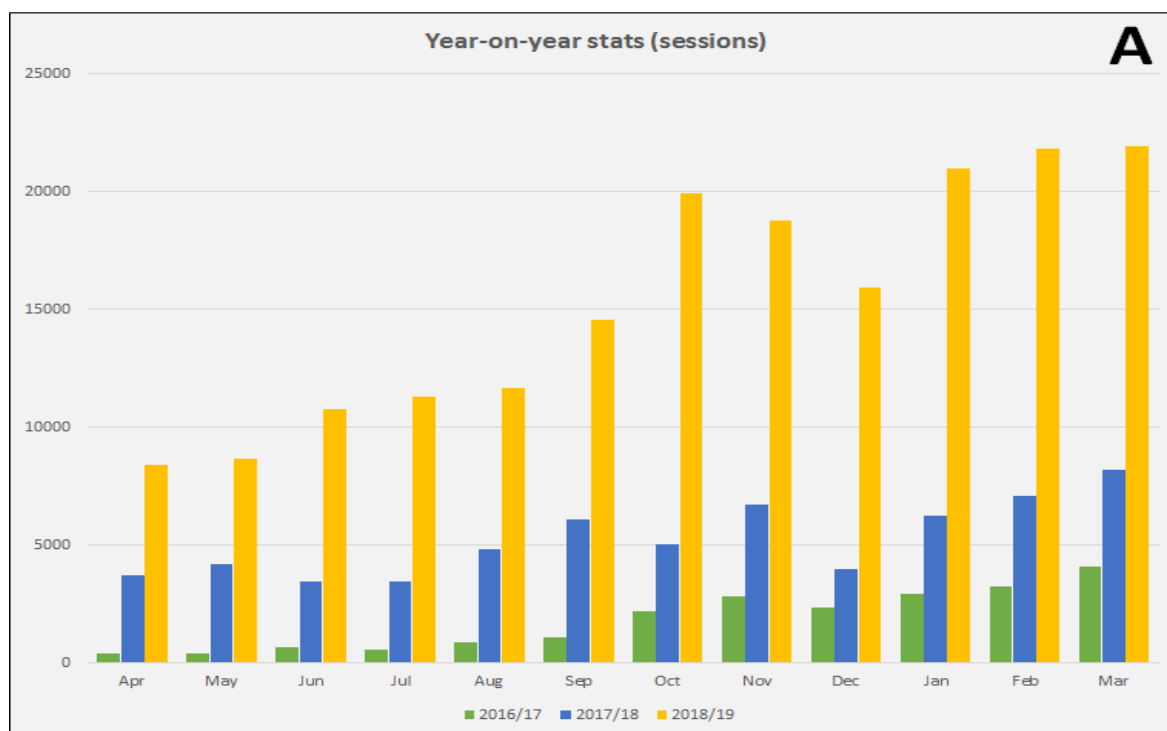


Figure 1: Year-on-year data of the recorded PEP user sessions from April 2016 to March 2019 (Data from Google Analytics).

An associated slideshare account (<https://www.slideshare.net/PharmacologyEducationProject>), which hosts some of the resources linked to from PEP, is also attracting increased views. There are currently 20 slide sets posted, and data analytics have recorded almost 11,500 views, and >400 downloads, in the last year. PEP also maintains a dedicated YouTube account.

You can read more about the inception, management, format and goals of the *Pharmacology Education Project* in our Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Practice article that was published in the journal's Therapeutic Innovations themed January 2019 issue: <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.1278> PMID: 30588614.

One of the challenges for PEP is to populate all sections and maintain relevance. The editorial board welcomes feedback from users of the site (<https://www.pharmacologyeducation.org/tell-us-what-you-think>) and importantly, welcomes contributions from all pharmacologists. Further information about the contribution process can be found on the website (<https://www.pharmacologyeducation.org/contribute-project>).

Perhaps a more pressing concern is the sustainability of the project. In particular, there is a need for ongoing financial support. PEP was made possible by seed funding from the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) which enabled engagement with the website development team at the University of Edinburgh. The site is curated by Elena Faccenda. Elena's position, which is critical for the growth and continued success of the project, is at least for the next few months supported by contributions from the Chinese and Japanese pharmacological societies. Ongoing financial support is essential to allow this project to continue.

IOSP (Integrative and organs systems pharmacology)

The IOSP project is led by Dave Lewis (Leeds University). The project received funding from Leeds University and the UK Government Grand Challenges Research funding to run two, week long, Train the Trainer courses in Africa. These were run in May 2018 (South Africa, Univ of the Witswatersrand) and Tunisia (École nationale de médecine vétérinaire de Sidi Thabet). Dave will also be running two train the trainer courses for those involved in providing CPD for researchers in Hyderabad India in July & Sept this year.

As part of the Tunisia course, the first guidance for animal research ethics committees in Africa was created by Africans for Africans. This is a great initiative and will be published shortly.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Davis
Chair, IUPHAR Education Section 2018-2022