

The Society

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Festive season media campaign will promote pharmacists as health experts

For the second time, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society is enlisting the help of its branch public relations officers (BPROs) in a campaign to promote the profession in local media during the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

The main message of the campaign is to encourage people to visit a pharmacy rather than a GP or hospital for advice and treatment of minor ailments. The campaign also reminds people that pharmacists are experts

in medicines who can offer health care advice without the need for an appointment.

The news release, "Your pharmacy, not A&E, is the place for coughs and colds this Christmas", will be sent out next week by the Society direct to local newspapers and radio stations. Each copy will include a quote attributed to a local BPRO. The BPROs will receive advance copies of the release for information.

The Society's head of public relations, Jean-Pierre Moser, said: "Our health

awareness campaigns look to give the public clear advice that highlights the role of pharmacy in providing expert care. The Christmas and New Year holiday period is traditionally a slow one for news and therefore offers BPROs a good opportunity to help promote the work of the pharmacy at a local level."

Further details of the campaign can be obtained from Natalie Sticklen in the Society's press office (tel 020 7572 2335; e-mail nsticklen@rpsgb.org.uk).

Leicestershire and Rutland branch celebrates Diwali



Pharmacists from the Leicestershire and Rutland branch of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society celebrated Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights, on 22 November.

Organised by branch chairman Divyesh Shah and former branch chairman Rajni Hindocha, the event was the branch's seventh Diwali celebration. The event was instigated in 1997 to provide a shared cultural evening for all pharmacists in the Leicestershire area.

Around 200 pharmacists and their families sat down to dinner at the Wigston Stage Hotel. Asian dancers and musicians provided entertainment.

The principal speaker was Martin Ward, marketing director of UniChem. Other guests included Professor Nilesh Samani, professor of cardiology at the University of Leicester and consultant cardiologist at Glenfield Hospital, and Professor Larry Goodyer, the new head of the school

of pharmacy at Leicester's De Montfort University.

During the evening, events were organised to raise money for several charities, the main one being Heart Search, to which a cheque for £500 was presented, with an additional £500 contributed by UniChem.

The photograph shows, left to right, Barbara Bell, Ian Bell (branch secretary), Kiran Hindocha, Rajni Hindocha, Sandra Goodyer, Divyesh Shah, Professor Larry Goodyer, Reena Shah, Professor Nilesh Samani and Varsha Samani.

Society to host science conference

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society is to host an international conference for pharmaceutical scientists on "Process understanding: the driver for new standards of performance in pharmaceutical manufacture, quality and regulation".

The conference is presented jointly by the Society and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in partnership with the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences. It takes place at the Society's headquarters on 23 and 24 March 2004, with linked half-day workshops on "Process capability" and "Risk assessment" on 22 March and on "Chemical imaging" and "Quality by design" on 25 March.

The conference is aimed at senior managers and scientists working in all aspects of the research, development, production, registration and licensing of medicinal products.

The meeting is the ninth Arden House European Conference. It offers a similar programme to the annual AAPS conference held at Columbia University's Arden House conference centre in New York State.

There is separate registration for the conference and the workshops. The fee for the conference, which includes lunches, refreshments, course documentation and VAT, is £860 for members of the Society, the APS or the AAPS). The fee for the conference and all four workshops is £1,160 for members. Registration forms can be obtained from Judy Callanan, Room 304, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London, SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2261; fax 020 7572).

Nine pharmacists designated as fellows of the Society

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's panel of fellows has designated the following nine pharmacists fellows of the Society: Professor Martyn Davies, Sue Faulding, Stephen Lutener, Dr Kay Marshall, Andrew Radley, Jeremy Savage, Peter Sharott, Bob Shaw and John Turner.

The following brief biographical information is based on material provided by the panel to assist in identifying the pharmacists concerned. It does not necessarily represent the reasons for their designation as fellows.

