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Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society
of Great Britain

Council agrees to develop a vision for pharmacy in 2020

A profession-wide project is to be undertaken to develop a “socially responsible” vision of where pharmacy will be by the year 2020.

At the **February Council meeting**, the Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society agreed to initiate the project — to be known as “Pharmacy 20:20” — as a follow-up to the Pharmacy in a New Age (PIANA) project.

PIANA was launched in 1995 to engage the profession in mapping and achieving its own aspirations. The new project will aim to achieve similar goals, the Society says.

The Council agreed that the project will be overseen by a steering group chaired by the President, Hemant Patel. Comprising both Council members and senior staff, the group will govern the strategic direction of the project and report to the Council at regular intervals.

The Council decided that Pharmacy 20:20 will be a cross-directorate project managed from within the Society’s Practice and Quality Improvement Directorate.

The Council also decided to form a project group responsible for the tactical and

managerial decisions to ensure that the project delivers the strategic goals agreed by the steering group.

The project group will be chaired by the Society’s Director of Practice and Quality Improvement, David Pruce, and will have representation from each of the Society’s main operational directorates.

The project will have four phases in the first year: (1) project set-up; (2) preparing the profession for consultation; (3) first consultations; (4) second consultations.

The President said: “The aim of Pharmacy 20:20 will be to identify where pharmacy will be in 10 to 15 years’ time.

“PIANA took the views of the profession and distilled them into a vision that met the needs of patients and the aspirations of pharmacists. The Society has worked to realise that strategic vision and we are delighted that all our goals have now been achieved.

“With the major challenges in society and demand on modern professionals we need to create a vision for the next decade. What I see in 20 years is a confident and socially responsible profession.”

Cross-sector experience for preregistration trainees to be the norm — but not mandatory

The Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society has dropped its long-standing commitment to make cross-sector experience (CSE) a mandatory part of preregistration training.

It agreed to do so at the **February Council meeting** on the recommendation of a working group, which had concluded that there was not enough capacity within the provision of preregistration training to ensure that every trainee would be able to experience both hospital and community pharmacy.

The Council will continue to expect all trainees to have gained experience of both the patient-centred sectors, but it has moved away from a “one size fits all” approach on how this experience is gained and taken a more pragmatic view.

The main points to emerge from the Council’s discussion were a confirmation of the value of CSE, the need to define CSE as

learning outcomes, the recent changes in CSE’s external environment and a wider range of options for achieving the competencies required at registration — not just the physical movement round different locations.

The Council complimented the profession on the strength and value of the CSE scheme and of the alternate sector experience.

After the Council meeting, the Society’s head of preregistration, Peter Burley, said: “The Council took the working party’s advice to define CSE more in terms of learning outcomes than as a sequence of different physical locations. This decision was supported by proposals for developmental work in the preregistration year for tutors and trainees and by a recognition that more and more undergraduates are gaining clinical experience during their four years’ MPharm.”

This week

■ Pharmacy 20:20

Echoing the Pharmacy in a New Age initiative of the late 1990s, a new project is to be undertaken to develop a socially responsible vision of where pharmacy will be by the year 2020 (p277).

■ Cross-sector experience

The Council has dropped its long-standing commitment to make cross-sector experience a mandatory part of preregistration training (p277).

■ New presentation on careers

The Society has developed a new careers presentation for use in careers talks arranged by its branches (p278).

■ Helping smokers to stop

A media campaign highlighting how pharmacists can help people to stop smoking is being co-ordinated through the Society’s branches (p278).

2,000 pharmacists face striking-off for non-payment of fees

Two thousand members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society face being struck off the Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists if they fail to pay the Society’s 2006 retention fee within the next 30 days.

At its meeting on 4 April 4, the Council will be asked to direct the Registrar to remove from the Register the names of all members who have not paid. They will then be unable to practise as pharmacists and will face a penalty fee of more than £500 if they wish to be restored to the Register in future.

