Desktop Publishing Tools for Medical Writers

TechWriter STL Luncheon July 15th, 2019

Suzanne R Broussard, PhD

**Word Processing Software:** Microsoft Office, Google Docs, Open Source (OpenOffice, LibreOffice, LaTeX)

**Microsoft:** 3 smart moves—allowing open access to source code, security features, and focusing on Cloud services

- 75% of Fortune 500 companies use ≥3 Cloud Enterprise Services
- Microsoft 365: 1 Billion users; 180 Million monthly active users of Office 365 Commercial
- 2019 Fiscal Q3 revenue: 9.7 Billion

**Add-ins:** Being more open to collaboration has allowed 3rd parties to provide niche value “add-in” markets. Popular add-ins include: Grammarly, Zotero, Endnotes, MyScript Math Sample, I Should Be Writing, Abbreviation Lists, Stock images, Information Mapping (SOPS)

Here are a few features that are new or dramatically improved.

**Dictation software:**

Advantages: Transcription of audio is 3x faster than typing; command options are getting better; some allow for the import and export of custom work list for acronyms

- Open Office 365-Dictate; Google Docs-Voice Typing
- Dragon can transcribe text from prerecorded audio files

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Features:**

- Word, grammar, presentation suggestions
- Conditional formatting
- “Unsupervised” AI; OpenAI capable of generating text, news articles, Amazon reviews

**Data Management:**

- Microsoft Desktop Analytics “provides the insight to automation you need to efficiently get current…”
- Quark Docurated: Measure content effectiveness and revenue contribution