



Society begins the search for a new Chief Executive and Registrar

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has begun the search for a successor to its Secretary and Registrar, Ann Lewis, who has announced her intention to retire in the autumn (*PJ*, 27 January, p113).

An advertisement in *The Pharmaceutical Journal* this week (pA00) offers a six-figure salary for the post of “chief executive officer”. However, the Society says that this title is for advertising purposes only and the formal title will be “Chief Executive and Registrar”.

The advertisement has also appeared in the *Sunday Times* and can be found on the “job vacancies” page of the Society’s website (www.rpsgb.org/societyfunctions).

The advertisement points out that the Society is undergoing a period of extensive structural change following the Government’s proposals for the regulation of health care professionals. It says that the Society needs “an exceptional CEO with demonstrable drive and vision to lead the change in both structure and culture to deliver a superb membership-driven service”.

The advertisement lists the roles of the chief executive as:

- Driving a cultural and functional change process and leading the successful transi-

tion following from the implementation of the White Paper proposals

- Leading the development of overall business strategy, including Royal Pharmaceutical Society publications
- Directing the Society’s management and performance
- Being the public face of the organisation and building strong relationships with government bodies

The ideal person for the post, say the advertisement, will have a track-record of delivering successful change management programmes, either in the public or private sector, will be a highly successful and business minded general manager currently in a complex, yet focused professional or service organisation that is preferably related to pharmacy or health care, will be an effective public speaker and lobbyist, with personal credibility and authority, and will be an exceptional leadership skills to inspire and motivate teams through significant change.

Ann Lewis has been Secretary and Registrar of the Society since 1998. Before that, she was a member of Council for more than 10 years and was president of the Society for 1994–95 and 1995–96.

This week

■ Search for a chief executive

The Society has begun the search for a chief executive to succeed its Secretary and Registrar, Ann Lewis, who is to retire in the autumn (p381).

■ Controlled Drugs guidance

The Society has produced an updated and expanded fact sheet giving detailed information about Controlled Drugs and community pharmacy (p381); it has also issued a Law and Ethics Bulletin setting out a new voluntary pack size limit and new patient information for over-the-counter products containing codeine or dihydrocodeine (p382).

Updated fact sheet on CDs is now available

An updated version of a fact sheet on Controlled Drugs in community pharmacy is now available from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

The fact sheet is intended as a resource that pharmacists and registered pharmacy technicians can use in reviewing their practices and policies. Its aim is not to interpret the law, the Society’s Code of Ethics or the policies of the Society’s Council policies but to offer common-sense guidance on issues of topical interest.

The inclusion of new information — such as the recently introduced new arrangements for the monitoring of the management, use and other aspects of CDs in England and Scotland — has increased the length of the document to 48 pages. Because of its greater length, the guidance now includes a detailed contents list to assist readers in finding the information they need.

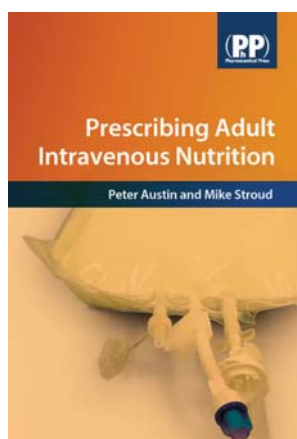
The revised fact sheet No 1, “Controlled Drugs and community pharmacy”, can be downloaded from the legal and ethical advisory service page of the information resources section of the Society’s website (www.rpsgb.org/informationresources). A hard-copy version can be obtained by sending a C4-size envelope, bearing postage stamps to the value of £1.02, to Legal and Ethical Advisory Service, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN.

Fact sheet No 2, “Controlled Drugs and hospital pharmacy”, which was withdrawn for revision at the same time as fact Sheet No 1, is also being updated and will be made available again in due course.

Guide to adult intravenous nutrition published

A guide to the broad principles and practice of adult intravenous nutrition (IVN) has been published by the Pharmaceutical Press (the imprint of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society’s publishing operation).

‘Prescribing adult intravenous nutrition’ is an introductory text for health care professionals who become involved in nutritional support. The fully illustrated book describes why nutritional care is important, what should be given, what can go wrong, how to deal with IVN-related problems and how to organise aspects of nutritional care. It gives examples to help



demonstrate the principles discussed.

