

TAG Mail 16th January 2009



TAG MEETINGS

**There are no TAG meetings planned for the coming week

WEBSITE UPDATE

**Links to NSW Health High Risk Medications and Lessons Learned in Quality and Safety webpages have been added to the SAFER Medicines Group webpage

TAG ACTIVITIES

**Reminder: Life Saving Drugs Register: We are currently updating the register for 2009. Please return the relevant information to the office by 31 January 2009. Email www.nswtag.com.au

**Member Survey: Members are reminded to respond to the survey by 18th February 2009. To assist in completing the survey, a summary of NSW TAG activities in 2008 is available on the front page of the website.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

**Health Care Commission London: State of Healthcare 2008

http://www.healthcarecommission.org.uk/_db/_documents/State_of_Healthcare_2008.pdf

**MeReC Rapid Review:

--Statins in primary prevention <http://www.npci.org.uk/blog/?p=257>

--Beta-blockers and heart failure? <http://www.npci.org.uk/blog/?p=255>

--Rivaroxaban vs enoxaparin in hip/knee replacement

<http://www.npci.org.uk/blog/?p=254>

--Glitazones and bone fracture in women <http://www.npci.org.uk/blog/?p=253>

--Glucose control does not benefit people with established type 2 diabetes if other cardiovascular risk factors are addressed

<http://www.npci.org.uk/blog/?p=258>

**AHRQ:

--Health literacy measurement tools

<http://www.ahrq.gov/populations/sahlsatool.htm>

--Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Back Pain Utilization

This systematic review was undertaken to evaluate which complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) therapies are being used for persons with back pain in the United States.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/downloads/pub/evidence/pdf/backpaincam/backcam.pdf>

** Canadian Adverse Reaction Newsletter: January 2009

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/alt_formats/hpfb-dgpsa/pdf/medeff/carn-bcei_v19n1-eng.pdf

****Papers of Interest:**

--Adverse-event-reporting practices by US hospitals: results of a national survey. Qual Saf Health Care. 2008;17:416-423.

<http://qshc.bmj.com/cgi/content/abstract/17/6/416>

--Oral bisphosphonate use and the prevalence of osteonecrosis of the jaw. J Am Dent Assoc, Vol 140, No 1, 61-66.

<http://jada.ada.org/cgi/content/short/140/1/61>

--Diabetic ketoacidosis caused by exposure of insulin pump to heat and sunlight J 2009;338:a2218.

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/extract/338/jan05_1/a2218

-- Comorbidity and repeat admission to hospital for adverse drug reactions in older adults: retrospective cohort study. BMJ 2009;338:a2752

http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan07_3/a2752

MEDICATION SAFETY

****FDA:**

--Update on Ezetimibe/Simvastatin safety review

http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/early_comm/ezetimibe_simvastatin200901.htm

--Medical, Statistical, and Clinical Pharmacology Reviews of Pediatric Studies - updated http://www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric/BpcaPrea_full_review.htm

--Update of Safety Review: Montelukast

http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/early_comm/montelukast_200901.htm

****MHRA:**

--Safety Information December 2008:

Includes advice on piperacillin/tazobactam and tacrolimus

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/PrintPreview/DefaultSP/CON035975>

--Drug Safety Update: Volume 2 Issue 6, January 2009

Includes: drug safety advice for piperacillin/tazobactam generics (their compatibility with other medicines differs from that of the brand leader), and temsirolimus (risk of hypersensitivity reactions with this treatment for renal-cell carcinoma); and a 'Hot topic' on European regulation of medicines for children

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Publications/Safetyguidance/DrugSafetyUpdate/CON035989>

****Health Canada: Safety information related to botulinum toxin**

Health Canada warns of the potential risk of serious adverse effects of muscle weakness remote to the site of injection, also referred to as possible distant spread of toxin. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/alt_formats/hpfb-dgpsa/pdf/medeff/botox_hpc-cps-eng.pdf

UPCOMING EVENTS

****Healthcare World Australia 2009**

17-19 February 2009, Swissotel, Sydney www.terrapinn.com/2009/healthw

**Australian Society for Antimicrobials: Antimicrobials 2009
Hilton on the Park, Melbourne, 26 to 28 February 2009
The program covers many different aspects on antimicrobials including 'How to Use Antibiotics Better', 'Vaccine and Antibiotic Use' and 'Antimicrobial Drug Development'. www.antimicrobials2009.com

**International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care.
March 17-20, 2009; Internationales Congress Center, Berlin, Germany.
<http://internationalforum.bmj.com/>

**IHI: Delivering safe and optimal care through effective teamwork and communication
April 2-3, 2009, Boston, MA
<http://www.ihl.org/IHI/Programs/ConferencesAndSeminars/ImplementingTeamCommunicationApril2009.htm>

**Heart Foundation Conference 2009
Hearts in Focus: Celebration, Collaboration and Challenges
14-16 May 2009, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia <http://www.heartfoundation2009.com/>

**NPSF: Patient safety in challenging times: more than ever a critical need
May 20 - 22, 2009, Washington, DC.
Call for abstracts now open. Applications close Friday, January 23, 2009.
<http://www.npsf.org/npsfac/>

**Managing challenging behaviours in older people with cognitive impairment (call for abstracts open). 6-7 August 2009. Rialto, Collins St, Melbourne, VIC
http://www.changechampions.com.au/guidelines/Challenging_Behaviours.pdf

**International Society for Quality in Healthcare: 26th International conference
11-14 October, 2009 Dublin, Ireland. <http://www.isqua.org/Dublin2009-InternationalSocietyforQualityinHealthCareInc..html>

OTHER NEWS

**New Website: CHAIN Online - Clinician-Consumer Health Advisory Information Network

CHAIN Online is an online educational, informational, and resource dissemination program that provides timely and practical information to health-care professionals, patients, family members, medical faculty, and others about emerging issues concerning the safe and effective use of drugs, devices, and biological products. http://www.chainonline.org/content.cfm?menu_id=119