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Royal  
Pharmaceutical  
Society  
of Great Britain

# New guidance on safe practice in the disposal of Controlled Drugs

A new publication from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society sets out key points to enable pharmacists to dispose of Controlled Drugs safely, effectively and within the law.

Entitled "Guidance for pharmacists on the safe destruction of Controlled Drugs: England, Scotland and Wales", the new document has been produced to ensure that the destruction of CDs within pharmacies is undertaken safely and in accordance with the requirements of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001, as amended.

The new guidance is also designed to help pharmacists comply with the relevant Waste Regulations in order to minimise the pollution and health risks that may be caused by incorrect disposal or destruction of CDs.

Some elements of the new guidance are not statutory requirements but are included because the Society considers them to be good practice that pharmacists should follow wherever practicable.

The following are among the main points covered in the guidance:

- **CDs returned from care homes** In England and Wales, pharmacists are not able to accept waste medicines, including CDs, from care homes that provide nursing care. In Scotland, the Scottish Parliament has recently approved legislation that allows pharmacies to accept a range of waste, including CDs, from all care homes.
- **CDs returned by patients** Patient-returned CDs must not be reused. To avoid storage problems and an increased security risk, they should be destroyed as soon as possible. The Society advises pharmacists to keep a record of their return (not in the CD register) and destruction. Pharmacists are currently permitted to destroy patient-returned CDs without the need for an authorised witness. However, the Society advises them to ensure that the destruction is witnessed by another member of staff, preferably another pharmacist or a pharmacy technician.
- **Unwanted pharmacy stock** Pharmacy stock of obsolete, expired or unwanted Schedule 2 CDs not returned by patients can only be destroyed in the presence of an authorised person. The guidance

includes the full list of authorised witnesses for each country.

- **Disposal of waste medicines** All medicines should be disposed of in a safe and appropriate manner. Medicines should be disposed of in relevant waste containers that are sent for incineration. They should not be disposed of in the sewerage system.
- **Waste management licences** Having considered the risks posed by destruction of CDs in pharmacies, the Environment Agency, which covers England and Wales, has taken the view that pharmacies should not be expected to obtain a waste management licence for denaturing CDs, which it sees as a low risk activity. The Scottish Environment Protection Agency is currently considering the issue in relation to proportionality and risk and is expected to reach a decision later in the year.
- **Guidance on specific formulations** The guidance includes specific information about the destruction of solid dose formulations, liquid dose formulations, parenteral formulations, Fentanyl patches and aerosol formulations.

The guidance has been developed by the Society in collaboration with other pharmacy bodies, including the Company Chemists Association, Community Pharmacy Wales, the National Pharmacy Association, the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee and the Scottish Pharmaceutical General Council.

The content of the document will be reviewed later in the year following the receipt of clarification on some issues and the appointment of accountable officers by health trusts and boards (*PJ*, 9 December 2006, p707)

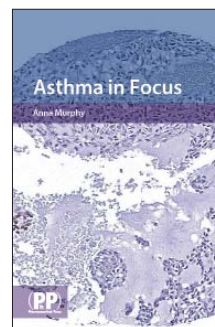
The six-page document can be downloaded via the Controlled Drugs page within the "Use of medicines" section of the Society's website ([www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy](http://www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy)). Pharmacists without access to the internet can obtain a copy of the guidance from Heidi Wright, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2602). Queries about the guidance should also be addressed to Ms Wright.

This week

- **Guidance on disposal of CDs** New guidance for pharmacists explains how to dispose of unwanted Controlled Drugs safely and effectively (p29).
- **New fellows** Ten pharmacists have been designated as fellows of the Society (p30).
- **BPC practice research medal** Nominations are being sought for the British Pharmaceutical Conference practice research medal for 2007 (p32).

## New book focuses on asthma

A new book on asthma from the Pharmaceutical Press (the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's publishing imprint) is the fourth book in its "in focus" series deemed essential for pharmacists, preregistration trainees and undergraduate pharmacy students.



'Asthma in focus' has been written by Anna Murphy, consultant respiratory pharmacist at the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust. The book explains that asthma is a common disease affecting 20 per cent of children and 7 per cent of adults in the UK — and the incidence of the disease is rising. However, it says, the correct treatment, support and advice will allow most people with asthma to lead full and active lives.

The book goes on to discuss the drugs used to treat the disease, and describes how the pharmacist can get involved in counselling patients. Chapter topics include pharmacological management, management of acute asthma, lifestyle management, monitoring asthma control, drug delivery to the lungs and inhaler devices, patient education and self management, and asthma in pregnancy.