The Society’s head of registration, Andrew Gardner, said: “This year’s fee collection exercise went very smoothly indeed and, for the first time ever, online payments through the website became the most popular way for people to pay. However, there is still a substantial number of members who have not paid and I would encourage them to do so now to avoid being removed from the Register or paying penalty fees.”

Members can still pay through the Society’s website (www.rpsgb.org). Further information is available from the registration team (tel 020 7572 2322).

New tool to help branches with careers work

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has developed a new careers presentation for use by branch careers officers or other branch members who are asked to give pharmacy careers talks at local schools and careers fairs.

The presentation, "Your future in pharmacy", consists of a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation and speaker's notes. It explains how pharmacists fit into the overall health care mix and gives details of the qualifications and skills that students need to study pharmacy. There is scope to modify the presentation to suit the speaker and the careers event. Presenters can add their own anecdotes, advice, guidance and local information.

Council member Bharat Nathwani, who is a branch sponsor on the Council, said: "The Society's pharmacy careers work continues to go from strength to strength and this presenta-

tion comes in response to requests from many branches who are keen to engage with the next generation of the profession. I hope it encourages more branches to undertake careers presentations and gives more students the chance to see what an exciting and challenging career awaits them the pharmacy profession."

The new presentation is the latest addition to the Society's careers materials, which include a comprehensive leaflet and a dedicated website (www.pharmacycareers.org.uk). Copies of the new presentation and/or the leaflet can be ordered from the Society's careers staff (e-mail careers@rpsgb.org; tel 020 7572 2330). The new presentation and notes can be supplied by e-mail, but recipients need to have the technical capacity to receive e-mail attachments of 4Mb in size. Otherwise, a disk version should be requested.

Fifth *Independent* supplement on careers in pharmacy

For the fifth time in just over two years the Royal Pharmaceutical Society has co-operated with *The Independent* to publish a supplement promoting careers in pharmacy. The latest supplement was published on 2 March.

The supplement looks at the career opportunities available to people considering a career in pharmacy. Feature articles cover veterinary pharmacy, the new prescribing powers for pharmacists, new ways of drug delivery and pharmacy in the prison and army services. The supplement also includes a column from the Society's President, Hemant Patel.

The President said: "We are pleased to be continuing our highly successful association

with *The Independent* newspaper with the publication of this fifth supplement on pharmacy careers. This is just one example of positive associations we are forming with the press with regards to careers promotion, *Asian Voice* and *Fusion* magazine being recent others. The supplements give pharmacy a national platform where new developments in the profession can be highlighted and we can showcase the range of opportunities that a career in pharmacy can bring."

The supplement is available from the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) and copies are to be distributed to pharmacists with the 11 March issue of *The Pharmaceutical Journal*.

Branches to help promote No Smoking Day through local media campaigns

A media campaign highlighting how pharmacists can help smokers who are serious about stopping is being co-ordinated through the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's branch public relations officers (BPROs) to coincide with No Smoking Day on 8 March.

The theme for No Smoking Day 2006 is "Serious about stopping? You can do it!" The campaign will focus on the detrimental health effects to smokers and members of their family, as well as other key messages.

The BPRO media campaign centres on a press release sent to local and regional media across Britain by the Society's public relations unit. It includes a quote attributed to the local BPRO and invites journalists to run stories about No Smoking Day and contact the BPRO for expert pharmacy advice.

"This local publicity will help spread the message that community pharmacists are key players in the battle to help people who are serious about stopping smoking," the Society says.

No Smoking Day, now in its 23rd year, is run by a charity of the same name. Its chief executive, Ben Youdan, said: "Pharmacists are one of the most important sources of help for the millions of smokers who stop smoking on No Smoking Day. We are delighted that the Society has launched this media campaign to raise awareness of the help pharmacists can offer to smokers, right from the heart of the community. Many already have a rapport with customers and can provide the friendly encouragement and advice smokers need."