Professor Martyn Davies is an academic pharmacist who registered in 1981. Since 1996 he has been professor of biomedical surface chemistry at the University of Manchester and since 2000 also head of the university's school of pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy school. He joined the university's staff in 1984 as a temporary lecturer and from 1985 to 1991 was a lecturer in drug delivery. He was this year made a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Sue Faulding, who registered in 1979, is pharmaceutical adviser in the National Prescribing Centre's Prescribing Support Unit, which is based in Leeds. Previously, from 1998 to 2001, she was senior pharmaceutical adviser to Leeds Health Authority, following two-and-a-half years as principal pharmaceutical officer in the NHS Executive prescribing branch. Since 1998 she has been a member of the UK Drug Usage Review Group. She is a former chairman of the Society's West Metropolitan branch (1989-91) and Leeds branch (1998-2000).

Stephen Lutener, who registered in 1980, has recently left the staff of the Society after 16 years involved with professional standards. He had served as a professional standards inspector (1987-89), a pharmacist adviser (1989-91), head of professional ethics (1991-92), head of pharmacy law (1992-2001) and joint acting director of professional standards (2001-03).

Dr Kay Marshall is an academic pharmacist who registered in 1981. She was appointed a senior lecturer in pharmacology in the University of Bradford's school of pharmacy in 1997. She led the school's subject review team in 1998-2000 and established Bradford's intercalated degree with Leeds Medical School in 2001. She leads 10 undergraduate modules. She was a topic expert in the production of the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education learning programme to support over-the-counter availability of emergency hormonal contraception and is co-author of the CPPE workshop on "Women's health".

Andrew Radley is a hospital pharmacist who registered in 1986. He has been principal

pharmacist for area patient services for NHS Tayside since 2000, after six years as clinical director of pharmacy for Perth and Kinross Healthcare NHS Trust. He was awarded a Sir Hugh Linstead research fellowship by the Society in 1995.

Jeremy Savage, who registered in 1982, is chief pharmacist and clinical director at West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen. He has served on the Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee since 1991 and has chaired it since 2000. He has been a member of the Welsh Chief Pharmacists' Committee since 1993 and vice-chairman and treasurer since 2001. He has represented Wales on the Society's Hospital Pharmacists Group Committee since 2000. He has been chairman of the Dyfed/Powys Health Authority multiprofessional advisory group since 2000. He is a member of the NHS Industry Forum of the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group.

Peter Sharott, who registered in 1971, is a pharmaceutical adviser to the Directorate of Health and Social Care for London and to London, Eastern and South East Specialist Pharmacy Services. He is chairman of the Pharmaceutical Market Support Group. He is the Society's representative on the professional advisory panel of the NHS Litigation Authority and a member of the Cabinet Office advisory panel on "Cutting red tape for frontline hospital staff".

Bob Shaw, who registered in 1972, was recently appointed the first director of undergraduate studies for pharmacy in the school of chemical sciences and pharmacy at the University of East Anglia. He was formerly director of the NHS academic pharmacy practice unit based at the university and NHS regional specialist in pharmaceutical quality assurance. In 2002 he was appointed chairman of the NHS Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance Strategy Group and the NHS Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance Committee, and also became a member of the good manufacturing practice/good dispensing practice consultative committee. He received the Abbot Laboratories award of the Guild of Hospital Pharmacists in 1990.

John Turner, who registered in 1965, was one of the first UK medicines inspectors when the Medicines Act 1968 was implemented. He contributed to the development of the first national guide to good manufacturing practice for pharmaceuticals in the 1970s and the establishment of the UK medicines inspectorate. He has been involved in the development of the pharmaceutical inspections system in the UK and European Community, playing a leading personal role in a number of key international committees and working groups. He also played a leading role in developing and maintaining the qualified person scheme in the UK.

Official Notice, p798

DEATHS

Heasman On 8 November, John Hilton Heasman, MRPharmS, of 17 Granton View, Dalgety Bay, Dunfermline, Fife KY11 9FX. Mr Heasman registered in 1964. He had a long career in pharmacy with Boots The Chemists, managing branches in Shanklin, Isle of Wight, in Birmingham, and three successive branches in Rugeley, Staffordshire before his early retirement due to ill health.

Pegg On 17 November, Fanny Nettie Pegg, née Rosenberg, of 1B Dunrobin Court, 389 Finchley Road, London NW3 6HE. Mrs Pegg registered in 1935 and retired from the register in 1999.

Wozencroft On 12 September, Margaret Jean Wozencroft, MRPharmS, of 1 Leigh Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 9BG. Miss Wozencroft registered in 1968 (see Tribute, below).