The book has been written by Peter Austin, senior pharmacist in the nutrition support team at Southampton General Hospital, and Mike Stroud, senior lecturer in medicine and nutrition and consultant gastroenterologist at the Institute of Human Nutrition, Southampton General Hospital. The 320-page book costs £29.95.

UK orders can be placed by telephone (01767 604 971), fax (01767 601 640) or e-mail (rps@turpin-distribution.com) or through the Pharmaceutical Press website (www.pharmpress.com).

■ Law and ethics bulletin

Restriction on OTC pack sizes of analgesics containing codeine or dihydrocodeine

Following a voluntary agreement between manufacturers and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, over-the-counter (OTC) pack sizes of analgesics containing codeine or dihydrocodeine have been restricted to a maximum of 32 tablets or capsules. This applies to both effervescent and non-effervescent preparations.

The MHRA has also asked manufacturers to update the patient information on all such products to include warnings in relation to addiction and overuse headache. The new warnings state:

- If you need to use this product for more than three days at a time see your doctor, pharmacist or health care professional.
- Taking codeine/dihydrocodeine regularly for a long time can lead to addiction which might cause you to feel restless and irritable when you stop the tablets.
- Taking a pain killer for headaches too often or for too long can make them worse.

As there have been no changes in the legislation, a pharmacist may still legally supply larger OTC pack sizes of products containing codeine or dihydrocodeine until current stocks are exhausted. Pharmacists are expected to exercise their professional judgement in deciding whether or not

to make such a supply and would need to be satisfied that the supply of a larger pack size was in the patient's best interest.

Where a pharmacist intends to supply a larger pack size over the counter, he or she must ensure that the pack is intended for over-the-counter sale. Therefore, the pack should not contain words to the effect of "dispensary pack only". Pharmacists wishing to sell packs intended for over-the-counter sale that do not contain the new warnings (see above) are advised to counsel the patient verbally on these warnings.

Good practice currently recommends that the supply of products containing codeine or dihydrocodeine should be restricted to only one pack, of any size, per purchase.

Curiosities from Society's rare book collections go on display in library

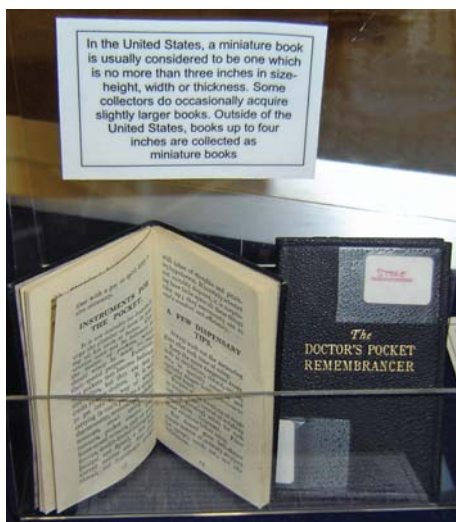
Some older material that is not normally available to visitors can currently be inspected in a display set up in the library at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's London headquarters. The exhibits show pharmacy links with education, veterinary medicine and the consumer rights movement.

The display includes two miniature books measuring 3.4in deep, 2.2in wide and 0.1in thick, published by James Crossley Eno, of Eno's Fruit Salt fame. The library says that, unlike many miniatures, the two were of practical value, designed to be kept in the busy physician's waistcoat pocket. The 'Doctor's pocket remembrancer' (1925) lists tips on making a diagnosis based on symptoms and simple tests, while the 'Practitioner's pocket book' (1924) lists practical methods, legal procedures such as notification of deaths and infectious diseases and what should be carried around in a medical bag if you are a pathologist or attending a childbirth.

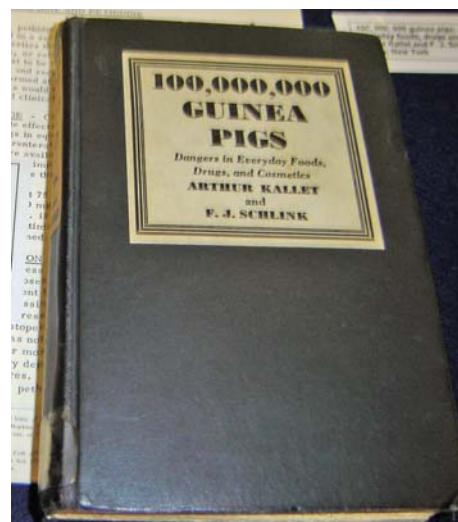
Among the practical suggestions offered by these books are "Remember that social position, unattractive looks, middle age and spinsterhood do not negative [*sic*] pregnancy. But this diagnosis should never be uttered until it is beyond all doubt" and "Be reasonable to children. They are not necessarily imbeciles".