Chapters on specific drug therapies cover beta-2 agonists, anticholinergics, corticosteroids, methylxanthines and leukotriene antagonists. The book also looks at new therapies and future developments in asthma management.

The 304-page hardback book costs £29.95. UK orders can be placed by telephone (01767 604971), fax (01767 601640) or e-mail ([rps@turpin-distribution.com](mailto:rps@turpin-distribution.com)) or through the Pharmaceutical Press website ([www.pharmpress.com](http://www.pharmpress.com)).

# 10 pharmacists designated as fellows of the Society

Ten pharmacists have been designated as fellows of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society by the Society's panel of fellows. They are Claire Anderson, Stuart Anderson, Stephen Bazire, Christopher Budgen, Thomas Chapman, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Peter Jones, Rose Marie Parr, Anthony Smith and John Timmins.

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

**Claire Anderson**, who registered in 1982, is director of the centre for pharmacy, health and society at the University of Nottingham. She was previously a lecturer in community pharmacy and a lecturer in continuing education at the University of Manchester. She has served on a number of UK and international committees and working groups on aspects of health care.

**Stuart Anderson**, who registered in 1970, is a senior lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and academic director of the NHS Service Delivery and Organisation Research and Development Programme. He is president of tropEd (a network of European institutions for higher education in international health), vice-president of the International Academy for the History of Pharmacy, president of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy and chairman of the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

**Stephen Bazire**, who registered in 1987, is pharmacy services director for Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health Partnership NHS

Trust, and an honorary professor at the school of chemistry and pharmacy, University of East Anglia, where he lectures on mental health pharmacy. He is the author of many publications on mental health pharmacy.

**Christopher Budgen**, who registered in 1967, is an independent locum pharmacist and consultant in New Zealand and an accredited treatment provider for the NZ ministry of health. He was appointed to review and upgrade pharmacy services in the Tokelau islands, NZ. He has been a visiting lecturer to the Otago school of pharmacy and a lecturer at the Auckland school of pharmacy and was involved in developing and leading training programmes for the NZ College of Pharmacists.

**Thomas Chapman**, who registered in 1960, is chairman and chief shareholder of Essential Nutrition Ltd. He is former author of the National Formulary for Saudi Arabia. He has served on the scientific advisory board of Mycology Research Laboratories Ltd and the British Pharmacopoeia's herbal committee and is a former pharmaceutical consultant to the Commonwealth Secretariat.

**Raymond Fitzpatrick**, who registered in 1975, is clinical director of pharmacy and professor of clinical pharmacy at the Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust. He was previously clinical director of pharmacy and senior lecturer, North Staffordshire Hospital and Keele University. He is chairman of the Society's Hospital Pharmacists Group. He has served on a Department of Health working party developing a performance management framework for managing medicines in hospitals and was an adviser to

the Audit Commission in preparation of "A spoonful of sugar".

**Peter Jones**, who registered in 1969, is secretary to the NHS Lothian Area Pharmaceutical Committee, a council member of the Institute of Pharmacy Management and secretary of the Edinburgh Drug Absorption Foundation. He was formerly chief administrative pharmaceutical officer for Lothian Health Board, serving on the drug misuse forum and chairing the drug evaluation panel and pharmacy harm reduction advisory group.

**Rose Marie Parr**, who registered in 1982, is director of pharmacy for NHS Education for Scotland (former director of the Scottish Centre for Post Qualification Pharmaceutical Education). She is chairman of the Society's Scottish Executive and of Scotland's National Pharmaceutical Forum.

**Anthony Smith**, who registered in 1984, is principal and dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of London. He is a member of the Society's Adjudicating Committee and its accreditation teams for Overseas Pharmacists Assessment Programme and the MPharm degree. He is an external examiner for several universities and an external adviser to Qatar University.

**John Timmins**, who registered in 1972, is clinical director of pharmacy and medicines management for Sheffield Children's NHS Trust. He has served on a working party for making recommendations for the control of medicines in Sheffield and on the Sheffield Therapeutics Development Group.

Official Notice, p33

## MEP: January amendments

In the first issue of each month, *The Journal* updates the guidance on the legal status of medicines published in the 30th edition (July 2006) of 'Medicines, ethics and practice: A guide

for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians'. 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 (p33).

