

We launch new CPD series this month

A continuing professional development (CPD) series is launched in this issue of *Hospital Pharmacist*. It is designed to help readers use the monthly special features to contribute towards their CPD. It is expected that CPD will become mandatory for practising pharmacists during 2005.

The Life-long Learning series replaces Credit for Learning which was discontinued in May. Life-long Learning will be a regular feature of *Hospital Pharmacist*,

running in every issue apart from the December issue.

As part of the new series, specialist pharmacy groups, such as the British Oncology Pharmacy Association, are to be invited to become more involved in developing the special features. It is also hoped that they will be able to contribute to the identifying knowledge gaps section, a key focus of CPD.

The College of Pharmacy Practice will continue to provide accreditation of the questions. This means that

college members can make completion part of their compulsory continuing education requirement.

Pharmacists completing the answer grid will be able to send it off to be marked. A certificate of completion and list of model answers will be returned.

Completion of the answers will also entitle pharmacists to enter into a competition. The winner will be the highest scorer over the year. In this first year, the highest six entries from a possible eight modules

will be taken into consideration.

Mayne Pharma will be the sponsors of Life-long Learning. More information is provided below about the first prize that they are offering the winner of the competition.

Hospital Pharmacist went to press before the announcement of the 2003/4 winner of Credit for Learning at the Hospital Pharmacist pre-conference dinner on 10 November. A full report on this event and the conference itself will appear in the December issue.

Winner to attend European pharmacy conference

The winner of Life-long Learning 2004/5 in *Hospital Pharmacist* will be invited to attend the 11th congress of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists in spring 2006, as a guest of Mayne Pharma. The 2004 congress held in Seville,

Spain, attracted almost 2,000 delegates from countries across Europe (see conference report *Hospital Pharmacist* 2004;11:163-4).

The runners-up prize is an expenses paid trip to the Hospital Pharmacist conference and dinner at the Royal

Pharmaceutical Society in autumn 2005.

The scores will be calculated by adding together the six highest marks from the eight modules published in *Hospital Pharmacist* between November 2004 and the July/August 2005 issue. All issues will carry Life-long Learning,

except the December issue which focuses on the Hospital Pharmacist conference.

There are also consolation prizes for third and fourth place. They will receive pharmaceutical press vouchers and historic pharmacy china mugs respectively.

Attendance at UKCPA events supported practice

Greg Sargent, winner of the 2001/2 Credit for Learning award, used his prize to attend the UK Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA) 2003 Spring Symposium and also the UKCPA Critical Care Group

study day on caring for the critically ill patient. Regarding Credit for Learning, Mr Sargent commented that "the variety in topics ensured that I kept up to date in areas outside those I normally cover."

Last year's winner fought off stiff competition to triumph

Lucy Burrow was recently awarded her prize as winner of Credit for Learning 2002/3. Ms Burrows is chief pharmacist at Ninewells Hospital, Edinburgh, where the presentation was made. Ms

Burrows faced considerable competition to win the prize, with over 250 pharmacists submitting entries for each of the five modules in the series. She will attend a conference in the next year as her prize.



Greg Sargent (right) receiving his award from Scott Richards, Mayne Pharma, at the Hospital Pharmacist pre-conference dinner in October 2002



Lucy Burrow (left) receives her award as winner of Credit for Learning 2002/3 from Gerda Rocks, regional business manager, Mayne Pharma

Correction

Lucy Burrow is chief pharmacist for the acute services division at NHS Tayside, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee and not as described.