



Marica Ferri *PhD, Head of the Sector at the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).*

Marica holds a Masters degree in Epidemiology (Catholic University of Rome, A. Gemelli) and a Master degree in Systematic Reviewing of Scientific Literature in the Biomedical Field (University of Milan/University of Oxford). She holds a PhD in International health at the Institute of Higiene and Tropical Medicine of Lisbon.

Marica has been coordinating the Cochrane Drugs and Alcohol group during five years (1999–2004) and following this, she acted as systematic reviewer in the development of several Clinical Guidelines at national and regional level. She has coordinated the implementation phase of those guidelines, including training and assessment.

She is author of several systematic reviews of evidence. She taught Masters' University courses at the University Statale of Milan, University Bocconi of Milan and Catholic University of Rome, A. Gemelli.

Marica gained a deep experience in searching, screening, assessing and synthetizing scientific literature and she is keen on sharing and discussing strategies and tips to enjoy it.

Session Description:

Learning objective(s):

- Review methods to search for scientific literature;
- Assessing quality of scientific literature;
- How to keep balance between being updated and avoid being overwhelmed.

Scope/main topics covered:

- Strategies to focus research questions and designing literature search, smart reading and quality assessment, keeping updated.

Training/Learning formats:

- Participants will be asked to propose questions from their own experience (in group or individually according to the number of participants)
- The selected question will be analysed to identify key words and to design a search strategy;
- We will download and discuss quality and contribution of some documents.
- We will revise theory and methods for researching and using scientific literature.

Please note – TWIST participants attending this session are asked to kindly bring laptops to use in the session exercises.

Learning outcome(s) (what should the trainee be able to do following the session?):

- Transform a knowledge need into a research question;
- Design a basic search strategy;
- Justify their choices (inclusion exclusion criteria);
- Discuss quality and contribution of scientific literature.

Related LxAddictions 2017 sessions:

Multiple transversal applications – understanding context of many of the conference presentations.