

Pharmacy at the interface

— bridging the gap

The ninth conference and exhibition organised by Hospital Pharmacist takes place on Thursday 10 November at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. This article previews the programme and companies that will be exhibiting



Image representing the conference theme of "bridging the gap"

Pharmacy at the interface is the theme of this year's *Hospital Pharmacist* conference and delegates can expect lively discussions of interest to pharmacists working both in hospitals and in primary care.

Pharmacists working at the primary and secondary care interface will be sharing their experiences, opening up a discussion about the advantages and challenges of streamlining medicines management across the interface.

Other topics for discussion include the use of joint formularies, and how developments with the NHS IT programme will support pharmacists working to improve the care of patients as they move between sectors.

A presentation on the commissioning of secondary care services by primary care trusts will be of particular interest to pharmacists working in both sectors, and will give delegates the opportunity to hear about the implications for pharmacy of "payment by results".

Attendees will also hear about new models of care for chronic disease management.

The pre-conference dinner, sponsored by Mayne Pharma, will give delegates the chance to network and share experiences with other pharmacists working in both sectors.

The venue is the headquarters of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society in London and it is open to pharmacists, technicians and other health care professionals.

The *Hospital Pharmacist* conference will feature:

- Two sessions, each including four leading speakers. Further details can be found in the advertisement on page 374
- A chance for delegates to put their questions to an expert panel consisting of the day's speakers
- An exhibition which conference participants will have time to visit throughout the day
- A pre-conference dinner arranged in association with Mayne Pharma. The dinner, to which all delegates are invited, will take place in the Society's Council dining room on Wednesday 9 November (included in registration fee) although numbers are limited
- Accreditation has been sought from the Faculty of Prescribing and Medicines Management of the College of Pharmacy Practice

— The exhibition

The exhibition will take place next to the conference hall. As well as stands and dis-

plays, the participating companies will have representatives available during the day to give information about their products.

Refreshments and lunch will be served in the exhibition area, allowing conference delegates ample opportunity to view the stands.

The following summaries have been provided by the companies that are exhibiting at the conference:

Aegate Available in 2006, Aegate's rapid safety alert system for pharmacists will improve patient safety and support professional decision-making at the point of dispensing.

Tested in UK hospital and community pharmacies in 2005, "authentication at the point of dispensing" enables pharmacists, locums and dispensing assistants to access real time information during the dispensing process to check for recalled, expired, stolen, counterfeit or illegally imported medicines.

Can you spot the difference between a genuine and illegal medicine? Aegate will enable innocent mistakes to be caught before there is an impact on a patient.

Aegate - enhancing pharmacists' professional reputation and supporting best practice.

Aseptic Technology and Design Aseptic Technology and Design is a specialist,

independent consultancy, focusing on the application of isolator technology for all types of aseptic processing. We pioneered the use of many novel technologies such as rapid gas transfers.

Our expertise lies in the successful management of all aspects of isolator related projects including design, specification, procurement, cycle development and validation. Indeed, complete turn key projects are within our scope, allowing our customers to concentrate on delivering their core competencies, whether they be industrial scale high speed filling lines such as for pre-filled syringes, through contract pharmacy service provision to small hospital pharmacies and sterility test facilities.

BCM Specials BCM Specials is one of the UK's largest commercial specials manufacturers and has been serving hospital pharmacists for over 60 years. It operates from state-of-the-art Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approved facilities combining traditional pharmaceutical techniques with the very latest technology.

It offers one of the widest ranges of sterile and non-sterile dosage forms of any specials manufacturer and it has over 35,000 formulations on file. Normal bespoke orders are dispatched within 48 to 72 hours of receipt while stock items are dispatched same day.

BPL As part of the NHS, BPL operates as the national fractionator, committed to providing plasma derived products for health care professionals in England and Wales. BPL's products include high purity coagulation factors – Replenate and Replene-VF, Zenalb human albumin solution, Vigam intravenous immunoglobulin, and a range of other specific immunoglobulins.

