

Heather Louise Mason PhD, BSc (Hons), EUPATI Fellow

Personal Details

Date of Birth: 7 January 1970
Nationality: British



Contact

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Personal Profile

After completing my PhD studies, my pharmaceutical career began in 2002. I am fortunate to have been offered varied opportunities, enabling me to build my responsibilities within clinical research and medical and commercial teams. Each environment allowed me to develop different competencies, from attention to detail, diligence, scientific writing, and project management. Following emigration to France and a subsequent career break, Coufetery Comms was established in 2018 and now serves clients across the globe. I have a positive outlook, good diplomacy and negotiation skills, and a necessary sense of humour. I am motivated to continue developing, both personally and professionally.

Proprietor at Coufetery Comms (2018 to present)

Medical writing and communications for the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries, charities, and patient organisations. Special interest – Rare Diseases.

Recent (<12 months)/ Current Projects (chronological):

- **IgA Nephropathy:** Horizon scanning. Biomarkers.
- **Cardiology/Nephrology; Potassium Binders:** HCP Advisory Board content
- **Women's Health:** First draft manuscript and manuscript review
- **Women's Health:** Objection handler and masterclass content
- **Ophthalmology:** EURETINA 2025 congress report
- **Cardiothoracic surgery:** Symposium report for journal publication
- **Cardiothoracic surgery:** Review manuscript (published September 2025)
- **Women's Health:** Systematic literature review.
- **CLN3 (Batten Disease):** CLN3 symptom timeline disease progression manuscript: (under peer-review)
- **CLN3 (Batten Disease):** Project management / manuscript writing: Systematic literature review and guideline development: (under peer-review)
- **CLN2 (Batten Disease):** Patient journey and treatment, manuscript preparation (under author review)

Pro bono publico (<12 months):

- EMWA: Freelance Special Interest Group, Interim Chair (Ongoing)
- EMWA: Co-hosting the Inclusive Writing workshop (Ongoing)
- EMWA: Expert Discussion Group: moderator. Writing with the Paediatric Population in Mind (May 2025)
- EMWA: Getting into Medical Writing. Presenting (May 2025)
- EMWA: Medical Writing Journal, Guest editor, Rare Diseases (March 2025)
- Patient Strategic Advisory Board Member: Biological sampling (Ongoing)

Pharmaceutical Career Break

June 2016 – July 2018

- Small business set up and administration, website design. Local business translations and editing

May 2014 – June 2016

- Maternity leave

Employment - Director 'Clinical Research Associates Ltd'

December 2010 – May 2014 - Freelance Scientific Communications Specialist

Shire Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Human Genetic Therapies (HGT) / Rare Disease Business Unit

Rare genetic disorders:

Hunter syndrome, Gaucher disease, Fabry disease and Hereditary Angioedema

- Fortnightly internal literature reviews
- Fortnightly disease area newsletters (internal and European)
- Scientific liaison with external stakeholders and key opinion leaders
- Literature reviews for disease awareness meetings, symposia, advisory boards
- Briefing documents for medical and marketing colleagues
- Poster presentations
- Cross-international team strategies to improve information dissemination, patient recruitment, and stakeholder liaison
- Layperson scientific factsheets and training materials
- Participation in regular medical team and scientific journal clubs

1999 – 2004 PhD programme:

"The Role of Complement and Cytokines in the Pathogenesis of Rheumatoid Arthritis".

Three-year laboratory-based study:

- Immunological techniques
- Devising pre-clinical trials (protocol writing, trial design, hypothesis testing)
- Monitoring effect of anti-inflammatory mediators
- Matured independent scientific thought

Education and Qualifications

1999 – 2004 - University of Wales College of Medicine (UWCM), PhD research,
Rheumatology

1999 – 2000 - Diploma in Biomedical methods, day release

1994 – 1997 - University of Plymouth- 1st Class B.Sc. (Hons) in Biological Sciences

1988 – 1990 - Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Nursing,
Farnborough Technical College, day release

Professional Training

EUPATI (European Patients Academy on Therapeutic Innovation)

- Patient Expert Training Programme (October 2025)

EMWA (European Medical Writers Association) Certificates:

- The Art of Storytelling Through Infographics, November 2024
- How to Handle Advisory Board Meetings, November 2024
- The Investigator's Brochure, November 2022
- Congress Coverage, November 2022
- PowerPoint for Medical Writers, November 2022
- Using Statistics in Medical Writing, April 2021
- Clinical Study Reports - Mastering the Essential Skills, April 2021
- Editing and Proofreading Essentials, April 2021
- Manuscript Writing: from Good to Excellent, April 2021
- Medical Device Regulation (MDR) Clinical Evaluation Report (CER) writing, July 2020
- CORE reference- Clarity and Openness in Reporting: E3-based, May 2019
- Using Writing Guidelines for Manuscripts, May 2019
- Introduction to Marketing for Medical Writers, May 2019
- Writing for the Internet, November 2018
- Information Sources for Medical Writers, November 2018

Life Science Academy:

- Statistics for Medical Writers, November 2024
- Clinical Study Protocols, April 2024
- Endnote Training for Medical Writers, March 2022
- How to write a Clinical Evaluation Report from MDR perspective, July 2020

European Haemophilia Consortium (EHC):

- Health Economics, October 2024

Professional Affiliation

- European Medical Writers Association (EMWA) - Member

- EMWA Entrepreneurship Special Interest Group – Committee Member
- EMWA Freelance Business Group – Co-Chair

Publications (<4 years) Writing and submission

- Lim E, Blackmon SH, Depypere L, Gonzalez M, Mitzman B, Stiles BM, et al. (2025) Clinical outcomes of digital versus traditional chest drains after thoracic surgery: a narrative review of randomised trials. *Journal of Thoracic Disease*. 17: (8) 6318-25.
- Andrew A.M. Morris, Bernard Cuenoud, Philippe Delerive, Helen Mundy, Bernd C. Schwahn, Long-term use of investigational β -Hydroxybutyrate salts in children with multiple acyl-CoA dehydrogenase or pyruvate dehydrogenase deficiency. *Molecular Genetics and Metabolism Reports*, 2024 40: 101104. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymgmr.2024.101104>. PMID 38983107.
- Fazio TN, Healy L, Heise T, Inwood A, Manolikos C, Rahman Y, Woerle HJ, Hendriksz CJ. Pharmacodynamics, safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics of a single oral dose of an engineered phenylalanine ammonia-lyase in patients with phenylketonuria. *Mol Genet Metab Rep*. 2023 Sep 26;37:101012. doi: 10.1016/j.ymgmr.2023.101012. PMID: 38053938.
- Mole SE, Schulz A, Badoe E, Berkovic SF, de Los Reyes EC, Dulz S, Gissen P, Guelbert N, Lourenco CM, **Mason HL**, Mink JW, Murphy N, Nickel M, Olaya JE, Scarpa M, Scheffer IE, Simonati A, Specchio N, Von Löbbecke I, Wang RY, Williams RE. Guidelines on the diagnosis, clinical assessments, treatment and management for CLN2 disease patients. *Orphanet J Rare Dis*. 2021 Apr 21;16(1):185. doi: 10.1186/s13023-021-01813-5. PMID: 33882967

Additional Information

- Full International driving licence
- English maternal language, good level of spoken and written French (B2)
- Teaching English as a Foreign Language, May 2018

Hobbies & Interests

Horse riding and husbandry, ornithology, photography, piano, French language lessons, disability rights, inclusion and advocacy

References

Available on request:
Testimonials are available on my website