### Human medicines

Abilify tablets entry should read:

Abilify preparations POM

Acompla tablets POM

Anadin Ultra Double Strength capsules P

Baraclade tablets POM

Bisodol Extra tablets GSL

Champix tablets POM

Clairette 2000/35 POM

Clenil Modulite inhaler POM

Competact tablets POM

Detrunorm XL capsules POM

DulcoEase capsules GSL

Emselex tablets POM

Erdotin capsules POM

Etopan XL tablets POM

Evoltra solution for infusion POM

Evotrox oral solution POM

Exjade dispersible tablets POM

Exubera insulin POM

Metoject injections POM

Gardasil suspension for injection POM

Ibuprofen entry: after "in the case of liquid preparations of ibuprofen, individual unit doses of not more than 5ml each to a maximum of 20 unit doses

GSL;" add "ibuprofen oral suspension with a strength of 2% or less, supplied in multidose containers of not more than 100ml, GSL;"

Infanrix-IPV+Hib POM

Loratidine entry: change "and in children aged 12 years and over" to "and in children aged two years and over and weighing 30kg or more"

Metsol oral solution POM

Nexavar tablets POM

Nicorette microtab entry should read: Nicorette Microtab GSL

Penciclovir entry should read:

Penciclovir POM, but as 1% cream for treatment of cold sores in adults and children over 12 years P

Preact POM

Prialt solution for infusion POM

**Sinepin capsules POM**

Sprycel tablets POM

Sutent capsules POM

**Syner-Kinase powder for solution for injection or infusion POM**

**Tradorec XL tablets POM**

Tysabri solution for infusion POM

# False claims and declarations lead to striking-off order

A west London pharmacist who submitted false payment claims for NHS dispensing and made false fitness-to-practise declarations to a primary care trust is to have his name removed from the Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists on the order of the Statutory Committee. The committee took no action against a pharmacy company that was party to the inquiry.

The case, which arose from a complaint by the Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, concerned Bijal Vithalbhaj Patel (registration number 84459) and his company Greenoaks Pharmacy Ltd (identification number 1003087). The Council alleged that misconduct such as to render Mr Patel unfit to have his name on the Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists may have been demonstrated individually or cumulatively by:

- Submitting wrong claims to the Prescription Pricing Authority, resulting in an overpayment to his company of £16,509.67
- Operating a system of work involving the alteration of endorsements on prescriptions by a superintendent pharmacist who was not the dispensing pharmacist, at a time and place remote from the dispensing of medicines and without consulting the dispensing pharmacist
- Relying on the statement of a prescriber's member of staff rather than the prescriber himself in relation to his endorsement of prescriptions for contraceptive tablets
- Lacking professional knowledge in relation to prescribing for and dispensing of contraceptive tablets
- Failing to keep his knowledge up to date in relation to endorsements and the Drug Tariff
- Incorrectly instructing a dispensing pharmacist employed by the company in respect of dispensing against prescriptions for contraceptive tablets
- Dishonestly and/or erroneously completing and/or submitting untrue declarations in his applications for the inclusion of two pharmacies on a PCT's pharmaceutical list

The Council further alleged that the first six allegations, individually or cumulatively, might also amount to such misconduct as to render the company liable to disqualification.

The inquiry opened on 24 July 2006 and continued on 25 July, 26 July and 23 October 2006. The committee heard that Mr Patel, who had registered in 1990, was at all material times superintendent pharmacist, director and main shareholder of Greenoaks Pharmacy Ltd, which owned 11 pharmacies in west and north-west London.

## Endorsements

The committee was told that between about August 2000 and October 2001 Mr Patel operated a system under which all the prescriptions from the company's pharmacies were

delivered to him before submission to the PPA each month. He would examine them and alter the endorsements on some prescriptions without consulting the dispensing pharmacist.

Between about August 2000 and September 2001 he altered endorsements on prescriptions for contraceptive tablets dispensed at one pharmacy to indicate that a greater number of tablets had been dispensed than had in fact been prescribed and dispensed. He also altered endorsements on prescriptions dispensed at the company's pharmacies to indicate that items had been dispensed as small packs when a large pack size had been dispensed. He had then submitted the said wrongly endorsed prescriptions to the PPA for payment.

In October 2000 the NHS Counter Fraud and Security Management Service began an investigation that at first concerned one of the company's pharmacies but was then widened to include them all. Scrutiny of prescriptions submitted in the period September 2000 to September 2001 identified several thousand prescriptions on which Mr Patel had altered the endorsements. It was claimed that, as a result of his wrongly altered endorsements, the company had been overpaid by £16,509.67.

During an interview at a police station on 28 November 2001, conducted by a counter fraud specialist and a detective sergeant, Mr Patel had confirmed that he had made the alterations without knowing what had been dispensed. He said that for the previous three years he had himself only dispensed "for a couple of hours on a Saturday morning".