'Medicines, ethics and practice': March list of amendments

In the first issue of each month, *The Journal* updates the guidance on the legal status of medicines published in the 29th edition (July 2005) 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).

Human medicines

Aloxi solution for injection POM
Apidra solution for injection POM
Aptivus capsules POM
Atimos Modulite inhaler POM
Azilect tablets POM
Bonviva tablets POM
Budesonide Easyhaler POM
Chirocaine POM
Clarosip granules for suspension POM
DDAVP Melt capsules POM
DesmoMelt tablets POM
Diva tablets POM

Duodopa intestinal gel POM

Easyhaler beclometasone dry powder inhaler POM
Emla cream entry should read: Emla cream P
Enbrel injection POM
Fendrix hepatitis B (rDNA) vaccine POM
Flomaxtra XL tablets POM
Fosavance tablets POM
Hedrin P
Inegy tablets POM
Kepivance powder for solution for injection POM
Ketamine hydrochloride entry should read: Ketamine CD Benz POM

Lamisil Once solution P

Levonelle 1500 tablets POM
Nebido solution for injection entry should read: Nebido solution for injection CD Anab POM
Negaban powder for solution for injection/infusion POM
Noxafil oral suspension POM
Numark chloramphenicol 0.5% eye drops P
Numark flu relief capsules GSL
Numark max strength cold and flu sachets GSL
NutropinAq entry should read: NutropinAq CD Anab POM

Octim injection POM
Omalizumab powder and solvent for injection POM
Octim nasal spray POM
Optrex Infected Eyes P
Oraqix periodontal gel POM
Ovitrelle injection CD Anab POM
Peptac Peppermint GSL
Prexige tablets POM
Procorolan tablets POM
Rectogesic rectal ointment POM
Reminyl XL capsules POM
Revatio tablets POM
Seractyl tablets POM
Sodium citrate oral solution 0.3M (Viridian Pharma) POM

Tarceva tablets POM
Tiplranivir capsules POM
UniChem Rehydration Treatment GSL
Vantage chesty cough linctus P
Vantage dry cough linctus P
Vantage flu strength all in one P
Varivax injection POM
Viroflu vaccine POM
Xolair POM
Xyrem oral solution CD Benz POM
Zonegran capsules POM
Zamadol 24hr tablets POM
Zolpidem tartrate entry should read: Zolpidem tartrate 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 of Great Britain, 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).

Statutory Committee decisions

Set out below are the outcomes of inquiries heard before the Statutory Committee of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on Monday 20 February, Tuesday 21 February, Wednesday 22 February and Thursday 23 February 2006.

- In the resumed inquiry into the case of **Andrew Mortara** (registration number F357), the committee resolved to issue Mr Mortara with a reprimand following his agreement to give a written undertaking to the Committee.
- The resumed inquiry into the case of **Maysa Al-Natshah** (registration number 90768) and **Preston Park Chemists Ltd** (identification number 1087052) was adjourned to a future date.
- In the new inquiry into the case of **John Brian Price** (registration number 54597), the committee resolved to adjourn until Monday 20 March 2006 to allow the agreement of the terms of a written undertaking.
- In the new inquiry into the case of **Hassan Pyarali Mohammedali Merali** (registration number 69675), the committee resolved to issue Mr Merali with an admonition.
- The new inquiry into the case of **Michael Murray** (registration number 67466) was adjourned until October 2006.
- In the restoration application on behalf of **John Colin Hodges** (registration number 61745), the committee decided that at this time his name shall not be restored to the Register.
- In the new inquiry into the case of **Rashmikant Bhogilal Patel** (registration number 70694), the committee resolved to issue Mr Patel with a reprimand.

David Gomez
Secretary to the Statutory Committee

Veterinary Pharmacists Group Committee election 2006

Nominations are invited from members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Veterinary Pharmacists Group for candidates to stand for election to the committee. There are five vacancies for Committee members.