TRIBUTES

Wozencroft In a tribute to the late Margaret Jean Wozencroft (see above), MARY LONGSON and SUSAN SCOBIE, write: Her many friends will be shocked to learn of Margaret's death after a mercifully short period of illness.

Most of her professional life was spent in Manchester, although she hailed from Derbyshire and first came to the north-west to attend Manchester University. After a year's preregistration experience at the Westminster Hospital, Margaret was appointed pharmacist to the Central Manchester Health Authority, where she remained for over 20 years, ultimately as head of pharmaceutical services. Her many colleagues in the hospital were greatly impressed by her efficient, no nonsense approach to whatever task presented itself.

Early retirement gave Margaret the opportunity to follow other interests, although she continued to serve the hospitals as chairman of the local research ethics committee, where her wise counsel was much appreciated. The Whitworth Art Gallery occupied a lot of her time; the Friends of the Whitworth and her duties as a tutor and room steward were important to her.

The award of an Open University honours degree in fine arts was the culmination of hard work and a source of great pride. Nearer home, and apart from continuing to carry out locums in a local community pharmacy, Margaret took on the role of secretary to the Hale Civic Society. A busy woman, her life was tragically cut short by the recurrence of cancer.

Margaret's friendship meant a great deal to us and she will be remembered with affection and respect not only by her closest friends but by the many people whose lives she touched.

We would like to extend our sympathies to her mother, her husband Brian, her brother David and all the family.

How the library and information service helps pharmacists keep up to date

This article, by staff of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Information Centre, describes ways in which the library and information service can help pharmacists keep their knowledge and skills up to date

Pharmacist prescribing, continuing professional development, pharmacogenomics, Agenda for Change, the new pharmacy contract — the opportunities and challenges facing pharmacists are many. A problem for pharmacists in any discipline is getting the information to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. The many routes to maintaining knowledge include making use of the services offered to the Society's membership by its library.

Traditional library services The backbone of any information service remains its collection of material. But what relevance does a printed collection have in the 21st century information age? Is there a future for the "traditional library service" in the light of the expansion of electronic information provision and its delivery over the internet? Certainly all these things have an impact on how the library delivers information. However, in 2002 over 125,000 new and revised book titles were published in the UK alone. Worldwide the learned journals market is estimated to involve some 17,500 publishers publishing millions of articles in about 35,000 journals. These publishers certainly do not seem to accept that print is dead.

Although this printed output for one year does not match the number of "pages" on the internet, estimated at one billion, most of this printed information undergoes a rigorous editorial procedure, unlike the bulk of information on the internet. Health care professionals cannot afford to ignore this printed material, some of which is also available by electronic methods.

Loans So, with this in mind, what traditional services does the library offer? The vast majority of the collection of 60,000 volumes is available for loan to members in the United Kingdom. Members can borrow up to five items at any one time for an initial period of 28 days. Loan periods can be extended for two further 28-day periods if the item is not required by another user. Because most members cannot easily visit the library in person, we will post books out to any address in the United Kingdom.

Reference We hold a large and unique reference collection that allows the Technical Information Service to answer a great many enquiries immediately. This collection is also available to any visitor to the library.

Photocopy service We operate a photocopy service to deliver documents to users anywhere. UK copyright law requires that we charge for this service but we have advantageous prices for members and believe our service to be extremely competitive in terms

of scope, price and speed. This service allows us to deliver to members copies of journal articles or short sections of books for research and private study only.

Enquiry answering Our staff are trained and experienced in dealing with enquiries on a wide range of subjects. Specific clinical and drug-related enquiries are handled by the Technical Information Service and other enquiries by library staff. We can help trace obscure references or hard-to-find publications. We can carry out research on specific topics to locate journal articles, books and web resources. We can track down organisations that specialise in certain medical conditions. We can help navigate the maze of Government and health publications. We can offer access to an unrivalled UK collection of pharmacy-related information.

The library has access to a range of electronic databases that are the key to unlocking information contained in the specialist literature. Visitors to the library can search Medline, International Pharmaceutical Abstracts and Pharmline as well as the in-house database RPS e-PIC. This bibliographic database, produced by the Society's information pharmacists, is a key resource in opening up the journal literature on UK pharmacy practice and has complete coverage of *The Pharmaceutical Journal* from 1991 to date.