CPPE Building upon its heritage of provision of learning opportunities for pharmacists working in the community, the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education has now embarked on a programme to support learning within hospital pharmacy. Linking to Agenda for change, it will be offering a "learning at lunch" programme. Initially the clinical topic areas will be diabetes and coronary heart disease. It will also be providing a series of skills development roadshows. For more information please e-mail info@cppe.man.ac.uk, marking your enquiry "hospital pharmacy". Hospital pharmacists can continue to access other learning programmes in accordance with their continuing professional development requirements.

Durbin Plc Durbin Plc has a strong reputation for sourcing hard-to-find medicines and delivering products promptly in critical emergency situations. This year an increasing

number of hospitals have turned to Durbin Plc for their regular imported pharmaceuticals.

Combining an ever increasing database of products, 40 years of exports experience and specialist knowledge of the UK pharmaceutical import market, Durbin Plc offers tailored services to supply the following categories of medicine: imported unlicensed or named-patient supplies; products discontinued in the UK; UK supply shortages and orphan drugs.

Dipti Amin, pharmaceutical services manager, says: "We provide a one-stop service where a quick phone call, fax or an e-mail is all it takes for a busy health care professional to find what they need reliably, quickly and cost-effectively."

Eurosite Medical Eurosite Medical is one of the UK's most successful locum agencies. Every day we give pharmacists more of what they want — more jobs, more choice and better rates. With an experienced team of recruitment consultants, we aim to win you the job you want, faster — before that vacancy is filled without you. As a preferred supplier to over 250 hospitals and clinics throughout the UK, Eurosite Medical has some of the best jobs in the country. As a result, you can expect the best placements, at the best rates, with a simple, honest, professional service.

Mayne Pharma Plc recently completed the acquisition of Intra-Tech Healthcare Limited. Through this acquisition the Mayne Pharma business unit has established a leading position in the commercial supply of aseptic manufacturing services in the UK. Intra-Tech is a manufacturer and distributor of aseptically prepared pre-filled syringes and infusion bags (eg chemotherapy, total parenteral nutrition products and pain control products) for supply to the NHS.

Over the past four years, Mayne Pharma has grown a successful aseptic manufacturing business in the UK using third party compounders. In October 2004 Mayne announced the strategic alliance with Aston University to provide aseptic ready-to-use parenteral products. Mayne is integrating Intra-Tech with its existing operation, which will result in manufacturing economies of scale benefits, improved customer service and greater capacity.

Medacs Medacs Pharmacy, established in 1954, is one of the leading suppliers of qualified pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in the UK.

Services range from permanent and locum staff selection. Medacs works closely with many sectors, NHS, private hospitals, Ministry of Defence, HM Prison Service, pharmaceutical industry and community. Our service is combined with support to help clients maximise the efficiency and

productivity of their workforce. Our CRB registration enables us to check all candidates.

Medacs has earned a strong reputation for supplying appropriately skilled and experienced candidates. We pride ourselves on the high standards of our service and take time to understand the sectors we serve.

Medirec Medirec recruitment is a locum and permanent medical recruitment company specialising in a wide range of medical disciplines. These include pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, dietetics, physiotherapy and occupational therapy and many other medical disciplines. Medirec provide staff to both the NHS and private sectors and offer a professional and fast response service. Once a candidate has been placed in a position, we continue to monitor progress throughout the contract and maintain a strong and continual relationship with both client and candidate.

Merck Pharmaceuticals (division of Merck Limited) The Merck Group is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company. It focuses on the development, manufacture and marketing of innovative drugs and chemicals.

Merck's pharmaceutical business encompasses prescription drugs, generic drugs and self-medication products. The prescription drugs marketed by Merck Pharmaceuticals in the UK include those in the cardiovascular, diabetic, oncology and central nervous system areas.