Nominations should be submitted to the secretary of the Veterinary Pharmacists Group at the Society's headquarters and should be received by 18 March 2006.

Nominations need not be made on a special form. The proposer should state his or her registered name, registered address and registration number. Only members of the Veterinary Pharmacists Group are eligible to nominate or seek nomination for election.

If more candidates are nominated than there are places to fill, an election will be carried out by postal ballot in April 2006. Candidates will be required to submit a statement of policy amounting to not more than 200 words.

Elected members of the group committee normally serve for three years. However, the structures supporting the Council will be reviewed as the reforms stemming from the Society's new Charter and the proposed new legislation are agreed and implemented. Depending on the timing and outcomes of this review, the term of office for members elected in this election might be reduced.

Lorraine Fearon
Secretary to the Veterinary Pharmacists Group

DEATHS

Aschkenasy On 19 December 2005, Basile Hipolyt Aschkenasy, MR.PharmS, aged 76, of 68 Frankfurt Road, London SE24 9NY. Mr Aschkenasy registered in 1957. (Tribute, see below)

TRIBUTES

Aschkenasy In a tribute to the late Basile Hipolyt Aschkenasy (see above), MARTIN GUHA (Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London) writes, on behalf of former colleagues of Mr Aschkenasy, writes: Basil Aschkenasy, the former pharmacist of the Maudsley Hospital, died of a heart attack following kidney failure on 19 December 2005.

Basil was born in Romania. His family fled west in the late 1940s, settling first in Rome, where Basil studied at the University of Rome for a year. The rest of his family then emigrated to South America, while he came to England to study at the then Chelsea College School of Pharmacy (now incorporated in King's College London). After a stint of research work at Beechams he went to Dorking Hospital as pharmacist and then to the Maudsley where he ran the pharmacy for quarter of a century, up to his (slightly early) retirement. Basil was not only a technical expert but was also a very social pharmacist. He initiated the practice of pharmacists attending ward rounds, and is remembered by all who knew him as a single-handed source of accurate pharmaceutical information in absolutely any situation.

Even after his retirement Basil was a fixture in the Maudsley and Institute of Psychiatry canteens where, it was fondly said, he was trying single-handedly to recreate

the café society of pre-war Bucharest, in the face of an increasingly stressful "grab a sandwich and run" culture.

Basil married in 1958, and though formally divorced 20 years ago remained close to his ex-wife, two daughters and two grandchildren, who survive him.

Da Silva In a tribute to the late Adalberto Alacoque Gomes Da Silva (*PJ*, 21 January, p91), JOHN BARFIELD writes: Bert Da Silva was born in Macão and was interned with his mother in a Red Cross home following the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong in 1941. We met in the second year of a pharmaceutical chemist (PhC) course at Chester Polytechnic in 1948. Since I had been in Hong Kong in 1947, while serving in the Royal Army Medical Corps, our backgrounds had a little in common, which helped us to form a lasting friendship.

I remember Bert as a hard working student with an impressively neat notebook and an ability to apply first principles to solving difficult problems.

After registration Bert had a period at the Allen & Hanburys retail pharmacy at Vere Street, London W1. It was here that he first met his wife-to-be, Betty.

From then on Bert became an industrial pharmacist, first with Savory & Moore at Tottenham, then with Merck Sharp & Dohme at Hoddesdon and finally with International at Sunbury. In the meantime I had decided on a career in hospital pharmacy. From time to time we met and discussed the differences between our chosen branches of the profession. I learnt a lot from those exchanges and I hope Bert did too.