We can carry out extensive literature searches at the request of members. For most simple and short searches, using databases to which we have desktop access, no charge is levied. However, where a search incurs charges from external databases or where we have to carry out a considerable amount of work, a charge is made.

Internet "café" The library also offers members visiting the Society access to the internet at no charge. From checking your e-mail to carrying out extensive research fast, dedicated access is available. Facilities also include the standard Microsoft software packages as well as electronic and printed training mater-

ial on the use of Word, Access, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook. Personal laptops can also be used in the library.

The "hybrid" library Much has been made recently about the impact of the internet and other new communication technologies on the importance, role and availability of information. In the light of a review of the work of the library in the context of the Information Centre, we have set out on a programme of work to extend our services beyond the confines of the head office building. We want to marry the strengths of our existing services and collection with the opportunities that electronic communication channels provide. This approach has been termed a "hybrid library" — a hybrid of a traditional service and a completely "virtual" service.

Our first step towards providing this hybrid service was the launch of our catalogue on the internet in April. This gives members the chance to search the library collection for books, reports and monographs of interest to them. No longer does a pharmacist have to wait for the library to be open to discover if we have an item. However, the catalogue does not stop there: for nearly 10 per cent of items on the catalogue, we provide a seamless internet link to the full text of the item, making these resources available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Recently, interactive facilities have been introduced to the catalogue that allow members to reserve, request and renew items online.

However, the library catalogue is just one plank in our desire to deliver a proactive library service to members as part of a hybrid library. We are looking at ways to use the Society website to deliver services directly to members. We are looking at providing guidance and pointers to information available on the internet to help pharmacists both in their daily work and with lifelong learning. We hope to provide links to electronic books and journals, to respected information resources and to world-renowned organisations in every field of pharmacy and medicine.

If you visit us, we will be happy to show you how to use the range of electronic resources or how to get the best out of the internet. Some of this internet advice, including use of the on-line library catalogue, can also be provided over the telephone.

We want to be able to provide a resource which pharmacists will view as a first port of call when looking for information and advice on medicine, medicinal products and therapeutics. We can offer up-to-date information on frequently asked questions, we can direct pharmacists to specialist resources that can answer their questions and we can offer quality information resources to help with continuing professional development.

Contact details

Telephone 020 7572 2300 (a voicemail facility allows messages to be left at busy times or when we are closed. These messages will be dealt with as quickly as possible).

Fax 020 7572 2499

E-mail library@rpsgb.org.uk

Catalogue <http://olib.rpsgb.org.uk>

Hours of opening Monday to Wednesday and Friday, 9am to 5pm; Thursday 10am to 5.45pm.

PHARMACY INFORMATION POINTERS

An occasional feature, prepared by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Information Centre, to highlight topics of interest and enquiries currently being handled

Identification of foreign medicines

The Society's information pharmacists have updated their list of internet sites for identifying foreign products from various countries, first published in 2001 (*PJ*, 1 September, p309).

The Society's Information Centre has a large collection of foreign proprietary medicine literature as well as an array of electronic sources for answering enquiries about foreign medicines. The information pharmacists in the technical information service have access to all these resources to answer enquiries. Members can access the

service by telephone (020 7572 2302) or e-mail (techinfo@rpsgb.org.uk).

Listed below are internet sites for identifying foreign products from various countries. All these links can be accessed free of charge and are a useful adjunct to commercially available information sources such as "Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference" for any enquiries when our telephone enquiry service is unavailable.

When text is not available in English, members may wish to try using an

internet translation site, some of which can be accessed by links from *PJ Online* (www.pjonline.com/noticeboard). These services are not always reliable, but can be helpful if used with caution.

This article is also available on *PJ Online* (www.pjonline.com/pip), where it is updated as new information comes to light.

Letters in parentheses after the entries below indicate online databases (*D*), online proprietary product compendia (*C*) and sites for which registration is required (*R*).

