

RECALLED PRODUCTS

Adsorbed diphtheria and tetanus vaccine

The following batch of adsorbed diphtheria and tetanus vaccine (for children) has been recalled as a precautionary measure (Chiron Behring).

Batch number	Expiry date	Pack size
063041A	October 2002	5 vials

Routine stability testing two years after manufacture has shown the potency of the product to be below the level which it was at when it was first released. All stocks of the above batch should be quarantined. Farillon will be writing to all GPs and hospitals that have received this batch. Further information can be obtained from the company on 0800 389 9084.

SPC CHANGES

Yasmin tablets

The summary of product characteristics for Yasmin (drospirenone 3mg, ethinylestradiol 30µg) tablets has been updated (Schering Health Care). The information on vascular disorders under the special warnings and precautions for use section states that the incidence of venous thromboembolism (VTE) in users of oral contraceptives with low oestrogen content (<50µg ethinylestradiol) ranges from about 20 to 40 cases per 100,000 women-years, (but this risk estimate varies according to the progestogen) compared with five to 10 cases per 100,000 women-years for non-users. It is not yet known how Yasmin tablets influence the risk of VTE compared with other oral contraceptives. See SPC.

Primolut N tablets

The summary of product characteristics for Primolut N (norethisterone) tablets has been updated (Schering Health Care). The undesirable effects section states that various skin disorders have rarely been recorded with doses of 15mg daily. See SPC.

Angettes 75 tablets

The summary of product characteristics for Angettes 75 (aspirin) tablets has been updated (Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals). The wording of the indication now reads: "For the secondary prevention of thrombotic cerebrovascular or cardiovascular disease and following bypass surgery. The advice of a doctor should be sought before commencing therapy for the first time." See SPC.

Dutonin tablets

The summary of product characteristics for Dutonin (nefazodone hydrochloride) tablets has been updated in terms of information on hepatic impairment (Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals). The posology and method of administration section states: "In general, treatment with nefazodone should not be initiated in individuals with

active liver disease or with elevated baseline serum transaminases." Nefazodone is contraindicated in patients in whom the drug has previously been withdrawn because of liver injury. Nefazodone should be withdrawn from any patient who develops signs and symptoms of liver injury during treatment. See SPC.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

Mexitil PL Perlongets

Mexitil PL Perlongets (mexiletine hydrochloride) will be discontinued from 11 October (Boehringer Ingelheim). Mexitil 50mg and 200mg capsules and Mexitil 250mg/10ml ampoules remain available. Further information can be obtained from the company's medical information department (tel 01344 741261).

Chloramphenicol eye-drops

Chloramphenicol eye-drops, pack size 10ml, have been discontinued (Alpharma).

SUPPLY PROBLEMS

Leucomax

Stocks of Leucomax (molegramostim) 150µg and 300µg vials have been exhausted and stocks of Leucomax 400µg vials are expected to be exhausted by September. Supplies are expected to resume in October (Novartis Pharmaceuticals).

Naftidrofuryl capsules

Naftidrofuryl oxalate 100mg capsules, pack size 84, are back in stock (Alpharma).

COUNTER MEDICINES

Simple Eye ointment

Simple Eye ointment (yellow soft paraffin 80 per cent, liquid paraffin 10 per cent and wool fat 10 per cent) pack size 4g, has been launched (Dominion Pharma); net price, £2.67. Legal category: pharmacy medicine.

PRODUCTS MISCELLANY

Abbott products

The following two liquid feeds have been launched in banana flavour (Abbott Laboratories):

- Paediasure Plus tetrapak; net price, 27 £62.10
- Paediasure Fibre tetrapak; net price, 27 £55.50

Both products are approved by the Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances.

AWARDS

Weight management

The National Obesity Forum is seeking applications for its primary care award for excellence in weight management. The award is open to all primary care practices and the winners will receive a grant of £5,000. Regional grants of £1,000 are also available for runners-up. Further details and applications forms can be obtained from the National Obesity Forum, PO Box 6625, Nottingham NG2 5PA (tel 0115 846 2109, website www.nationalobesityforum.org.uk). The closing date is 13 September.

FUTURE EVENTS

Pharmacy way forward

Pharmacy Management seminar on "The way forward for pharmacy", Leeds, 1 October. Chairman Dr Jim Smith, chief pharmacist, Department of Health. Details from *Pharmacy Management*, Bourne House, Horseshoe Road, Pangbourne, Reading, Berkshire RG8 7JQ (tel 0800 169 3484, e-mail info@pharman.co.uk).

Essex contractors

Essex Local Pharmaceutical Committee contractors conference, 6 October, venue to be confirmed. Details from John Stanley on 01279 508587 (e-mail essexlpc@beeb.net).

Intestinal failure

St Mark's Academic Institute study day on "Intestinal failure in adults", St Mark's Hospital, Harrow, 17 October. Cost £80. Details from Judith Landgrebe, St Mark's Academic Institute, St Mark's Hospital, Northwick Park, Harrow HA2 3UJ (tel 020 8235 4046, e-mail stmarks@ic.ac.uk).