Bert might well have been the author of the saying: "If a job is worth doing at all it is worth doing

Royal Pharmaceutical Society and Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Residential course: Pharmacokinetic–pharmacodynamic data analysis

- Dates:** Sunday 14 May (5pm) to Thursday 18 May
- Venue:** Madingley Hall, Cambridge
- Content:** An advanced workshop providing an interface between the computer analysis of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic data and physiological concepts. Based on the background and concepts provided by the course lecturers, delegates will apply this information to the WinNonlin modelling package. The course includes access to the computer package to undertake hands-on exercises on real-life case studies and availability of course tutors to help in problem solving.
- Topics:** Linear and non-linear pharmacokinetics; graphical methods; turn-over concept and modelling theory; pharmacodynamic issues; single and multiple dose

dynamics; inter-species scaling and data integration; toxicokinetics; experimental design; computer-aided trial design

- Course team:** Johann Gabrielsson (senior principal scientist, AstraZeneca R&D Mölndal) and Daniel Weiner (senior vice-president, business development, Pharsight Corp)
- Course fee:** Members of the organising bodies and the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Great Britain £1,740 + VAT, non-members £1,800 + VAT. Includes four nights' accommodation, meals and course documentation
- Further information:** Lisa Gilbert, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN. Tel 020 7572 2261; fax 020 7572 2506; e-mail science@rpsgb.org; see also www.rpsgb.org

well". Bert was proud of his calling and, although we never worked together, I am sure he did a first class job and that he was respected by those around him.

I last saw Bert at his home in Woking in December 2005. He was a shadow of his former self, suffering from multiple sclerosis. As a lapsed Anglican I always admired his staunch Roman Catholic faith, which stood him in good stead to the end. He was a devoted family man and said to me: "As you get older you re-live your life through your family".

Unfortunately he was bitter about the Pharmaceutical Society. He said that he had come to the UK with nothing, had devoted his life to the practice of pharmacy, had brought up a family here, and what did the Society do at the point of his retirement? "They threw me on to the scrap heap". I did not agree with that view, but it is a timely reminder of how many members felt about the way the revision of regulations was handled.

Our sympathy is extended to Bert's wife, Betty, their sons Peter, Michael and Philip and their four granddaughters and two grandsons, as they adjust to their tragic loss. I am sorry for them and I too have lost a valued friend.

Richards In a tribute to the late William Anthony Richards (*PJ*, 25 February, p250), WENDY BURGE writes: I was shocked to hear of the sudden and unexpected death of Tony Richards at the age of 58. He was a person it was my privilege to call friend. We met during the early years of my career while we were both working for Boots at the Neath branch in South Wales. It was also there that he met his wife Gillian. He left Boots not long after his marriage to run his own business in Ammanford, before later hitting the road as a locum and finally as a permanent relief pharmacist for a local pharmacy chain.

He was a memorable character. His lack of dress sense was legendary and latterly he had added a growth of facial hair of which David Bellamy could be proud. But beneath this external persona there lay a genuinely kind and caring soul and above all a depth and breadth of knowledge that was astounding. You could rely on Tony to provide a unique insight into any given situation, usually tempered by his dry sense of humour.

The world is all the poorer for his passing. He will be greatly missed, most of all by Gill and their young daughter Nia, who were his life. My thoughts and sympathy are with them at this difficult time.

DIARY

Headquarters meetings

The following meetings take place at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's London headquarters

Monday 6 March

Infringements Committee. 9.30am
Meeting of Officers. 10.30am

Tuesday 7 March

Council review day. 9am

Wednesday 8 March

Council review day. 9am

Thursday 9 March

Reciprocity. 10am

Local meetings

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

Monday 6 March

Derby "How to carry out an effective clinical audit" by Cath Oxley (education and training pharmacist). Landau Forte College, Fox Street, Derby. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

East Kent "Council supports continuing professional

development" by Gerald Alexander (Vice-President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society). Howfield Hotel, Canterbury. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Hertford "Practical first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation" by Karen Darling (paramedic, Ambulance Service). GlaxoSmithKline, Stevenage. Refreshments 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Sefton "Future developments of the branch". Mount Pleasant Hotel, Manchester Road, Southport. 7.30 for 8pm.