Argentina P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Australia Australian Prescription Products Guide (*C, R*):
www.appco.com.au/appguide

Belgium Belgian Centre for Pharmacotherapeutic Information (*D*, text appears in French/Dutch):

www.bcfi.be/ggr/index.cfm?ggrWelk=MAIN

Bulgaria Bulgarian Drug Agency (*D*, text appears in Bulgarian and English):
www.bda.bg/Mp_engl.htm

Brazil P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Canada Health Canada Online Drug Database (*D*):
www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpb/drugs-dpd

Chile P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

China MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

Colombia P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Czech Republic State Institute For Drug Control (*D*, text appears in Czech):
www.sukl.cz/020201.htm

Denmark Lgemiddelkataloget (*C*, text appears in Danish):
www.lk-online.dk

Egypt Ministry of Health Drug Policy and Planning Center (*D*):
www.health.egnet.net/health/drugser.htm

Estonia State Agency of Medicines Drug Database (*D*, text appears in Estonian):
www.sam.ee/cgi-bin/parse.cgi?src=otsing.htm

Finland National Agency for Medicines (*D*, text appears in Finnish):
spc.nam.fi/html/humspc.html

Germany Rote Liste (*C, R* text appears in German):
www.rote-liste.de

Greece Pharmakon: Online Pharmaceutical Guide (*D*, text appears in Greek and English):
www.mednet.gr/pharmako/pages/tr-alpha.htm

Hong Kong (1) Department of Health A-Z listings of registered pharmaceutical products (*D*):
www.info.gov.hk/pharmser/Reg_ir/download_pharm.html
(2) MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

India Medivisionindia.com (*D*):
www.medivisionindia.com/drugindex

Indonesia MIMS (*D, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

Israel Ministry of Health — The Israel Drug Registry (*D*, text appears in Hebrew and English):
www.health.gov.il/units/pharmacy/trufot/abc.asp?Sr_Type=T_Name

Japan Japan Pharmaceutical Reference (*C*):
www.e-search.ne.jp/~jpr/jpr_db/eindex.html

Latvia State Agency of Medicines (*D*, text appears in Latvian):
zaale.vza.gov.lv/english/zr/zales.exe

Lithuania Drug Information Centre (a subdivision of the State Medicines Control Agency at the Ministry of Health of Republic of

Lithuania (*D*):
vic.vvkt.lt/english/index.html

Malaysia (1) MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21
(2) National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau Database (*D*):
www.bpfk.gov.my/Search/Search_product.asp

Mexico P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

New Zealand (1) Medsafe (Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority) (*D*):
www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs.htm
(2) PHARMAC (Pharmaceutical Management Agency) pharmaceutical schedule database (*D*):
www.pharmac.govt.nz/interactive/scripts/index.asp

Pakistan PakMediNet (*D*):
www.pakmedinet.com

Paraguay P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Peru P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Philippines (1) Department of Health (*D*):
www.doh.gov.ph/BFAD/drugsrch.htm
(2) MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

Portugal Prontuário Terapêutico Online (*C*, text appears in Portuguese):
www.infarmed.pt/prontuario/index.php

Singapore MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

South Africa South African Electronic Package Inserts (*C*):
home.intekom.com/pharm

Spain Consejo General De Colegios Oficiales De Farmacéuticos (*D, R*, text appears in Spanish):
pfarmals.portalfarma.com:8080/farma/scripts/bot.dll?actual=0&anterior=&NOMBRE.x=33&Nombre.y=24

Sweden (1) FASS (*C*, text appears in Swedish):
www.fass.se/LIF/produktfakta/produktfakta.jsp
(2) Medical Products Agency (*D*, text appears in Swedish and English):
sweweb.mpa.se/webpreview/content/Search/Main.asp

Switzerland Arzneimittel-Kompodium Der Schweiz (*C, R*, text appears in French/German):
www.documed.ch

Taiwan MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

Thailand MIMS (*C, R*):
www.atmedica.com.my/regindex.cfm?sec=21

Turkey Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Turkish and English):
vademecum.ato.org.tr

United States Food and Drug Administration regulatory database (*D*):
www.fda.gov/cder/ob/default.htm

Uruguay P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Venezuela P. R. Vademecum (*D*, text appears in Spanish/Portuguese):
www.prvademecum.com/Pantalla_paises.asp

Access to all these websites was checked on 2 December

Inspectors' presentations for preregistration trainees

Each year, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's professional standards inspectors organise a series of half-day presentations for preregistration trainees. The aim is to explain the inspector's own role and that of the Society's Fitness to Practise and Legal Affairs Directorate, so that trainees can gain an understanding of the support available to pharmacists from those sources.