Clinical pharmacy

American College of Clinical Pharmacy annual meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 20-23 October. Cost \$360 until 13 September for members of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy, then \$450 until

11 October. Details from American College of Clinical Pharmacy, PO Box 410041, Kansas City, Missouri MO 64141-0041, United States (fax 00 1 816 561 0058, e-mail accp@accp.com).

Pharmaceutical care

Pharmaceutical Care Network Europe working conference on "Pharmaceutical care research: the next generation", Hillerød, Denmark, 12-16 February 2003. Details from Anja Sichlau, Pharmakon, Milnersvej 42, DK-3400 Hillerød, Denmark (fax 00 45 4820 6062, e-mail ans@pharmakon.dk).

ABOUT PEOPLE

Highland duathlon

A team from the pharmacy department at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, comprising pharmacists Jude Madeline, Graeme Jarvis and Fiona Dahl and technician Susan Broomner, successfully completed the Highland Cross duathlon on 22 June raising nearly £500 for local charities. The race consists of a 19-mile run and a 31-mile cycle ride from Kintail to Beaulay via Glen Affric.

Pharmacy doctorate

Dr Peter Magirr, MRPharmS, has been awarded a doctor of philosophy degree by Sheffield Hallam University for his thesis on "Changes within community pharmacy: implications for professional, public and commercial policy making". Dr Magirr is community pharmacy facilitator at South East Sheffield Primary Care Trust.

Lloyds winners

Daisy Wong has been named Lloydspharmacy preregistration trainee of the year 2002, sponsored by Reckitt Benckiser. Ms Wong trained at the company's Thornhill, Cardiff, branch. Elector Shamba was named overseas conversion pharmacist of the year. She trained at its Oaklane, Bradford, branch.

Three peaks challenge

Teams from Sants, the pharmaceutical wholesaling division of United Co-op, and from United Co-op's pharmacy group successfully completed the co-op's three peaks challenge charity walk last month. The 25-mile walk involved taking in the peaks of Pen-y-ghent, Wharfedale and Ingleborough, each over 700 metres above sea level. The Sants team finished in 9h 9min and the pharmacy team in 9h 20min coming first and second out of eight teams taking part. The event raised £5,000 for the co-op's hospices appeal fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NDC move

NDC Health has moved to new offices at NDC House, Marathon Place, Leyland, Preston PR26 7QN. Telephone numbers for its helpdesk and general enquiries remain unchanged. The fax number is now 01772 331011.

Lloyds fundraising

The Lloydspharmacy Charitable Fund has raised over £100,000 in donations from customers. The fund has also sponsored Diabetes UK's "Walk in the park" fundraising events. Staff from Lloydspharmacy's head office at Coventry took part in one of the 38 five-mile walks, held at Draycote Water, Rugby.

Cardiff MSc/diplomas

The following pharmacists have been awarded master of science degrees, postgraduate diplomas or certificates in clinical pharmacy by the Welsh school of pharmacy, Cardiff University (*with distinction): *MSc* Emily Hartwell; *diploma* Toby Capstick, Julian D'Enrico, Andrew Daniel, Pamela Das, Suzanne Day, Michael Dixon, Pascale Eichenmuller, Helen Gover, Natasha Grover, Clare Hansen*, Kailey Jones, Lisha Lala, Kirsty Langston, Eleanor Lowey, Usman Ali Malik, Patricia Markwick, Helen Meynell*, Farzana Mohammed, Clare Morris*, Rachelle Morris, Victoria Mott, Wendy Peacock*, Nia Perkins*, Anna Phillips, Sally Punter, Ceri Roderick, Charlotte Rogers, Janet Sear, Melissa Siew, Joanne Smith, Jennifer Smyth, Melanie Stroman, Diane Taylor, Marc Vincent, Eleanor Wakeling, Ruth Wan, Mari Williams, Adeline Wong, Claire Yates, Sarah Zakeri, Margaret Zimbwa; *certificate* Grainne McGrath.

De Montfort awards

The following pharmacists have been awarded postgraduate diplomas in clinical pharmacy for community pharmacists or postgraduate certificates in clinical pharmacy by De Montfort University, Leicester (**commended, *with distinction): *diploma* Kerry Alegria-Ramirez, Andrew Bellingham*, Harprit Bhogal, Anna Teresa Campbell, Ling Kwan Betty Chan*, Louise Clarke, Gabrielle Clezy*, Helen Collier*, Jasvir Dhillon, Audrey Dickson*, Angélique Dunne, Ian Gatrall*, Stacey Golding, Sarah Heathcote*, Satvinder Heer, Linda Hourston*, Margaret Howe, Sukhvinder Jhalli, Bhavna Joshi, Louise Keating, Annette Milroy, Tara Oxford, Jane Power*, Reena Rabheru*, Sukvinder Ranu**, Anne Richards, Valerie