Stockport "Shipman and Controlled Drugs" by David Young (professional standards inspector, Royal Pharmaceutical Society). Lecture Theatre B, Postgraduate Centre, Pinewood House, Stepping Hill Hospital. 7.15 for 8pm.

Tuesday 7 March

Bolton "Dental pain" by Mark Wallwork and Ian Burn (local dentists). Joint meeting with Bolton Dental Association and Bolton Medical Society. Education Centre, Royal Bolton Hospital, Farnworth. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Hull "Continuing professional development revisited" by Helen Rhodes. IT Training Centre, Willerby. 7pm. Refreshments.

Sheffield "Health policy: where pharmacy and pharmacists fit in" by Heidi Wright (Practice and Quality Improvement Directorate, Royal Pharmaceutical Society). EE7, Broomgrove Road, Sheffield. 7 for 7.30pm.

South West Metropolitan

"Colorectal disease" by Devinder Kumar (professor of gastrointestinal surgery, St George's University Hospital, London). Philip Constable Boardroom, Grosvenor Wing, St George's Hospital, Cranmer Terrace, London SW17. Buffet 7.15pm, meeting 8pm.

Wednesday 8 March

West Cumberland "The new community pharmacy contract" by Gerald Alexander (Vice-President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society). Hundith Hill Hotel, near Cockermouth. Followed by bar supper. 7.15 for 7.30pm.

Thursday 9 March

South Staffordshire "Forensic science" by Amanda Davies. Lichfield Study Centre. 7.30 for 8pm.

Monday 13 March

Nottingham "The Nottingham self-care fair" by Helen Darracott (director of legal and regulatory affairs, Proprietary Association of Great Britain) and exhibition of self care products and training programmes. School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham. Finger buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

PERSONAL

This column is intended for announcements of births, engagements, marriages, anniversaries, etc. The charge for an insertion is £25 for up to 30 words, and £10 for every additional 10 or fewer words. Personal cheques only (payable to *The Pharmaceutical Journal*) should be sent with the notice to the Editor, *The Pharmaceutical Journal*, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN. The sender's address and membership number, if applicable, should be on the reverse of the cheque.

Deaths

Coates Peter Edward BPharm(Hons), MSc, PhD. Vice President, Clinical Pharmacology and Discovery Medicine, GlaxoSmithKline. Died 20 February after a courageous battle against leukaemia. Loving husband of Lesley (née Harding) and father to Jonathan, James and Matthew. Graduated from School of Pharmacy, London University, in 1969.



Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

London headquarters

Switchboard 020 7735 9141; direct dialling, see 'Medicines, ethics and practice'; fax 020 7735 7629; e-mail enquiries@rpsgb.org; website www.rpsgb.org

Scottish Department

Headquarters of the Society in Scotland (including library and information service) 0131 556 4386 (see also 'MEP' guide); fax 0131 558 8850; e-mail info@rpsis.com

Welsh Executive

Headquarters of the Society's Welsh Executive 029 2041 2800; fax 029 2041 2810; e-mail wales@rpsgb.org

Information centre

Book loans and information Library (loans, photocopies) 020 7572 2300; e-mail library@rpsgb.org Technical information, 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail techinfo@rpsgb.org

Pharmacists' advisory service

Information on legal and ethical matters relating to pharmacy practice, 020 7572 2308; fax 020 7572 2510, e-mail ftp@rpsgb.org

Pharmaceutics information

Information, advice and problem-solving in pharmaceutics 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail pharmaceutics@rpsgb.org

Benevolent fund

Financial help for pharmacists and their dependants and information about convalescence 01327 264739 or 01323 890135

Pharmacists' health support programme

Confidential help and support for pharmacists who experience problems with alcohol and other drugs of addiction 01327 264531

Listening friends scheme

Help from pharmacists trained in dealing with stress 020 7572 2442

Pharmaceutical press

Purchase of books and subscriptions to journals 01767 604971; fax 01767 601640; custserv@turpin-distribution.com; website www.pharmpress.com