The informal sessions are open to all trainees, whatever fields of practice they are training in. Trainees may attend the presentation of their own choice. There is no need to reserve a place in advance other than for the sessions in Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Stockport. There is no charge for attending the presentations, but any travel costs will have to be met by the trainee or employer.

This season's presentations take place at 30 venues across Britain, with a choice of dates in London and Birmingham (see Table). Most are early in the new year, but one session, in Crewe, has already taken place.

Details of the presentations are being sent to trainees and tutors with the Society's December preregistration bulletin. The mailing includes information on the precise location of each venue, with details of railway stations and bus routes and advice on road travel and parking. For most venues the mailing also gives a telephone number for further information about the site (eg, access for the disabled). The information included with the mailing can also be downloaded from the preregistration training page of the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org.uk/education).

Any queries about the presentations should be addressed to the individual inspectors, who can be contacted in writing through the Fitness to Practise and Legal Affairs Directorate.

INSPECTORS' PREREGISTRATION PRESENTATIONS 2003			
Place	Date	Time	Inspector
Aberdeen	Wednesday 10 March	2-4.30pm	Sheena Greig
Bath	Tuesday 16 March	2-5pm	Chris Collier
Birmingham*	Monday 2 February	10am-1pm	Jill Williams
Birmingham*	Monday 29 March	10am-1pm	Jill Williams
Blackburn	To be announced	To be announced	Stan Brandwood
Brighton	Thursday 15 January	10.30am-1.30pm	Kinna McConochie
Cambridge	Wednesday 18 February	2-4.30pm	Martin Ibbitt
Cardiff	To be announced	To be announced	Akhtar Malik
Chester	Friday 9 January	9.30am-12.30pm	Steven Gascoigne
Coventry	Wednesday 4 February	9.30am-12.30pm	Susan Melvin
Darlington	Friday 26 March	9.30am-12.30pm	Alison Hopkins
Edinburgh	Thursday 25 March	2-4.30pm	Sheena Greig
Exeter	Monday 23 February	2-5pm	Barry Cohen
Glasgow	Wednesday 31 March	9.30am-12.30pm	Russ Liddell
Guildford	Monday 8 March	2-5pm	Tim Staton
Leeds*	Tuesday 9 March	1-4pm	David Slater
Liverpool	Tuesday 24 February	9.30am-12.30pm	Stan Brandwood
London	Tuesday 27 January	2-5pm	Janet Edginton
London	Monday 23 February	2-5pm	Janet Edginton
Maidstone	Thursday 22 January	10.30am-1.30pm	Kinna McConochie
Newcastle	Monday 8 March	1.30-4.30pm	Alison Hopkins
Norwich	Wednesday 24 March	1-4pm	Martin Ibbitt
Nottingham	Tuesday 10 February	9.30am-12.30pm	Susan Melvin
Oxford	Tuesday 30 March	2-5pm	Chris Collier
Portsmouth	Wednesday 10 March	10am-1pm	Tim Snewin
Plymouth	Monday 16 February	2-5pm	Barry Cohen
Sheffield*	Thursday 11 March	10am-1pm	David Young
Stockport*	Thursday 4 March	9.30am-12.30pm	David Young
Swansea	Monday 8 March	2-5pm	Akhtar Malik
Thornton Heath	Wednesday 3 March	2-5pm	Tim Staton

* Booking necessary

MEDICINES, ETHICS AND PRACTICE

December cumulative list of amendments

In the first issue of each month *The Journal* updates the guidance on the legal status of medicines published in the 27th edition (July 2003) of 'Medicines, ethics and practice: A guide for pharmacists'. The amendments are given in **bold** type when added to the list and repeated each month in light type. A product's legal status can be obtained by consulting first the latest amendment list and then the guide. The abbreviations used in the list are explained in the key to annotations in the body of the guide (p29 and p75).

Users of the guide should note that changes to the reclassification procedure for medicines mean that the legal status of a product now becomes part of its marketing authorisation rather than being deter-

mined by the active substance listed in secondary legislation. Because a change of legal status will be conferred only on products that are the subject of an application for reclassification, users of the guide should refer to the entry for the specific proprietary product and not rely only on the entry for the active substance. Since the POM Order remains in force, entries for active substances will remain in the guidance but will include cross references wherever proprietary products have been reclassified. Further guidance or clarification on the status of individual products can be obtained from manufacturers or from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (tel 020 7273 0523; e-mail info@mhra.gsi.gov.uk).