Also on display are some lecture notes written by Michael Faraday and published after his death in 1867. They are from a lecture on "The chemical history of a candle", given to a young audience at the Royal Institution. The lecture covered the beauty of candle flames, capillary attraction, carbonic acid, the mechanisms of combustion, the features of air, oxygen and hydrogen, and respiration.

The text includes the following observations: "Is it not beautiful to think that such a process is going on, and that such a dirty thing as charcoal can become so incandescent? You see it comes to this — that all bright flames contain these solid particles; all things that burn and produce solid particle, either during the time they are burning , as in



The two miniature books produced as practical help for physicians



The 1933 consumerist book, '100,000,000 guinea pigs'

the candle, or immediately after being burnt, as in the case of the gunpowder and iron filings — all these things give us this glorious and beautiful light."

The book '100,000,000 guinea pigs', published in 1933, is a critique of food and drug advertising and was a key rallying text in the US consumerist movement. A best seller for two years, selling more than 250,000 copies, it showed the US consumer as an unwitting guinea pig manipulated by manufacturers and profiteers in the absence of any effective regulation of consumer products.

A more recent book in the display is 'First catch your tiger' (1970) by Oliver Graham-Jones who, as a veterinary officer at London Zoo, pioneered many treatments for exotic animals, including the projectile syringes fired from an air gun to anaesthetise animals in the wild.

The display will remain at least until July. The library is open from 10am to 5pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and from 10am to 7pm on Thursdays.



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 recent inquiries heard before the Statutory Committee of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on Monday 19 March, Tuesday 20 March, Wednesday 21 March and Thursday 22 March 2007:

1. Following the inquiry into the complaint by the Council of the Society against **Vijay Jamnadas Gandecha** (registration number F428), the committee resolved to reprimand Mr Gandecha. The committee found proved the allegations that Mr Gandecha supplied diazepam, nicorandil and furosemide without the authority of a prescription signed by an appropriate practitioner, committed breaches of Key Responsibilities 1, 2 and 3 and paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Code of Ethics and Standards and failed to comply with Section 58(2) of the Medicines Act 1968 and Section 4(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.
2. The committee adjourned the inquiry into **Sheila Elizabeth Coventry** (registration number 81492) to resume at a later date.
3. Following the inquiry into the case of **Alan Charles Blackwood** (registration number 74754), the committee resolved to reprimand Dr Blackwood following his conviction for assault to severe injury and permanent disfigurement on 22 July 2005 at Hamilton Sheriff Court.
4. Following an inquiry, the committee directed that no further action be taken against **Phillip James Blake** (registration number 60801), who on 16 August 2002 at Gloucester Magistrates' Court was convicted of having driven a motor vehicle after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion of it in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit, contrary to Section 5(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and

Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988.

5. Following the inquiry into the case of **Murtuza Broachwalla** (registration number 93830), the committee resolved to reprimand Mr Broachwalla, who on 2 September 2004 at Market Harborough Magistrates' Court was convicted of driving a motor vehicle on a restricted road at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour, contrary to Sections 81(1) and 89(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988, and on 5 January 2005 at Hinckley Magistrates' Court was convicted of driving a motor vehicle while disqualified from holding or obtaining a driving licence, contrary to Section 103(1)(b) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988, driving a motor vehicle when there was not in force such a policy of insurance or such a security in respect of third party risks as complied with the requirements of Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1988, contrary to Section 143(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988, and wilfully obstructing a constable in the execution of his duty, contrary to Section 89(2) of the Police Act 1996.
6. The committee adjourned the inquiry into the case of **Nathan Burgess Simpson** (registration number 1077828) to resume at a later date.

David Gomez
Secretary to the Statutory Committee

DEATHS

Bannister On 19 March, Charles Bannister, MBE, MRPharmS, aged 90, of 510 Kenton Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 9DJ. Mr Bannister registered in 1942. He was awarded the MBE in the 1996 Queen's New Years Honours for services to the community in Harrow, Middlesex, and in 1977 he was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal. (Tribute, see below.)

