The purpose of TAG Mail is to assist TAG members identify and share relevant information for their professional practice. Members are encouraged to routinely forward TAG Mail to others who they believe would benefit from this information such as colleagues in the same hospital department if they are not already receiving TAG Mail.

TAG ACTIVITIES
- Christa Lynch is currently undertaking an analysis of IIMS notifications concerning medication errors in operating theatres, to identify any recurring trends and subsequently identify opportunities for clinical pharmacy input into medication handling in operating theatres.
- NSW TAG in collaboration with the NSW Poisons Information Centre is working towards establishing a framework that ensures the availability of life saving drugs (LSDs) in NSW meets clinical demand and is cost efficient.
- NSW TAG is also working with eHealth NSW to develop a system enabling access to up to date information that will assist with the location of LSDs and other critical care resources.
- Margaret Jordan is representing NSW TAG in Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) working parties.
  - The VTE Prevention Program - Expert Advisory Group: is responsible for the ongoing review and roll-out of the resources associated with PD2014_032 Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism
- Margaret Jordan is co-ordinating the Multisite National QUM Indicator 7.4: Percentage of patients taking antipsychotic medicines who receive appropriate monitoring for the development of metabolic side effects pre- and post- intervention. Margaret.Jordan@svha.org.au. Currently over 20 hospitals have expressed interest in participating.
- Sasha Bennett and Prof Nick Buckley attended the March CATAG meeting on Monday 21 March. Items discussed included the Guiding Principles for Biosimilars, Guiding Principles for Medicine Access Programs including the Pharmaceutical Company Acknowledgment Form and cost recovery, issues with hepatitis C medicines access and the national implementation of international harmonisation of medicines ingredient names.

**Email Request:**
NSW TAG received copies of ED eye assessment and clinical pathway forms following a request by a member who is reviewing their Emergency Department Eye Assessment and Clinical Pathway form as they do not have an ophthalmologist and wanted to benchmark theirs against other hospitals in NSW. The request closed 22 March. Other members also interested in these forms should contact NSW TAG nswtag@stvincents.com.au

TAG WEBSITE
**High Risk Medicines Protocols and Guidelines**
- Analgesic use in obstetric patients

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS - AUSTRALIA
**AIHW**
- Asthma and COPD Reports released
  http://www.aihw.gov.au/asthma/
- The views of children and young people in out-of-home care: overview of indicator results from a pilot national survey

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care**
- NIMC User guide, 2016

**NPS MedicineWise**
- NPS Direct March 2016
- National program launch on the treatment options for depression. The program reviews the newest evidence and features a range of products based information and evidence snapshots for health professionals and consumers.

**TGA**
- Monitoring communication: Idelalisib (Zydelig™) Risk of serious adverse events for specific patient groups in clinical trials
- Changes to adrenaline and noradrenaline labels
- Bexsero™ meningococcal B vaccine (Final update): monitoring finds no new or unexpected safety issues

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS - INTERNATIONAL**

**AHRQ**
- Management of Gout

**CADTH**
- Olopatadine for the Treatment of Allergic Conjunctivitis: A Review of the Clinical Efficacy, Safety, and Cost-Effectiveness

**FDA**
- Obiltoxaximab injection (Anthim™) approved to treat inhalational anthrax in combination with appropriate antibacterial drugs. Obiltoxaximab is also approved to prevent inhalational anthrax when alternative therapies are not available or not appropriate.
  [http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491470.htm](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491470.htm)
- New enhanced safety warnings for immediate-release opioid pain medications related to risks of misuse, abuse, addiction, overdose and death
  [http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491739.htm](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491739.htm)
- Ixekizumab (Taltz™) approved to treat adults with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis.
  [http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491872.htm](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491872.htm)

**GOV.UK**
- Putting community pharmacy at the heart of the NHS

**NICE**
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children and young people: guanfacine prolonged-release
  [https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/esnm70/chapter/Key-points-from-the-evidence](https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/esnm70/chapter/Key-points-from-the-evidence)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**EMA**
- EMA recommends new safety measures for idelalisib (Zydelig™), including close monitoring and use of antibiotics to prevent pneumonia
- Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) has reviewed the known risk of pneumonia (infection of the lungs) with inhaled corticosteroid-containing medicines when used to treat chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

**FDA - New enhanced safety warnings for immediate-release opioid pain medications related to risks of misuse, abuse, addiction, overdose and death
  http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm491739.htm

**MHRA - Drug Safety Update March 2016: trametinib (Mekinist™) risk of gastrointestinal perforation and colitis

**NHS England - Update on commissioning and provision of Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PREP) for HIV prevention
  https://www.england.nhs.uk/2016/03/prep/

**RCGP - Patient care: a unified approach

** United States Government Accountability Office - Patient Safety: Hospitals Face Challenges Implementing Evidence-Based Practices

PAPERS OF INTEREST

**Addiction - Gabapentin misuse, abuse and diversion: a systematic review

  http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2504522
- Proprotein Convertase Subtilisin/Kexin Type 9 Monoclonal Antibodies for Acute Coronary Syndrome: A Narrative Review
  http://annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2504520

**ASHP - ASHP Guidelines on Pharmacist Involvement in HIV Care
  http://www.ajhp.org/content/73/7/468

**BMJ - Global prevalence of antibiotic resistance in paediatric urinary tract infections caused by Escherichia coli and association with routine use of antibiotics in primary care: systematic review and meta-analysis
  http://www.bmj.com/content/352/bmj.i939