HUMAN MEDICINES				
Alka Rapid crystals GSL	Beconase Hayfever nasal spray entry should read: Beconase Hayfever nasal spray GSL	Humira injection POM	Monit tablets entry should read: Monit tablets P	Olmotec tablets POM
Alomide Allergy ophthalmic solution P	Canesten AF Once Daily P	4-Hydroxy-n-butyric acid CD Benz POM	Monit SR tablets entry should read: Monit SR tablets P	Panadol actifac tablets pack size 14 GSL
Anthisan Bite and Sting cream GSL	Canesten Complete P	InductOs POM	Monit XL tablets P	Presinex nasal spray POM
Anthisan Plus spray entry should read: Anthisan Plus spray GSL	Cetralen emollient bath additive GSL	Keloc SR tablets POM	Morphine (Minijet) CD POM	Regaine topical solution entry should read: Regaine Regular Strength topical solution GSL
4-Androstene-3,17-dione CD Anab POM	Cetralen emollient cream GSL	Ketoconazole entry—replace "P" at end of entry with "please refer to proprietary names for classification granted under the marketing authorisation (see Nizoral products)"	Motilium preparations entry should read: Motilium suppositories POM	Remifentanyl CD POM
5-Androstene-3,17-diol CD Anab POM	Co-codamol eff entry should read: Co-codamol 8/500 effervescent CD Inv P	Lemsip Flu 12Hr P	Motilium suspension POM	Salicylic acid entry—delete maximum strengths in sections 2 (corn plasters) and 10 (wart plasters)
Avandamet tablets POM	Co-codamol 8/500 pack sizes 32s CD Inv P; greater than 32s CD Inv POM	Lemsip Max Cold and Flu Direct GSL	Motilium tablets POM	Stalevo tablets POM
Beclomethasone/Beclomethasone dipropionate entry—replace "P" at end of entry with "please refer to proprietary names for classification granted under the marketing authorisation (see Beconase products)"	Co-codamol 30/500 preparations CD Inv POM	Metvix cream POM	Motilium 10 tablets P	Stilnoten tablets entry should read: Stilnoten tablets CD Benz POM
Beconase Allergy nasal spray entry should read: Beconase Allergy nasal spray P	Dihydroetorpine CD POM	Minijet Morphine CD POM	Niaspan tablets POM?	Subcuvia injection POM
	Duac Once Daily Gel POM	Minoxidil entry—delete first "P" and replace "P" at end of entry with "please refer to proprietary names for classification granted under the marketing authorisation (see Regaine products)"	Nicotinell liquorice coated gum GSL	Sudafed Congestion Relief capsules, non-drowsy GSL
	Emtriva capsules POM	Modisal preparations entry should read: Modisal XL tablets P	Nicotinell extra strength mint lozenges GSL	Testogel gel CD Anab POM
	FemTab POM		Nicotinell TTS entry should read: Nicotinell TTS GSL	Tixyplus suspension P
	FemTab Sequi POM		NiQuitin CQ mint lozenges GSL	Ultiva entry should read: Ultiva injection CD POM
	FemTab Continuous POM		Nizoral (Johnson & Johnson MSD) Anti Dandruff shampoo GSL	Zamadol Melt tablets POM
	Forsteo injection POM		19-Nor-4-androstene-3,17-dione CD Anab POM	Zispin Sol/Tabs POM
	Fuzeon injection POM		19-Nor-5-androstene-3,17-diol CD Anab POM	Zolpidem tartrate entry should read: Zolpidem tartrate CD Benz POM
	Gammahydroxy-butyrate [GHB] CD benz POM			

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Communications to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society should be addressed, unless otherwise stated, to the Secretary and Registrar, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7735 9141; fax 020 7735 7629). Official Notices also appear in the Notice-Board section of PJ Online (www.pjonline.com/notices)

New fellows

In accordance with the powers vested in it, the panel of fellows appointed under Section III(4) of the Byelaws has designated the following nine members as fellows of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