Asked about endorsements on contraception prescriptions, Mr Patel had said that where a prescription provided for "6 OP" he had understood that to mean six full three-month packs rather than six months' supply. His own practice was to provide 18 months' supply in response to a prescription for "6 OP" and he had instructed the company's pharmacists to dispense and endorse 18 months' supply on such a prescription.

He had said that he considered it "normal" to issue a patient with 18 months' supply and that a GP could prescribe a five-year supply if he wished. He did not know of a reason why it would be inappropriate to dispense more than six months' supply.

Mr Patel had also told the investigators that when he endorsed a prescription with "PC", he believed that it meant "previously contacted", and not "prescriber contacted".

He also said during the interview that he had not read the Drug Tariff "for the last few years".

## Misunderstanding of "OP"

The committee was also told that in a letter to the Society's Infringements Committee dated 17 December 2004 Mr Patel had stated that his incorrect alterations to the prescriptions for contraceptive tablets arose out of his misunderstanding of the meaning of "OP" in relation to such products. He said that when he had

telephoned a prescriber in relation to a "3 OP" prescription he spoke only to the practice manager and relied upon her assertion as to the meaning of the prescription. He also admitted instructing one of the company's pharmacists to dispense 18 months' supply of contraceptive tablets against prescriptions for "6 OP".

As a result of the investigation, Mr Patel and the company were notified in letters dated 4 February 2005 that the Statutory Committee was to hold an inquiry. However, further alleged misconduct subsequently came to light. On 31 May 2005 the company applied to Ealing Primary Care Trust for inclusion on its pharmaceutical list in respect of two pharmacy premises. On both application forms, Mr Patel had completed the fitness-to-practise declaration required from each dispensing pharmacist working at the pharmacy. The declarations asked: "Are you currently the subject of any investigation by any licensing, regulatory or other body into your professional conduct or performance anywhere in the world?", to which he had replied "no" by ticking a box on the declarations. He had submitted the company's applications to the PCT.

## Overpayment figure questionable

Giving the committee's determination on 13 December, the chairman of the Statutory Committee, Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC, said that, although the Notice of Inquiry had alleged an overpayment of £16,509.67 it had been quickly ascertained that no detailed calculation had been made — or, indeed, could be made — to reach such a precise sum. Ultimately a figure half that amount was settled upon, namely, £8,254.83.

The chairman added: "We are not entirely surprised that this should now be the agreed figure. We were surprised that any attempt had been made to offer a precise calculation. . . . That could only be done at a disproportionate cost to the public purse, and we would be satisfied in the future if a broad minimum estimate were to be offered and agreed. It appears to us that considerable time is expended in an attempt to prove a precise sum and that effort is wasted. When it is subjected to cross-examination almost invariably the PPA departs from the calculation, as it is bound to."

The chairman said that Mr Patel had admitted altering some endorsements and doing so without reference to the dispensing pharmacist. The committee also found proved other allegations set out in the notice of inquiry. It was true that Mr Patel had urged pharmacists working for him to use smaller packs from his own warehouse. He had referred to negotiating large discounts on small packs. However, the professional members of the committee were incredulous that pharmacists would pour out five 100ml bottles of Gaviscon into one 500ml bottle. Gaviscon was a heavy viscous liquid and it would be both a time consuming and an arguably inefficient way to work, leading to the

patient receiving less than the 500ml called for. Furthermore, patients who had given evidence had failed to support Mr Patel's claim. The committee preferred the evidence that one large bottle was dispensed but payment for five smaller bottles was claimed.

Turning to Mr Patel's claim that in relation to contraceptive tablet prescriptions he understood "6 OP" to mean six three-month packs, the chairman said: "We were not wholly persuaded that we believe this but, giving him the benefit of the doubt, it is nevertheless an irresponsible and unprofessional practice for a pharmacist who knew, or ought to have known, that a GP should not prescribe contraceptive pills for an 18-month period without seeing the patient in the interim. We find that even if he did understand the prescription in the manner claimed, it was not good or satisfactory professional practice."

On Mr Patel's claim that he understood "PC" to mean "previously contacted", the chairman said: "Again, we have some hesitation in accepting this extraordinary claim but, giving Mr Patel the benefit of the doubt again, this was irresponsible for him to rely at best on contact some years earlier, not with a prescriber but only a practice manager."

Finally, said the chairman, the committee found that Mr Patel had indeed said during his police station interview that he had not read the Drug Tariff "for the last few years".