**BMJ Quality and Safety - A cross-sectional observational study of high override rates of drug allergy alerts in inpatient and outpatient settings, and opportunities for improvement
  http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2016/03/18/bmjqs-2015-004851.short?g=w_qs_ahead_tab
Does Tall Man lettering prevent drug name confusion errors? Incomplete and conflicting evidence suggest need for definitive study.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/25/4/213.extract

The health information technology safety framework: building great structures on vast voids.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/25/4

To RCT or not to RCT? The ongoing saga of randomised trials in quality improvement.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/25/4/221.extract

Why evaluate 'common sense' quality and safety interventions?
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/25/4/224.extract

Tall Man lettering and potential prescription errors: a time series analysis of 42 children’s hospitals in the USA over 9 years.
http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/25/4/233.abstract

**BMJ Open

- Variation in adverse drug reactions listed in product information for antidepressants and anticonvulsants, between the USA and Europe: a comparison review of paired regulatory documents
http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/6/3/e010599.short?g=w_open_current_tab

- Improving the governance of patient safety in emergency care: a systematic review of interventions
http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2015-009837

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- The haemodynamic effects of intravenous paracetamol (acetaminophen) in healthy volunteers: a double-blind, randomized, triple crossover trial

- A comparison of the intrasubject variation in drug exposure between generic and brand-name drugs: a retrospective analysis of replicate design trials

**EJHP

- Assessment of bevacizumab quality and stability in repackaged syringes for clinical use
http://ejhp.bmj.com/content/early/2016/03/21/ejhp-2015-000853.short?g=w_ejhp_ahead_tab

- Implementation of safety standards of compounded sterile preparations in hospital pharmacies: a multinational cross-sectional study
http://ejhp.bmj.com/content/early/2016/03/21/ejhp-2015-000872.abstract

**European Heart Journal

- Cardiovascular outcomes at different on-treatment blood pressures in the hypertensive patients of the VALUE trial
http://eurheartj.oxfordjournals.org/content/37/12/955.abstract?etoc

- Left ventricular heart failure and pulmonary hypertension
http://eurheartj.oxfordjournals.org/content/37/12/942.abstract

**Heart

- Colchicine in cardiovascular disease: an ancient drug with modern tricks
http://heart.bmj.com/content/early/2016/03/18/heartjnl-2015-309211.abstract

**Health expectations

- Patients' expectations of medicines

- Combined verbal and numerical expressions increase perceived risk of medicine side-effects: a randomized controlled trial of EMA recommendations

- Involving patients in health technology funding decisions: stakeholder perspectives on processes used in Australia

**JAMA

- Antibiotic Exposure during the First 6 Months of Life and Weight Gain During Childhood
**JAMA Neurology**
- Association of Antipsychotic Use With Mortality Risk in Patients With Parkinson Disease

**JAMA Paediatrics**
- Parent-Reported Errors and Adverse Events in Hospitalised Children

**JAMIA**
- The frequency of inappropriate non-formulary medication alert overrides in the inpatient setting

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- Identifying low-value care: the Royal Australasian College of Physicians’ EVOLVE initiative
- Clinical practice guidelines for dementia in Australia
- Antioxidant supplementation and cancer patients receiving curative-intent chemotherapy
- A case of acute phosphate nephropathy

**NEJM**
- Safer Prescribing — A Trial of Education, Informatics, and Financial Incentives

**The Lancet**
- Delivering safe and effective analgesia for management of renal colic in the emergency department: a double-blind, multigroup, randomised controlled trial

**The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology**
- Recent advances in the pharmacological management of hypercholesterolaemia
- Effects of sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors on cardiovascular events, death, and major safety outcomes in adults with type 2 diabetes: a systematic review and meta-analysis

**The Lancet Infectious diseases**
- Tuberculosis—advances in development of new drugs, treatment regimens, host-directed therapies, and biomarkers
**Stroke**
- Cocaine use and risk of ischemic stroke in young adults
  [http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/early/2016/03/10/STROKEAHA.115.011417.abstract](http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/early/2016/03/10/STROKEAHA.115.011417.abstract)

**UPCOMING EVENTS (new additions in bold)**

**NSW Medicines Information Centre**  
Psychotropics & Drug Interactions Workshop. St Vincent’s Clinic, 2 April 2016  
Registration and further information:  

**Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association**  
Think Tank - Looking over the horizon, where to next for the Australian health system?  
12 April 2016, Melbourne  

**Toxicology and Poisons Network Australasia (TAPNA) Conference 2016**  
5 - 7 May 2016, Royal on the Park Hotel, Brisbane  

“Making wise decisions about medicines, tests and technologies: co-designing policy, practice and priorities”  

**The Laboratory of Innovative Practices on Polypharmacy and Health**  
3rd International Short Film and Photography Festival, May 2016  
Entries close 30 April 2016  
[http://polimedicado.org](http://polimedicado.org)

**76th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2016**: Rising to the challenge: reducing the global burden of disease. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 28 August - 1 September 2016  

**APAC Forum ‘Exploring new frontiers’** 12-14 September 2016, Sydney, NSW  
[http://koawatea.co.nz/apac-forum/](http://koawatea.co.nz/apac-forum/)

**Australian Disease Management Association 12th Annual National Conference**  
“Person Centred Healthcare: Achievements & Challenges”, 20-12 October 2016, Melbourne  
Abstract submission closes 27 May 2016  

**SHPA Medicines Management 2016 Conference** 16-19 November 2016, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, WA  

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