JUSTRI Skills Toolkit Training

Sibiu, Romania, 28th May 2022









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Dr Mike Youle and JUSTRI have been constant contributors to HIV Sibiu Dialogues [link], a regional meeting, this year at its 5th edition. The novelty was the inclusion of a skills toolkit training session entirely initiated and organized by them. It was received with a lot of interest by the live and online audience: the hybrid format of the meeting made it accessible to young participants who could not be physically present. The meeting is popular in Central and Eastern Europe and the addition of a session designed to improve young researchers' abilities of writing and critically evaluating projects and publications was very well received. The opportunity of interacting with the faculty throughout the session, asking and answering questions, was intensively taken by the online and on-site participants. Overall, the session was highly appreciated by the participants, as shown in the post meeting satisfaction questionnaires. We very much hope that JUSTRI will continue to bring similar, very much valued, input at future editions."

Dr Dan Otelea – Host



Skills Toolkit Training 2022 Saturday the 28th 9-12:30

Faculty:

Dr Colette Smith, Associate Professor, Infection & Population Health, Faculty of Pop Health Sciences, University College London

Dr Oana Sandulescu, Associate Professor, UMFCD, Bucharest

Dr Mike Youle, Head of HIV Clinical Research, Royal Free London NHS Trust and Director of JUSTRI

Dr Nadia Ahmed, Consultant HIV and Sexual Health Central and North London NHS
Trust

Brent Nicholls Co-Director JUSTRI

09:00-09:30

Mike Youle

Welcome and introduction to HIV Research

09:30-10:15
Colette Smith
Developing a research proposal

Writing a protocol Engaging the right people Real life example

10:15-10:30

Oana Sandulescu Research in Romania

What HIV research is happening in Romania

10:30-11:00 **Mike Youle**

Presenting with Impact

How to structure a presentation How to analyse the needs of an audience Coping with nerves and handling tough questions

> 11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11.30-12:15

Nadia Ahmed

Creating abstracts and posters – tips for success Principles of poster design and how to write the text Writing abstracts that are concise and meaningful

12:15-13:15
Colette Smith
How to Interpret Data – quantitative and qualitative
Making sense of evidence
Critical Appraisal Skills Programme

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JUSTRI Skills Toolkit Training

Sibiu, Romania, 28th May 2022

This meeting was designed by the JUSTRI team for doctors, nurses and researchers who may be interested to further learn the skills of research and presentation of information.

We organised this intensive teaching programme, consisting of didactic lectures and interactive sessions, to improve knowledge and understanding in developing research proposals, statistics, presenting results and evaluating other research output, focusing on the skills needed to achieve this. The chairs were Dr Mike Youle from the Royal Free Hospital and Dr Colette Smith of University College, London, who created the programme and with the JUSTRI team made sure that all arrangements were in place for the training, along with our hosts.



The meeting was held on Saturday 28th May as the final day of the HIV Sibiu Dialogues V Hybrid Edition, 26-28 May 2022, organised by Dr Dan Otelea, clinical virologist at the National Institute for Infectious Diseases, Prof, Dr Matei Bals. This biennial meeting brings together many of the health care professionals involved in HIV and Infectious disease across Romania and was staged as a hybrid on-line/in-person for the first time this year.



⁶⁶ The programme was broad, and the sessions were lively with a lot of questions and audience participation throughout."

Held at the Hilton Sibiu, there were 42 participants in the meeting room and 63 on-line from across the country; this format seemed to work better than a large in-person group and the on-line participants were very active and tended to be younger individuals for whom travel could be difficult in a busy work schedule. They were all doctors, nurse practitioners or researchers involved in HIV and a variety of other medical specialities, with a range of experience in the areas covered.

The faculty, which also included Dr Nadia Ahmed a Consultant in HIV and Sexual Health from London and Dr Oana Sandulescu, Specialist Physician, Infectious Diseases, National Institute for Infectious Diseases





"Prof. Dr. Matei Bals", Romania who gave a wonderful overview of clinical and epidemiological research in Romania. The programme was broad, and the sessions were lively with a lot of questions and audience participation throughout, especially the sessions by Colette (virtual from London) and Nadia which had pre-meeting tasks associated with them.

The strength of the day was the engagement of participants of all experience, from long to short, with the former saying how much they had gained from the event. The feedback from the meeting was good and we will be running our next meeting in November in Antalya, Turkey, associated with the Turkish National HIV conference.

Evaluation

Since our session was held as part of the overall HIV Sibiu Dialogues V event, we do not have the same evaluation scores we usually collect. Nevertheless, participants had an opportunity to give feedback.

The data shared with us by the HIV Sibiu Dialogues V Hybrid Edition organisers indicated a very optimistic expectation and positive result from the weekend of meetings.

Questions included:

Has the event brought new information?

Yes was the overwhelming answer

Will this event change your medical practice?

Many indicated a neutral response while some felt it would change some of their practice.

Was the event successfully organised?

It was generally agreed the event was well organised.

How was the quality of the scientific content?

A majority indicated the quality was of a high standard

How was the quality of the lecturers?

Again a majority indicated a high standard

Was the event location appropriate?

A good response to the event location was indicated while some remained neutral.

Did you perceive commercial bias?

A majority indicated the meeting remained free of commercial bias