Turning to the separate matter of the false fitness-to-practise declaration, the chairman said that Mr Patel had claimed that he thought he was agreeing to one form when in fact another was before him. That claim was thin and stretched the committee's credulity. However, again with hesitation, the committee would give him the benefit of the doubt and conclude that the false declaration had been made only erroneously rather than dishonestly. "It was, however, recklessly erroneous, unprofessional and not in the public interest," he added.

Accordingly, said the chairman, the committee found the Council's summary of allegations all established and proved, in so far as they were not admitted, except that the overpayment was less than alleged and the declarations to the PCT were no more than erroneous.

### Wholly unprofessional conduct

The committee's conclusion was that the matters cumulatively showed that Mr Patel was unfit to have his name on the Register. They were not matters to be lightly dismissed. The committee had carefully considered the various references put before it and had taken into account the fact that Mr Patel had repaid most of what appeared to be agreed as due, although he had taken some months to do so. But even with the agreed loss restricted to some £8,000, it was not regarded as *de minimis*. Taking those together with Mr Patel's wholly unprofessional conduct in relation to the abbreviations and the declaration to the PCT, the committee concluded that it should direct the removal of his name from the Register.

Mr Patel has three months in which to appeal, should he so wish.

## British Pharmaceutical Conference practice research medallist sought for 2007

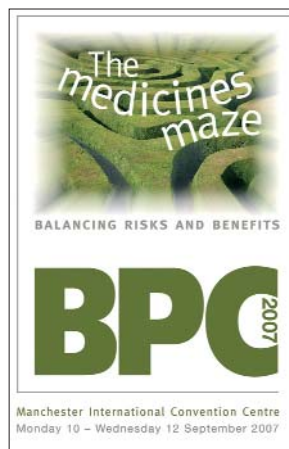
The Royal Pharmaceutical Society is seeking nominations or applications for the 2007 British Pharmaceutical Conference practice research medal, which will be presented at BPC 2007 in September.

The award recognises individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of pharmacy practice research and have the potential to become leaders in their field. The former upper age limit of 45 years has been dropped.

The winner of the medal will receive a cheque for £1,000 and will deliver a 30-minute lecture at BPC 2007, which takes place at Manchester Central (formerly Manchester International Convention Centre) from 10 to 12 September. The lecture should be based primarily on the applicant's own research but should also draw on relevant published work from related fields, including health policy.

Applicants do not necessarily have to be based in a school of pharmacy or to be a registered pharmacist. Overseas applicants are welcome.

Anyone wishing to apply for the award, or to nominate a colleague, should forward an



academic curriculum vitae (including details of significant grants awarded, publications, professional and academic record including peer review experience), a brief personal supporting statement of up to two sides of A4 and a 1,000-word lecture outline (which should include the lecture title and the topics that will be covered as well as a statement of how the research contributes to knowledge and policy in relation to health care generally and pharmacy practice specifically).

Applications or nominations should be submitted by 16 March. The successful applicant will be notified by May. Applications should be submitted to Julie Churchill, Science Programme Manager, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (e-mail [julie.churchill@rpsgb.org](mailto:julie.churchill@rpsgb.org)).

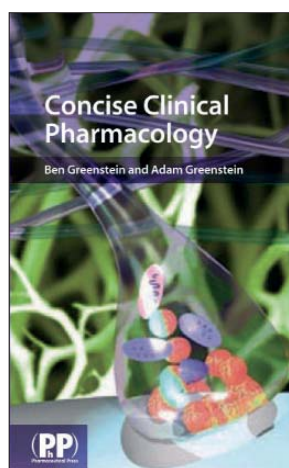
The award is sponsored by *Chemist & Druggist* magazine. Previous winners are Felicity Smith (1999), Judy Cantrill (2000), Carmel Hughes (2001), Janie Sheridan (2002), Karen Hassell (2003), Ian Wong (2004), Bryony Dean Franklin (2005) and Rob Horne (2005).

## New textbook on clinical pharmacology

A new textbook on clinical pharmacology has been published by the Pharmaceutical Press (the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's publishing imprint).

'Concise clinical pharmacology' has been published to provide students of pharmacy and medicine with a thorough introduction from which they can gain a rapid understanding of individual topics within the discipline. Pharmacological principles and mechanisms are covered, with a focus on the therapeutic use of the drugs.

The textbook has a strong clinical focus and relates to particular body systems or the therapy of a disease class. The 128 topics covered in the book include Alzheimer's disease, adrenal disorders, drug addiction insomnia, hormone replacement therapy, bowel disorders, gastrointestinal infections, osteoporosis, diabetes, antipsychotic drugs and genitourinary systems.



