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INTRODUCING YOUNG HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS TO SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH: AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT SUPPORTED BY A NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL PHARMACY

D. Mengato¹, M. Chiumente²

1. Department of Hospital Pharmacy, Bolzano General Hospital, Bolzano, Italy
2. Scientific Direction, Italian Society for Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Milan, Italy

Background

Hospital pharmacists in Italy are not as confident as many European colleagues in research activities complaining original or unoriginal data. Methodological instruments such as meta-analysis, pharmacoeconomical analysis and systematic review are poorly disclosed to hospital pharmacists and these items are rarely part of the educational trainee for Hospital Pharmacy Students. Scientific Societies should take care of this to encourage data analysis and to improve research skills.

Purpose

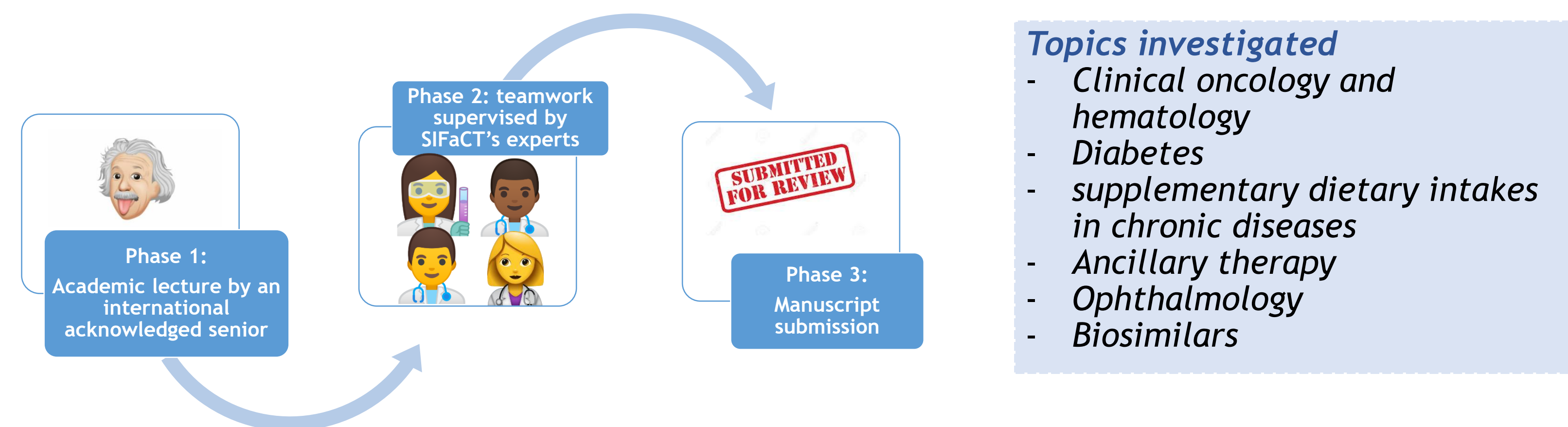
The main purpose of our project is to introduce some young hospital pharmacists to several methodological instruments (meta-analysis, trial-sequential analysis, Bayesian meta-analysis) those permit rational and scientific interpretation of unoriginal data.

Methods

SIFaCT (Italian Society for Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics) organized a 5-days event to introduce young hospital pharmacists to specific statistical instruments. The organization provided a first lecture by an international acknowledged leader, followed by teamwork activities and simulations. The project (*"AVVICINARE"* = *"Bring them closer"*) has an ultimate purpose: to permit young professionals to submit their first own scientific article to a peer-reviewed journal.

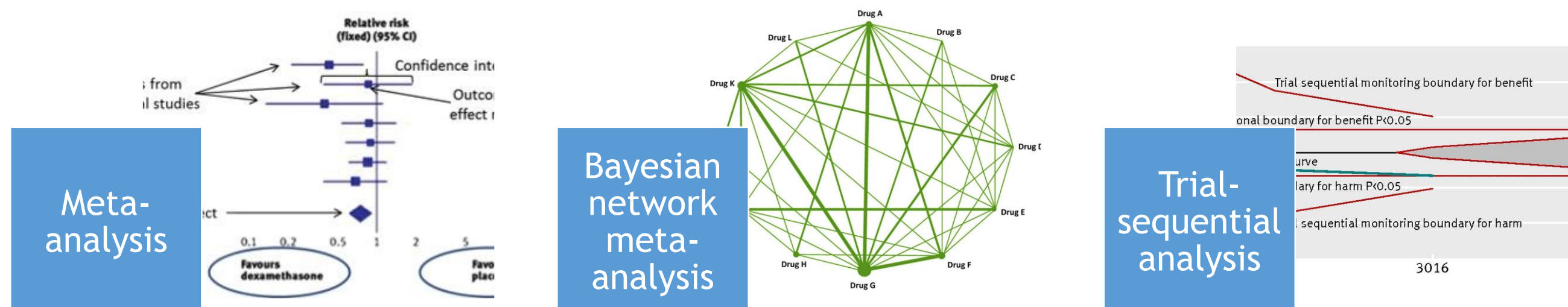
Results (1)

15 young professionals were selected and then divided in 5 groups. Each group received a *"scientific challenge"* or an *interesting topic* to investigate.



Results (2)

Every group studied in deep its assigned topic and performed a methodological analysis among the following:



Results (3)

A month after the end of the project, 2 scientific articles have been published by a PubMed indexed scientific journal, one is currently on revision and the last 2 are almost ready for submission.



Trastuzumab biosimilar in metastatic breast cancer: Evaluating equivalence with originator using network meta-analysis

Daniele Mengato¹, Marco Chiumente², Andrea Messori³

¹ Department of Hospital Pharmacy, Bolzano Central Hospital, Bolzano

² Scientific Direction, Italian Society for Clinical Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Milan

³ HTA Unit, ESTAR Toscana, Regional Health Service, Florence, Italy

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Safety of intravitreal injections: Non-inferiority of bevacizumab compared with ranibizumab

Marco Chiumente¹, Vera Damuzzo², Laura Agnoletto³, Luca Leonardi⁴, Daniele Mengato⁵

¹ Scientific Direction, Italian Society for Clinical Pharmacy, Therapeutics, Milan

² Post Graduate School of Hospital Pharmacy, University of Padua, ³ Hospital Pharmacy, United Hospitals South Padua, ULSS ⁴ Euganea, Padua, ⁵ Post Graduate School of Hospital Pharmacy, University of Pisa, Pisa

⁵ Department of Hospital Pharmacy, Bolzano Central Hospital, Bolzano, Italy

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Conclusion

Hospital pharmacists should be more confident with several methodological instruments. Despite this, there are lack of education in this field both from the university programs and scientific societies. We encouraged 15 young colleagues to focus their activities on research with the purpose to take them to a new increased professional awareness. Scientific societies should spend more time, money and energies in these fields.

Acknowledgements

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