

Healthcare Information for All



Review 2015

Working together for a world where every person and every health worker has access to the healthcare information they need to protect their own health and the health of others

What is HIFA?

HIFA is a global campaign and knowledge network with more than 15,000 members in 175 countries, interacting on 5 discussion forums in 3 languages (English, French, Portuguese). Our shared vision is a world where every person and every health worker has access to the healthcare information they need to protect their own health and the health of others.

Why is HIFA needed?

Every day, tens of thousands of people - mainly children - die needlessly due to failure to deliver basic life-saving interventions. These interventions are often locally available but are not delivered when they are needed. A major contributing factor is lack of access to basic healthcare information and knowledge. For example, 9 in 10 children with diarrhoea in India do not receive basic treatment with fluids and this and other failures of care contribute to nearly 1000 deaths every day in India alone. HIFA members report similar failures in other countries and across the whole spectrum of health care.

Highlights of 2015

- Strengthened collaboration with WHO
- Adoption of BMA policy in support of HIFA
- Publication in *The Lancet Global Health* and presentation at Global mHealth Forum (Mobile Healthcare Information For All)
- New project Access to Health Research, leading to Manila Declaration
- Development of new website HIFA.org to be launched in early 2016
- Expansion of volunteer base

HIFA Forums

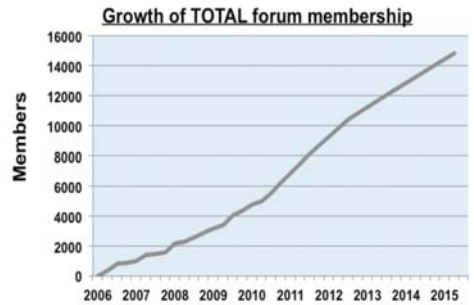
Total membership expanded in 2015 by 11% to 15,160 members from over 2000 organisations, producing over 300 discussions with more than 3500 contributions, over half from members in low- and middle-income countries.

- HIFA (main forum, English) increased by 11% to more than 8,200 members.
- CHIFA increased by 7% to more than 3,000 members, in collaboration with the International Child Health Group (ICHG) and the International Society for Social Paediatrics and Child Health. ICHG awarded a grant to strengthen operational capacity 2016-2017.
- HIFA-Portuguese increased by 4% to 2,183 members. Eliane Pereira (PAHO/WHO) was welcomed and trained as a new moderator.
- HIFA-EVIPNet-French evolved into HIFA-French in collaboration with WHO.
- HIFA-Zambia membership increased to 422 members.

The **HIFA Voices** database (hifavoices.org) expanded by 35% to more than 1000 items.

HIFA Projects

Information on Medicines for All. The HIFA Working Group on Medicines Information held discussions with WHO and the BNF on how to improve access to reliable information on medicines. The group is currently doing a literature review and a survey of information needs to inform future action and advocacy.



Mobile Healthcare Information For All. The HIFA Working Group on mHealth held a webinar on the challenges of producing mHealth content for citizens in LMICs and published a paper in *The Lancet Global Health* in July 2015. They presented at the Global mHealth Forum in Washington DC (November 2015) and are currently working with an intern from San Jose State University to assess current status of mobile healthcare information for low-literacy citizens in LMICs.

Access to Health Research. The A2HR group held a 6-week discussion sponsored by *The Lancet*, COHRED and APAME. The findings were presented at the Global Forum on Health Research, Manila, Philippines, 26th August 2015 and led to the *Manila Declaration on the Availability and Use of Health Research Information* in and for LMICs in the Asia Pacific Region.

BMA Annual Representatives Conference. On 25 June 2015 the BMA Representatives approved unanimously: "That this meeting applauds efforts to bring essential healthcare information to citizens in low resource settings, welcomes the BMA's ongoing support for the Healthcare Information for All campaign, and calls upon the UK government to prioritise support for initiatives that improve the availability and use of health information." <http://tinyurl.com/pwhvwox> (00:59.30)

mPowering Frontline Health Workers and One Million CHWs Campaign supported a sponsored thematic discussion on CHW data for decision-making.

We were delighted to continue our collaboration with Photoshare (K4Health) for the **HIFA Photographer of the Year Award**.

We implemented the first stages of our new **HIFA Social Media Strategy**, using Twitter (@hifa_org), Facebook (/hifadotorg), LinkedIn and YouTube, and supported by an international working group of HIFA volunteers. HIFA Twitter followers more than tripled, from 500 to more than 1700.

Priorities for 2016

- Further expansion of all five forums
- Expand collaboration with WHO, BMA and Supporting Organisations
- Launch HIFA in Spanish
- Increase organisational capacity to deliver Strategic Plan 2016-18.

Acknowledgements

During 2015, we ratified over 50 new **HIFA Supporting Organisations**, giving a total of 269 organisations worldwide that support the HIFA vision: <http://www.hifa2015.org/how-organisations-support-hifa2015/sos/>

Volunteerism and in-kind contributions continue to be critical to our work. In 2015 we increased the number of HIFA volunteers from 165 to 180 (including 128 Country Representatives in 61 countries).

HIFA Financial Support: We are grateful to 38 organisations (below) and 6 individuals who provided financial contributions to support our work in 2015, totalling £37,500.



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HIFA and **CHIFA** are part of **HIFA Global Forums**, which also include **HIFA-Portuguese** and **HIFA-French** (both in collaboration with WHO) and **HIFA-Zambia** (with the Zambia UK Health Workforce Alliance)

HIFA is administered by the Global Healthcare Information Network, a non-profit organisation registered in the UK.

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