The publisher says that the information has been presented in an accessible format to assist understanding and revision for examinations. Each topic appears with concise text and a diagram to elaborate and reinforce the text. The book concludes with an extensive glossary of terminology to support the text.

The book has been written jointly by pharmacist Ben Greenstein (senior visiting research fellow, pain management team, Royal Free Hospital, London) and his physician son Adam Greenstein (specialist registrar in elderly medicine, Leeds General Hospital).

The 320-page paperback book costs £19.95. UK orders can be placed by telephone (01767 604971), fax (01767 601640) or e-mail ([rps@turpin-distribution.com](mailto:rps@turpin-distribution.com)) or through the Pharmaceutical Press website ([www.pharmpress.com](http://www.pharmpress.com)).

## 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](http://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 10 members as fellows of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. *For distinction in the practice and science of pharmacy:* Claire Wynn Anderson, Oxford. *For distinction in the history and practice of pharmacy:* Stuart Charles Anderson, Beckenham, Kent. *For distinction in the practice and profession of pharmacy:* Stephen Roger Bazire, Norwich; John Gilbert Timmins, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. *For distinction in the practice of pharmacy:* Thomas Brian Chapman, Brough, North Humberside; Peter Jones, Edinburgh. *For distinction in the science of pharmacy:* Anthony William Smith, London. *For distinction in the profession of pharmacy:* Raymond William Fitzpatrick, Crewe, Cheshire; Rose Marie Parr, Glasgow. *For*

*distinction in the profession and practice of pharmacy:* Christopher John Budgen, Motueka, New Zealand.

News item, p30

## DEATHS

**Benoliel** On 24 December 2006, David Maurice Benoliel, MRPharmS, aged 66, of Linden House, The Street, Ewelme, Oxfordshire OX10 6HQ. Mr Benoliel registered in 1963. He worked in pharmaceutical formulation with Beechams, as chief chemist of Phillips Yeast Products and then as director and head of pharmaceutical services at Paines & Byrne Ltd until 1987, when he took up a contract as consultant to the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry on original pack dispensing. After completing the contract in 1990, he continued as a consultant to the pharmaceutical industry. Living with renal failure for his last 35 years, he became active in patient organisations and was a co-founder of the National Kidney Federation. He is survived by his wife Gemma and son Daniel.

**Price** In June 2006, Joseph Ellis William Price, aged 99, of 7 Tan-y-foel, Rhydyfoel, Abergele, Clwyd LL22 8HZ. Mr Price registered in 1928 and retired from the Register in 1999. (Tribute, p34.)

## TRIBUTES

**Agnew** In a tribute to the late Edward Agnew (*PJ*, 16 December 2006, p755), MIALI JAMES writes: Ted Askew was the pharmacist with whom I did my preregistration year in North Manchester in 1960–61. He was a kindly man who was anxious at all times to do the best for his patients and to ensure that his pharmacy, a branch of Timothy Whites & Taylors, was properly and professionally run.

**Davies** In a tribute to the late David James Geler Davies (*PJ*, 16 December 2006, p755), BRIAN KAY writes: It was with great sadness that I learnt through *The Journal* of the passing of Dai Davies. My friend Steve Moss and his colleague Rex Tyrrell (*ibid*, p756) have written generously and warmly concerning Dai's contributions to the evolution of pharmacy at the University of Bath. Dai's numerous contributions to the profession of pharmacy were known and appreciated by many pharmacists and scientists within both the industry and our regulatory authorities.

Dai and I served on the pharmacy committee of the British Pharmacopoeia Commission for more than 10 years and he worked with me as an expert adviser throughout my seven-year period within the scientific and technical branch of the then Department of Health and Social Security. In both instances Dai demonstrated a clear and penetrative wit and a profound understanding of both the science and the politics of applied pharmacy.

It was within institutions such as the then Parenteral Society and the British Pharmaceutical Conference Science Committee that Dai provided many years of support and professional guidance to the betterment of our profession. He also generated a substantial succession of postgraduate students well equipped to hold their own in the public domain, having been taught by a master of frankness, penetration, honesty and good humour.

I wish Barbara and her family peace and comfort at this time. In different ways all those who knew Dai will have experienced a sad and untimely loss.

