

SPC CHANGES

Buspar

The summary of product characteristics for Buspar (buspirone; Bristol-Myers Squibb) now states that Buspar contains lactose and that patients with rare hereditary problems of galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take Buspar. See SPC.

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS

Stelazine Spansules

Stelazine Spansules (trifluoperazine) 2mg, 10mg and 15mg have been discontinued by Goldshield following a long-term supply problem. Stelazine tablets 1mg and 5mg remain available. Medical information on 020 8588 9131.

PRODUCTS MISCELLANY

Iodoflex and Iodosorb

Iodoflex and Iodosorb (cadexomer with iodine; Smith & Nephew) wound dressings have been reclassified from pharmaceutical products to medical device wound dressings. From 1 May these products will appear in the dressings section of the Drug Tariff.

Nepro Tetrapak

Nepro Tetrapak is now available from Abbott Nutrition and is approved by the Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances (ACBS). Net price: 200ml pack, £2.28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keele conversion course

The following pharmacists have recently completed Keele University's independent prescribing conversion course: Lisa Alman, Garry Barrett, Marian Bradley, Jayne Capper, Caroline Clarke, Peter Cope, Jasvir Dhillon, Manir Hussain, Jaspal Johal, Sue Marsh, Kerry Parmar, Sakera Shaikh, Richard Thompson, Jane Westmoreland.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Jonathan Cooke

Jonathan Cooke, MRPharmS, has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections, a new independent non-departmental

body that will advise the Government. Professor Cooke will be the sole pharmacist on this committee.

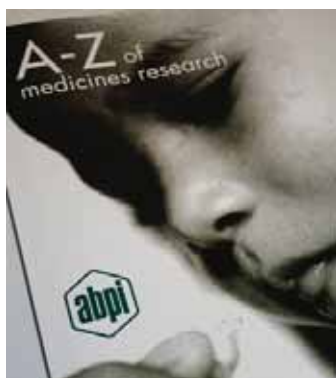
Luigi Martini

Luigi Martini, MRPharmS, worldwide director of process technologies for GlaxoSmithKline pharmaceutical development, has been elected president of the European Industrial Pharmacists Group.

RESOURCES

Medicines research

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry has released the latest edition of its 'A-Z of medicines research' publication. The book provides information on research into medicines for various disease states currently being undertaken by the pharmaceutical industry in the UK and overseas. Available free of charge via www.abpi.org.uk/publications.



Multi charge card

The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee has produced a "Multi charge card" quick reference guide, listing some commonly dispensed products that incur either no prescription charge or multiple prescription charges. The card will be sent to all community pharmacies in England and Wales with the May issue of *Community Pharmacy News*. Additional cards can be obtained free of charge by contacting the PSNC information team on 01296 432823 (e-mail info@psnc.org.uk), or online via www.psnc.org.uk.

FUTURE EVENTS

Ophthalmic pharmacists

Ophthalmic Pharmacists Group meeting, Thackray Museum, Leeds, 15 May. New members are welcomed. Further information from Elaine Mann (e-mail elaine.mann@leedsth.nhs.uk).

Tackling inequalities

European Society of Clinical Pharmacy spring conference "Tackling inequalities in the delivery of pharmaceutical care", Edinburgh, 16-19 May. Costs, registration and further details via www.associationhq.com/escp/edinburgh.

Medicines management technicians

Medicines management technicians national conference 2007, for pharmacy technicians in primary and secondary care. London, 18 May. Costs and further information available by e-mailing cco@onetel.com.

UCA conference

Ulster Chemists' Association conference "Building for the future", looking at how pharmacists can take on enhanced services and including a session for preregistration trainees and newly registered pharmacists. Belfast, 20 May. Free of charge. Further details from Adrienne Clugson on 028 9032 0787 (e-mail adrienne@uca.org.uk).

PBC workshops

Improvement Foundation and National Association of Primary Care one-day workshops for people wishing to develop as providers of NHS services through practice-based commissioning. Leeds, 23 May; London, 6 June. Free of charge. Registration via www.improvementfoundation.org.

Epilepsy Scotland

Epilepsy Scotland one-day conference "Kerr in the Community: delivering for epilepsy?", looking at the Kerr report on the national framework for the NHS in Scotland. Bill Scott, chief pharmaceutical officer for Scotland, will give a lecture on the community pharmacy contract.

Contact us

Notice-board welcomes information relevant to pharmacists, which can be e-mailed to notice-board@pharmj.org.uk. There is no charge for inclusion but *The Journal* cannot guarantee a particular publication date or that the item will be published. An organisation wishing to guarantee inclusion can arrange an advertisement, for which there would be a charge (contact advertdept@rpsgb.org).

Edinburgh, 24 May. Cost £150. Further information from Sharon McCabe on 0141 427 4911 (e-mail smccabe@epilepsyscotland.org.uk; www.epilepsyscotland.org.uk).

Diabetes risk factors

Primary Care Pharmacists Association workshop on type 2 diabetes and related risk factors. Manchester, 7 June; Leeds, 8 June; Leicester, 14 June; London, 15 June; Bristol, 21 June; Cardiff, 22 June; Exeter, 28 June; Glasgow, 5 July. Further information from Michelle Kaulbach on 020 8398 7349 (e-mail michelle@pharmacomm.co.uk).

HIV management

University of Bath department of pharmacy and pharmacology event "Update on HIV management", open to pharmacists in the Bath and Bristol area. University of Bath, 5 June. Free of charge. Further details from Kathryn Hood on 01225 386774 (e-mail k.j.hood@bath.ac.uk). Closing date for registration 25 May.

PDIG symposium

Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists Procurement and Distribution Interest Group summer symposium, Coventry, 7 June. Cost £95 (NHS delegates), £130 (non-NHS delegates). Application forms and further information available from Jean Fairhurst on 01296 662209 (e-mail jean.fairhurst@ntlworld.com).

Travel health

British Travel Health Association annual scientific conference, London, 9 June. Cost £125 (BTHA members), £138 (non-BTHA members). Further information and registration form available via www.btha.org (e-mail info@btha.org).

CLARIFICATIONS

NPA board

Further to last week's correction (*PJ*, 5 May, p519) to the inaccurate list of National Pharmacy Association board members provided by the NPA, the NPA board member for North West London is Hiten Patel.

CORRECTIONS

Carole Brown's letter

The second sentence of the third paragraph of Carole Brown's letter (*PJ*, 5 May, p524) should have read: "On returning to the surgery, pharmacists discussed the reviews with the GP and suggestions were actioned."