For distinction in the practice and profession of pharmacy: Robert Joseph Stuart Shaw, Norwich; Peter Sharott, Twickenham. *For distinction in the practice of pharmacy:* Susan Elizabeth Faulding, Ilkley, West Yorkshire; Dr Kay Marie Marshall, Skipton, North Yorkshire; Andrew Simon Radley, Auchterarder, Perthshire. *For distinction in the profession and practice of pharmacy:* Jeremy David Savage, Swansea. *For distinction in the profession of pharmacy:* Stephen James Lutener, Basingstoke; John Lawrence Turner, Basingstoke. *For distinction in the science and practice of pharmacy:* Professor Martyn Christopher Davies, Nottingham.

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Statutory Committee inquiries

The Statutory Committee will meet at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1, at 9.45am on Tuesday 9 December, Wednesday 10 December and Thursday 11 December 2003 to hear the following inquiries:

Tuesday 9 December

1. A new and resumed inquiry into a complaint by the Council of the Society against a pharmacist, which alleges that dispensing errors made by the pharmacist amount to misconduct.
2. An inquiry into a complaint by the Council of the Society against a pharmacist which includes allegations that a dispensing error and failure to advise the patient to seek immediate medical advice amount to misconduct.

Wednesday 10 December

3. An inquiry into a complaint by the Council of the Society against a pharmacist which includes allegations that the pharmacist's failure to ensure that professional indemnity insurance cover was in place from about July 2002 until 12 December 2002 and failure to provide documentary evidence that professional indemnity insurance was in place before July 2002 amount to misconduct.
4. An inquiry into a complaint by the Council of the Society against a pharmacist which includes allegations that the taking of medicines (including prescription only medicines) from his

employer, for personal use without any authority, amount to misconduct.

Thursday 11 December

5. An inquiry into a complaint by the Council of the Society against two pharmacists which includes allegations that failure to have in place proper systems for dispensing Clozaril/clozapine strictly in accordance with the Clozaril Patient Monitoring Service (CPMS) and supplying clozapine between May and September 2001 in breach of the CPMS requirements, amount to misconduct.

M. B. PAWLUCZYK (Mrs)

Secretary to the Statutory Committee

DIARY

LOCAL MEETINGS

Events listed below are meetings of branches or regions of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Details of all future meetings notified to The Journal appear in the Diary section of PJ Online (www.pjonline.com/diary)

Monday 8 December

Eastbourne Eastbourne Downs Pharmacy forum. St Mary's Board Room, Eastbourne District General Hospital. 7.30pm.

Nottingham "Clinical treatment of obesity" by Dr Ian Campbell (general practitioner). School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Tuesday 9 December

Bolton "Palliative care". Education Centre, Royal Bolton Hospital, Farnworth. Buffet. 7.30 for 8pm.

Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan "Arthritis update: animal and human comparisons and differences" by Dr J. Camilleri (consultant rheumatologist, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust) and Carlos Macias (Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons certificate in small animal surgery, Wirral Referral Service, Solihull). Aberdare Hall, Corbett Road, Cathays Park, Cardiff. Finger buffet. 7.30 for 8pm.

Cheltenham and Gloucester Christmas dinner followed by "Pharmacy in Zambia" by Debbie Anderson (pharmacist). Cheltenham Postgraduate Centre, College Lawn, Cheltenham. 7.15 for 8pm.

Dudley and Stourbridge "Taking the fear out of continuing professional development". Dudley Clinical Education Centre, Russells Hall Hospital. 7.30 for 8pm.

Moray and Banff "Pain management" by David McNaughton. Laichmoray Hotel. 7pm.

Oxfordshire Christmas quiz. George Pickering Postgraduate Centre, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington. Light refreshments. 7.30 for 8pm.

West Surrey "Obesity and weight management" by specialists from Lipotrim. Burchatts Farm, Guildford. Festive refreshments 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Wednesday 10 December

Barnet Hands-on demonstration of oxygen therapy by Janet Prior (BOC). Postgraduate Medical Centre, Barnet General Hospital. Food available 7.15pm, meeting 8pm.

Friday 12 December

Bath Social event: Christmas drinks. Brown's Bar/Restaurant, Orange Grove, Bath. 8pm.