**Iles** In a tribute to the late John George Iles (*PJ*, 2 December 2006, p676), MICHAEL LONG writes: I first met John when we were both involved in the North Metropolitan branch of the Pharmaceutical Society some 22

years ago. I was immediately impressed by his friendliness, his knowledge of the world of pharmacy, his calmness and common sense approach to getting things done. He took me under his wing and generally kept an eye on my progress both professionally and personally.

John loved his customers and was an institution in Highbury. I bought his pharmacy 15 years ago and people still call me John or sometimes ask me how my dad is.

He ran his pharmacy in the way they should be run. People first. Medicine with an explanation and a shoulder to cry on if necessary. Profit was not his only motive. Because we were friends he popped in regularly and so kept an interest in what was happening in community pharmacy.

He was a mild mannered man with a sense of humour but tough when needed. He came from a family of pharmacists. His grandfather and father were in Highbury before him and his daughter Valerie is a pharmacist. It was hard for him to let the pharmacy go but he then enjoyed a retirement in reasonable health.

It is sad to be writing this tribute to John because I thought this day would never come and that he would live forever. He was young at heart and could teach the young pharmacists of today a lot. I will miss him.

MIALI JAMES writes: John Iles always struck me as a gentleman of the old school. Although he only served one term on the Society's Council, there are few who more deserved the title of fellow "for distinction in the profession of pharmacy".

I always enjoyed working with him, whether it was on professional or contractual issues. He could always be relied upon to keep the long-term interest of the profession, as opposed to short-term gain, firmly before us.

**Powell** In a tribute to the late Trevor Storey Emery Powell (*PJ*, 16 December 2006, p755), JOHN PACKHAM writes: When I was attempting to get into management in the late 1960s, Trevor Powell was marketing director of Bush Boake Allen. I applied for the position of marketing manager pharmaceuticals and was interviewed and appointed by Trevor.

Trevor had a charismatic personality which enabled him to influence others, particularly in gaining a sale. He was largely responsible for the transfer from ground spices, laden with their

Royal Pharmaceutical Society and Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

## Residential course: Stability testing of pharmaceuticals

- **Date:** Monday 19 February (noon) to Wednesday 21 February 2007 (1.30pm).
- **Venue:** Moller Centre, Cambridge
- **Content:** Chemical and physical aspects of drug substance and product stability; development pharmaceuticals and stability testing; rational design of stability testing methods; selection and validation of stability-indicating analytical methods; stability testing of biotechnology products; product packaging and stability testing; the UK and European regulatory perspective; international aspects of stability testing for product registration; characterising materials with respect to physical stability, and practical aspects of finished product testing. Workshop sessions will use practical examples to illustrate essential steps in developing stability testing protocols.
- **Aim:** To provide a programme of value to those involved in stability testing of pharmaceuticals and related products, including formulation scientists, analysts, those involved in regulatory affairs and recent graduates working in an R&D environment, including workers in related fields such as foods and cosmetics.
- **Course fees:** Member of the Society or APS £1,692; others £1,72.50. Fees include two nights' accommodation, meals and refreshments, value-added tax at 17.5 per cent, course documentation and a CD-ROM with relevant reference sources.
- **Further information:** Julie Churchill, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2261; fax 020 7572 2506; e-mail [science@rpsgb.org](mailto:science@rpsgb.org)). The course brochure can be downloaded from the "Events and meetings" page of the Society's website ([www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy](http://www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy)).

complement of bacteria, to the virtually sterile dispersed spice extracts which enabled the development of packaged prepared meals.

He was a world traveller and managed to break into the Japanese and American markets for flavours and fragrance chemicals. He encouraged me to make exploratory trips to the Far East, etc, and started my subsequent career in export.

I became fascinated at the many crossing points between pharmaceuticals and flavours. Vanillin, for example, is the starting point for trimethoprim, methyl dopa and levodopa.

I owe him a debt for introducing me to the fascinating world of international marketing.

**Price** In a tribute to the late Joseph Ellis William Price (see p33), JOHN R. BROMLEY writes: Joe Price was apprenticed in the late 1920s to Leo Walker, pharmacist, of Great Crosby, Liverpool, proceeding to the Liverpool School of Pharmacy. He then sought to broaden his experience by working for some time in the Mediterranean branches of British pharmacy companies at Nice and Cannes. Burroughs Wellcome claimed the rest of his professional life.

On retirement his main ambition was to live to the age of

100. Sadly, he missed his target by five weeks.

Joe was a dedicated pharmacist and a brilliant pianist.