Richardson*, Samixa Shah*, Sapana Shah*, Jayne Simpson*, Ian Smith**, Joanne Symons, Janet Thompson, Rachael Thornton, Susan Turner*, Patricia Webb, Michael Whitelam, A. Sandra Wilson, Deborah Zuckert**, *certificate* Simon Adamson, Lisa Ayton, Mukesh Bajaria, June Beeby, Yvonne Biss, Catherine Brock, Ricky Cheung, Louise Cogan, Julie Conn, Jennifer Costa, Jonathan Coyle, Jane Dainty, Rukhshana Daruwalla, Noreen Devanney, Marie Doherty, Noreen Downes, Jane Duncan, Natalie Erskine, Olivia Faughnan, Isobel Feetham, Simon Fisher, Anne Fox, Kanima Ghosh, Lakwinder Gupta, Christine Harris, Eamonn Henry, Jane Sarah Hinton, Kelly Hopkins, Ian Jackson, Elizabeth Jessop, Kim Johnston, Gillian Kenrick, Heather Khan, Helen Knapp, Leonie Lebens, Lisa Lockley, Suzanne Lynch, Roy Maunick, Shenagh McKiernan, Marjorie Mitchell, Linda Nelson, Ann Oag, Alison Oatley, Maria Papadopoulou, Aftab Pasha, Deepa Patel, Zoi Politi, Kalpna Popat, Catherine Powrie, Shairoz Premji, Vaseem Raziq, Louise Rhodes, Eileen Ryan, William Samson, Dipen Shah, Patricia Sparks, Maria Stavrou, Michelle Sullivan, Amarjeet Tank, Katrin Tertsch, Marie Tierney, Ann Tyndall, Olayinka Udueni, Karen Wadeson, Jennifer Webster, Katie Woodcock, Nayna Zuzarte.

APPOINTMENTS

Primary care assessment

The Royal College of General Practitioners has appointed the following pharmacists as assessors for its primary care research team assessment scheme: Dr Claire Anderson, Dr Angela Alexander, Peter Clewes, Dr Christopher Dunn, Russell Foulsham, Sarah Hiom, Caroline Liller, Deborah McGivern, Barbara Stewart, Dr Richard Taylor, Janet Watkinson, Dr Marjorie Weiss, Chi Wong and Kin Tung Wong.

Moss Pharmacy

Moss Pharmacy has appointed Gillian Stowell, MRPharmS, as professional development manager and Theresa Walter, MRPharmS, and Raminder Sihota, MRPharmS, as professional services managers in its professional services department.

ASCRibe

Stephen Freeborn, MRPharmS, has been appointed director of clinical development at ASCRibe Computer Software. Mr Freeborn is currently director of pharmacy at Hope Hospital, Salford.

Pharmacy helps stand become best in show



Vicky Mattock, MRPharmS, a clinical pharmacist at Hellesdon Hospital, Norwich, and Carol Smith, pharmacy technician, represented the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and Norfolk Mental Health Care NHS Trust on the National Health Service stand at the Royal Norfolk Show recently. The stand was visited by the Earl and Countess of Wessex and was awarded the cup for best stand in the show. The photograph shows Ms Smith (left) and Mrs Mattock with the winner's cup.

BAEPD

Nick Foster has been appointed general secretary of the British Association of European Pharmaceutical Distributors. Mr Foster was formerly commercial director at IVAX UK.

Jonas will be taking the lead on acute areas and Ms Sommerville on continuing care.

CORRECTIONS

Care standards

Gillian Arr-Jones, MRPharmS, and Hazel Sommerville, MRPharmS, have been jointly appointed to the post of senior professional adviser for pharmacy at the National Care Standards Commission. Ms Arr-

Journal issue numbers

The issue numbers on copies of *The Pharmaceutical Journal* for 13 July and 20 July were wrongly given. The 13 July issue should have been number 7206 and the 20 July issue should have been number 7207.

The Pharmaceutical Journal is the official journal of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Founded in 1841, it has been published weekly since 1870.

- **Editorial** Correspondence concerning editorial contents should be addressed to: The Editor, *The Pharmaceutical Journal*, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2420 or 020 7735 9141, fax 020 7572 2504, e-mail editor@pharmj.org.uk).
- **Advertising** Correspondence concerning *Journal* advertisements should be addressed to: The Advertisement Manager, *The Pharmaceutical Journal*, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7735 9141, fax 020 7572 2505, e-mail advertdept@rpsgb.org.uk).
- **Members** Members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society should notify changes of address to the Registration Section, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN. Members resident overseas may have their copies sent on a priority basis on payment of an additional annual charge of £35.
- **Subscriptions** Annual subscription rates for non-members (2002): UK £130; EU £152; rest of world £175 (£210 with priority surcharge). Reduced rates are available for students in pharmaceutical disciplines resident in Great Britain (£35) and for members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (£85). Single copy, UK £5.50 (EU and rest of world £6.50) inclusive of postage. Correspondence concerning subscriptions should be addressed to: The Pharmaceutical Press, PO Box 151, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8QU, UK (tel 01491 829272, fax 01491 829292, e-mail rpsgb@cabl.org).
- Copyright © 2002 by *The Pharmaceutical Journal*. All reproduction, including photocopying, rights reserved. Average circulation, January to December 2001, 47,900: UK 42,752, overseas 5,148. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.
- Published by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Printed in Great Britain by Polestar Colchester Ltd, a member of the Polestar Group. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

