

## **Prof. Marja Airaksinen**

Dr. Marja Airaksinen is professor of social pharmacy in the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Helsinki, Finland. She has been involved in several patient information development programs nationally and internationally, e.g., in the WHO/EuroPharm Forum and the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). During 2000-2008, she was an executive committee member of the Pharmacy Information Section in the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). During 2004-2006, she chaired the Council of Europe Expert Group on Safe Medication Practices. In 2007-2008, she was representative of Finland in the European Union Pharmaceutical Forum's Information to Patients Working Group. She represented FIP in the WHO Working Group which developed WHO Patient Safety Curriculum Guide launched in 2011. Since 2006, she has been involved in different national working groups on patient and medication safety under Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and National Institute for Welfare and Health. During 2010-2011, she was a member of a stakeholder group at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health responsible for processing Medicines Policy 2020. Since 2012, she has served Finnish Medicines Agency's Medicines Information Network responsible for the implementation of the National Medicines Information Strategy launched in 2012. In the University of Helsinki, Dr. Airaksinen has served numerous committees and working groups, e.g., chaired a working group on doctoral training development in 2007-2009. Most recently, she was a vice chair of the steering group of the international evaluation of research and doctoral training (2010-2012).

Marja's scientific work has mainly focused on medication management services and processes and competencies required in these processes. Recent research has had special emphasis on geriatric patients as they are most vulnerable for medication risks. She has led a research group on medication safety at the University of Helsinki since 2004. Her H-index is 21 (Jan 2015). She has supervised 13 PhD students, and is currently supervising or co-supervising 20 active PhD students, part of them being international PhD students. She has done remarkable work in establishing new scientific studies for Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral students in social and clinical pharmacy, as well as developing innovative long-term training programs for pharmacists practicing in community and hospital settings (e.g., specialization training programs and accreditation trainings in clinical medication reviews, chronic diseases and clinical pharmacy services in hospitals). Some of the research and new training programs are also focused on involving nursing staff in medication risk management in primary care.