Merck regards its talented, entrepreneurial employees, its applications-oriented research and development, its consistent customer focus and its responsible handling of natural resources as the keys to its success. Today, around 34,500 committed Merck employees are helping to continue the company's 336-year-old tradition.

Pharmaceutical Press The Pharmaceutical Press, the publications division of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, produces books, journals and related electronic products on pharmacy, the pharmaceutical sciences and other related disciplines.

These publications are valued by health care professionals around the world, and include established titles such as the British National Formulary, Martindale and Stockley's Drug Interactions, with an increasing range of new student texts and pharmacy practice titles also available.

A highlight for 2005 is the publication of BNF for Children, published jointly by the British Medical Association, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group. It is the essential resource for clinical use of medicines in children.

Poppitts The new smart professional tool, the "Poppitt", was designed by a pharmacist to address the problem of repetitive strain injury.

Fingers, thumbs and even wrists are being affected as large quantities of tablets and capsules are de-blistered by hand in order to fill the various individual dosage systems now being used. This specialist electro-magnetic low voltage device fits neatly on any work-top and is convenient and easy to use. It is both robust and stylish and is available in two colours (green or blue).

To quote one pharmacist: "The Poppitt is a great invention and the perfect addition to the dispensing bench." For more information on how Poppitt could benefit your pharmacy department staff visit the stand.

Surgichem Surgichem Ltd was established in 1989 by a community pharmacist, who developed the highly beneficial Nomad Monitored Dosage System as a means of providing safe medication management to both care-home, community and hospital discharge patients.

The Nomad Community Dosage System is currently being used by many hospitals throughout the UK. The systems' effectiveness becomes apparent when planning the discharge of patients who may have compliance problems when self-medicating using

bottles. More recently, the launch of Nomad Clear, a new disposable dosage system has proved immensely popular among hospital pharmacies as an extremely cost effective means to provide safe medicines management for patients who may have compliance problems.

Syner-Med Syner-Med was formed in the UK to provide an intravenous iron that would build confidence and form an important role in iron deficiency anaemia management. Venofer (IV iron sucrose) was licensed in 1998 and is the leading intravenous iron in the UK, Europe and the US (where Venofer is recommended for patients sensitive to iron dextran products without a test dose).

Syner-Med is able to provide Venofer for use in the second and third trimester of pregnancy offering an excellent solution to problems associated with oral iron therapy. For further information please visit the stand.

Venalink Venalink offers an innovative range of blister packs which are the main part of the Venalink System and offers pharmacists' community patients unrivalled levels of safety and hygiene in packs that are barrier proof and hygienically disposable.

If your requirements are to address community patients with compliance problems,

then Venalink has a pack to suit your needs and training packs which ensure a professional approach.

Why not contact us and experience the benefit of the Venalink System enjoyed by numerous pharmacists, patients and primary care organisations both in UK and abroad.



Conference essentials

How to book The closing date for registration is 3 November 2005. Use the registration form in the display advertisement on page 374 or contact Emma Kerby-Evans at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society:

- Telephone 020 7572 2414
- e-mail emma.kerby-evans@pharmj.org.uk
- Fax 020 7572 2504

Registration fees £120 (including VAT) for members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and £160 (including VAT) for non-members. A special rate of £180 (including VAT) for two members from the same organisation is also available. All major credit cards (except AMEX) accepted. Registration fees include refreshments and lunch on 10 November and the pre-conference dinner, hosted by Mayne Pharma, on 9 November, as indicated in the programme.

Registration From 9.15am on 10 November on the Ground Floor, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN.

Accommodation Special rates for overnight accommodation have been arranged for delegates who may wish to stay in Central London. Rates are subject to availability at the time of booking. Please telephone directly to make a reservation, asking for the "Royal Pharmaceutical Society rate" — the details are as follows:

- Novotel Waterloo Tél: 020 7793 1010
- Days Inn Waterloo Tél: 020 7922 1331

Directions The nearest tube stations to the Society are Waterloo, Lambeth North and Vauxhall