

Further reading on covering Medical Research and science

Gary Schwitzer pamphlet *Covering Medical Research* (for AHCJ: available free online – but to AHCJ members only).

Ragnar Levi (2001) book *Medical Journalism* (Chapters 3-6), Iowa State University Press, Ames (Available via Amazon)

Barbara Gastel (2005) book *Health Writer's Handbook*, (Chapters 6,7), Blackwell Publishing (also available via Amazon)

Ioannidis JPA (2005) *Why most published research findings are false*. PLoS Med 2(8): e124

Young NS, Ioannidis JPA, Al-Ubaydli O (2008) *Why current publication practices may distort science*. PLoS Med 5(10): e201. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.0050201

Schwartz LM; Woloshin S; Baczek L (2002) *Media Coverage of Scientific Meetings. Too much too soon* JAMA. 2002;287(21):2859-2863. doi: 10.1001/jama.287.21.2859

Sources

Health News Review (US) and equivalent organisations at national level

www.healthnewsreview.org

Platform for press alerts (mainly US) <http://www.eurekaalert.org/pubnews.php>

Other countries will have their equivalents:

British equivalent **Medical News Today** <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/>

Also <http://www.1888pressrelease.com/Medical-0-27.html>

Plus all major research institutes, charities, Universities, agencies, drug companies, professional publications will have **websites** and **Public Relations/press releases**, and may offer RSS feeds.

Comment on news and findings may be appropriate from government (or opposition politicians), from experts with medical knowledge (and an ability to speak to a general audience), from specific lobby groups for particular illnesses or treatments, and from service users and their representatives.

Responses may come from the authors of new research, from drug companies, from hospital or health service providers, from family doctors or others who might prescribe or access the service, treatment or surgery.

Case study on HIV AIDS reporting Robin Vincent, Senior Advisor, Panos, London (2007) *Health journalists: Mistrusted and sensationalist, or important allies for researchers?*

Examining the barriers to effective health journalism, <http://panosrelay.org.uk/wp-content/static/2011/08/Vincent-R-rf.pdf>