Ehrbar On 13 February, Stanislaw August Ehrbar, MRPharmS, aged 96, of 12 Enmore Road, London SW15 6LL. Mr Ehrbar registered in 1947.

Staffiere On 14 March, Francis Robert Greig Staffiere, aged 93, of The Glen, Thors Farm Road, Thorrington, Colchester, Essex CO7 8JJ. Mr Staffiere registered in 1938 and retired from the Register in 2005. (Tribute, p384.)

Williams On 8 February, Norah Williams, MRPharmS, née Nyhan, aged 68, of Poplars, 2 Sherwood Grove, Meols, Wirral, Merseyside CH47 9SL. Mrs Williams registered in 1960.

Wong On 4 December 2006, Christopher Robert Wong, MRPharmS, aged 43, of 5 Manuka Street, Palmerston North, 5301 New Zealand. Mr Wong registered in 1989.

TRIBUTES

Bannister In a tribute to the late Charles Bannister (see Column 3), SHARON CARR writes: Charles Bannister was a charismatic character and a great story-teller in his local community. He never let ill health or his visual impairment stop him doing anything or joining

in. He was active to the end of his life and was studying for an Open University degree in French.

Charles lived a full life, which included voluntary work with the lifeguard services and athletics and fund-raising for the Westminster Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Royal Marsden Cancer Campaign. He organised fun walks which raised £2,000 for various charities. He founded a Lions club in London and was its first president, and he raised funds for the Naples earthquake.

After he retired as a pharmacist he organised public meetings on drug abuse and diabetes awareness. He served on the management committees of both Chelsea and Kenton synagogues and was active on the national executive of the India Association. He was involved with the town-twinning of Harrow with Douai in Northern France and was a member of the executive of the Harrow in Europe Association. He had been on the committees of the Kenton branches of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women and the Royal British Legion. He had been chairman of a London centre for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and public relations officer for its Harrow centre.

In 1989 he joined a few others to plan for the 1994 Normandy D-Day events and raised funds to enable veterans to go to France for the commemorations. With the same group he also planned Normandy Pageant at the Royal Albert Hall in June 1994. He had been secretary of the West Middlesex branch of the Normandy Veterans Association, and founder and chairman of the Harrow-based branch of the

Joint Pharmaceutical Analysis Group

Symposium: Analytical support for clinical trials

- **Date and time:** Wednesday 2 May, 10.20am to 4pm.
- **Venue:** Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London
- **Content:** Consideration of the challenges posed by the widening range of materials presented for clinical trials.
- **Aim:** To bring together the issues for everyone involved with clinical trials, including scientists and managers involved in clinical evaluation of new or reformulated products, regulatory affairs staff, hospital pharmacists working in clinical trial teams and "qualified persons".
- **Fees:** The fee, which includes registration, documentation, morning coffee and lunch, is £95 for JPAG members or for other members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society or Royal Society of Chemistry (joint sponsors of JPAG) who join JPAG by 1 May, £25 for bona fide retired, student or unemployed members of either society and £150 for others.
- **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). Symposium brochure, including registration form, also available from the "Events and meetings" page of the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy).

The branch network

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's local branches provide an opportunity for members to get closer to the workings of the Society and to meet with other pharmacists and share experiences. With more than 130 branches nationwide, all those registered with the Society have the opportunity to belong to a branch that is either near to their home or near to their place of work. To find out more about the network or to transfer to a branch more convenient for you, please contact the Society's membership unit (tel 020 7572 2331; e-mail b&ra@rpsgb.org).

Market Garden Veterans Association.

For most of his working life Charles worked in community pharmacy. He leaves a wife of 70 years, Kitty, two sons, a daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Staffiere In a tribute to the late Francis Robert Greig Staffiere (see p383), DAVID DIXON writes: Greig Staffiere was born at the beginning of the 1914–18 war and lived his 93 years through a time of much trouble and change both in the world at large and in his chosen profession of pharmacy — a time when compounding pills, powders, potions and ointments was commonplace and medical and pharmaceutical treatments were an empirical art to modern day treatments in our computer age where treatments are now scientifically and evidence based.

He was born in Edinburgh, brought up in Liverpool and served his apprenticeship in South Kensington, London. When the 1939–45 war two broke out he joined the army first in the Royal Engineers, transferring later to the Royal Army Medical Corps, and was commissioned. Greig saw service on the Western Front, crossing over to France with a forward medical field station soon after D-Day. His wife Stella, a member of the renowned and respected Pannell family in Brightlingsea, crossed a few days later with a field hospital in which she served as a sister. He was mentioned in dispatches for his work on latrines. After serving in Europe he saw out the remainder of his service in India. He left the services with the rank of major.