**Wright** In a tribute to the late David Wilkie Scott Wright (*PJ*, 16 December 2006, p756), MIALL JAMES writes: After retirement, David Wright was a director of David Sames Ltd, a firm of community pharmacies in Essex. As such he provided wise and thoughtful counsel to his colleagues on the local pharmaceutical committee. He is another gentleman who will be sadly missed.

## The Diary

Announcements of branch and regional meetings for the Diary column should reach *The Journal* by 1pm on the Tuesday before publication. Branch programme cards are welcome at the beginning of the season, provided that branches subsequently notify *The Journal* in good time about any programme changes and any essential meeting information that was not available when the card was printed.

## DIARY

### Headquarters meetings

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

#### Monday 8 January

Officers meeting, 10.30am.  
Infringements Committee, 1.30pm.

#### Tuesday 9 January

Practice Committee, 10.30am.

#### Wednesday 10 January

Law and Ethics Committee, 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](http://www.pjonline.com/diary))

#### Monday 8 January

**Nottingham** "Advances in breast cancer treatment" by John Robertson (Nottingham City Hospital). Foyer, School of Pharmacy (East Drive), University of Nottingham. Finger buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

#### Tuesday 9 January

**Northern Scottish** "Introduction to British sign language" by Bert Smale (sign language interpreter, lip-reading tutor and Grampian TV news sign language presenter). Marriott Hotel, Culcabock Road, Inverness. 7.30pm.

**Oxfordshire** "Colostomy care" by Angie Perrin (colostomy care nurse). George Pickering Postgraduate Centre, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington. Light refreshments 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

#### Wednesday 10 January

**West Cumberland** Annual general meeting. Hundith Hill Hotel, Near Cockermouth. 7.30pm. Followed by bar supper.

#### Friday 12 January

**Lanarkshire** Quiz. Hilton Strathclyde Hotel, Bellshill. 7 for 7.30pm.

#### Tuesday 16 January

**Brighton** "Skin infections" by Charles Darley (consultant dermatologist, Brighton and Sussex University Hospital). Audrey Emerton Education Centre, Eastern Road, Brighton. Supper 7pm (advise secretary if wishing to eat), meeting 8pm.

#### Wednesday 17 January

**Cheltenham and Gloucester** "Inhalers and respiratory problems". Sandford Education Centre, Keynsham Road, Cheltenham (next to fire station). Buffet 7pm, meeting 8pm.  
**Hertford** "Counterfeit medicines" by Bob Berger (corporate security adviser). GlaxoSmithKline, Ware. 7.30pm for 8pm.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society and Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

## Residential course: Computer analysis of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic data

- **Dates:** Sunday 20 May (5pm) to Thursday 24 May
- **Venue:** Madingley Hall, Cambridge
- **Content:** An advanced workshop providing an interface between the computer analysis of pharmacokinetic (PK) and pharmacodynamic (PD) 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.
- **Delegates:** Advanced level research scientists in the pharmaceutical industry, academia, regulatory agencies and contract research firms with at least three years' experience in PK/PD analyses and modelling; participants who have attended the earlier introductory workshop; researchers with a working knowledge of WinNonlin who wish learn about its advanced features
- **Course team:** Johann Gabrielson (senior principal scientist, AstraZeneca R&D Mölndal) and Anders Hall (drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics team manager and discovery project leader, AstraZeneca R&D Lund).
- **Course fee:** Members of the organising bodies and Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Great Britain £1,840 + VAT, non-members £1,900 + VAT. Includes four nights' accommodation, meals and course documentation.
- **Further information:** Julie Churchill, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN. Tel 020 7572 2261; fax 020 7572 2506; e-mail [science@rpsgb.org](mailto:science@rpsgb.org). A course brochure and booking form can be downloaded from the "Events and meetings" page of the Society's website ([www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy](http://www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy)).



## 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](mailto:enquiries@rpsgb.org); website [www.rpsgb.org](http://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](mailto:info@rpsis.com)

### Welsh Office

Headquarters of the Society in Wales 029 2073 0310; fax 029 2073 0311; e-mail [wales@rpsgb.org](mailto:wales@rpsgb.org)

### Information centre

Book loans and information Library (loans, photocopies) 020 7572 2300; e-mail [library@rpsgb.org](mailto:library@rpsgb.org); Information pharmacists, 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail [techinfo@rpsgb.org](mailto: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](mailto:ftp@rpsgb.org)

### Pharmaceutics information

Information, advice and problem-solving in pharmaceutics 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail [pharmaceutics@rpsgb.org](mailto: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; [rps@turpin-distribution.com](mailto:rps@turpin-distribution.com); website [www.pharmpress.com](http://www.pharmpress.com)