Returning to civilian life, Greig worked at first as a medical representative for May & Baker. In 1958, as a result of being headhunted by Philip Curtis, the pharmacist who owned the Victoria Pharmacy in Brightlingsea, he was persuaded to buy the business and settle in his wife's native town.

He was active in local pharmaceutical circles and I remember well on my infrequent visits to the Colchester branch meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society as a student in the early 1960s his enthusiasm as the social secretary of the branch, of which he also had been chairman.

On the retirement of Stan Shearman, the other pharmacist proprietor in Brightlingsea, he purchased Shearman's pharmacy and ran it together with the Victoria Pharmacy with the aid of

a manager. When Stella fell ill he considered selling the businesses and retire to look after her, but tragically she died and he decided to continue working. In 1972 I applied for the vacant post of manager for the second pharmacy, and he offered me the job on trust with the object of forming a partnership.

He married Eileen, who had given him much support in the shop during his difficult time and had also kept an eye on him on the rare occasions when he was ill. In the late 1970s the two businesses were consolidated into the Victoria Pharmacy and a company formed with Greig as chairman and Eileen and myself as co-directors, the other premises eventually being returned to Stan Shearman's estate. Eileen retired in early 1985 and Greig in June of that year after completing the sale of his shares, being well past the age of 70. They had an active life together for over 30 years.

Greig had a good rapport with his fellow pharmacists and was highly respected by the local medical profession. He had a high standing locally both professionally and socially.

He took great interest in local politics and was an elected member

of the Brightlingsea Urban District Council for a number of years and its chairman in 1966–67 and again in 1968–69. He was for many years treasurer of the Brightlingsea Parochial Church Council and was three times chosen for the ancient ceremonial office of Deputy of the Cinque Port Liberty of Brightlingsea.

He will be missed by many — not the least those he knew as babies in prams who now are well into their middle age. Our condolences go to his widow Eileen, daughter Angela, son-in-law Bob and grandsons David and Richard.

DIARY

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 2 April

Derby "Long term medical conditions" by Paul Gimson (long-term conditions and public health lead pharmacist, practice and quality improvement directorate, Royal Pharmaceutical Society).

Conference Room, Landau Forte College, Fox Street, Derby. 7 for 7.30pm.

East Kent "Rimonabant and cardiometabolic risk" by Mark Vella (William Harvey Hospital). Hall Place, Canterbury. 7.30pm.

Tuesday 3 April

Bolton "The ongoing Shipman saga" by Helen McKnight (accountable officer for Bolton Primary Care Trust and branch vice-chairman) and police chemist inspectors (including Stefan Bidolak and Mike Beard). Education Centre, Royal Bolton Hospital, Farnworth. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Wednesday 4 April

Huddersfield "Stopping the methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* superbug" by Caroline Lofthouse. Oakwell Centre, Dewsbury and District Hospital, Dewsbury. Light buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Sheffield "Treatment of depression" by Anil Karan (consultant psychiatrist). Barnsley Primary Care Trust, Barnsley Hospice Education Centre. Buffet 7pm, meeting 7.30pm.

Wednesday 11 April

West Cumberland "Our special service to you" by Phil Richardson (commercial director, Quantum Specials). Hundith Hill Hotel, Near Cockermouth. 7.15 for 7.30pm followed by bar supper. **Southampton** "Initiatives to promote reporting to the Yellow Card scheme" by Anthony Cox (adverse drug reactions pharmacist). Drug Safety Research Unit, Blundell Lane. 7.30 for 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.

Marriages

O'Brien-Savage Catherine O'Brien (née Wusteman, ex-London School of Pharmacy 1982–85) and Jeremy Savage (ex-Portsmouth 1978–81) are pleased to announce their marriage in Cardiff on 10 February 2007.



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 office

Headquarters of the Society in Wales 029 2073 0310; fax 029 2073 0311; e-mail wales@rpsgb.org

Information centre

Book loans and information Library (loans, photocopies) 020 7572 2300; e-mail library@rpsgb.org Information pharmacists, 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; rps@turpin-distribution.com; website www.pharmpress.com