

ESCP

The bi-monthly newsletter
of the European Society
of Clinical Pharmacy

News

Contents:	A Few Words	1
	ESCP Life	2
	SIG Feedback	4
	Articles	6
	Reports	7
	Announcements	8



Anders Carlsten, President of the 5th ESCP Spring Conference welcomes ESCP members and delegates from all Europe to Stockholm for three days of intense learning and exchange.

On behalf of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy, the Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Apoteket AB we would like to extend a welcome to the 5th Spring Conference on Clinical Pharmacy. We wish all participants a pleasant stay between 25 and 28 May 2005 in Stockholm and a very rewarding meeting. Stockholm, the capital of Sweden is located in the eastern part of Sweden, close to the Baltic Sea. Stockholm is a very beautiful city especially in May. The Aula Magna, our conference venue, is a very attractive meeting place in the



Welcome to Stockholm

centre of the Stockholm University campus. The Conference's active social programme also gives participants the opportunity to visit the Vasa museum, a unique place for marine history and the venue for Thursday's Cultural Evening, as well as get a view of Stockholm from the sea during a boat trip.

collaborate with other professionals in the health care systems in Europe. We think that this dialogue is both important and very stimulating for all of us.

Integration is essential

Successful development and implementation of clinical pharmacy and pharmaceutical care is complicated but crucial for the future of professional pharmacy practice. We need to integrate evidence-based concepts within pharmacy practice including management of the practice, practice models, and models for clinical pharmacy teacher practitioners. All of these topics, and more, are highlighted during the Stockholm ESCP Spring conference.

Numerous workshops, mini-symposia and round table discussions will encourage attendees to participate actively and discuss experiences freely with both the speakers and other participants.

We hope you will enjoy and profit from the Conference and that you will also find the opportunity to experience the historical, cultural and entertaining aspects of Stockholm and Sweden.

Once again we wish you a very warm welcome to Stockholm. ●

Researchers, academics and clinicians within pharmacy need to communicate in order to develop new and effective ways to collaborate

Collaboration and communication

During these few days in Stockholm you will have the opportunity to meet with colleagues from all over Europe to discuss the theme of the Conference '**Integrating Research, Education and Clinical Practice**'. We believe this theme is very important since the successful development of clinical pharmacy depends on how these three areas are integrated together. Researchers, academics and clinicians within pharmacy need to communicate in order to develop new and effective ways to

This issue has been realised thanks to the support of:



A Few Words

The Education Committee

Within the Research, Education, SIG Council and Publications (RESP) Committee, the Education Committee led by Andre Rieutord (France) consists of two general committee members and six members. The objectives of the committee are to establish a continuous education programme, to improve the format of conferences and to develop new learning tools. *ESCP News* meets two of the members, Vincent Launay-Vacher from France and Annalisa Campomori from Italy.

Vincent Launay-Vacher (France)

Vincent Launay-Vacher studied Pharmacy in Paris, specialised in pharmacokinetics, and graduated as Doctor of Pharmacy in 2000. He practises in the Department of Nephrology of Pitie-Salpetriere Hospital in Paris. He is in charge of a National Medical Advisory Service (ICAR) on drugs dosage adjustment in patients with renal insufficiency, drug-drug interactions with immunosuppressive therapies in transplant-recipient patients, and renal effects of drugs. This service is intended to help French physicians prescribe the right dosage in patients whose renal function is impaired and in dialysis patients. At the moment, ICAR is being developed and will be available all over Europe in the near future.

Vincent's clinical research activities focused on antiretroviral therapies, anticancer agents, and cardiovascular drugs. His principal research project intends to fully describe detail and explain the dialysis of drugs in hemodialysed patients. He is the author of a number of publications mainly in international nephrology journals. In parallel, Vincent collaborates in the edition of a collection of Prescription Handbooks on Drugs Dosage Adjustment in Patients with Renal Insufficiency. These books "Guides



de Prescription et Rein" (GPR), in French, are being translated and adapted in English as "Bright Guides". To date 15 volumes have been edited.

Vincent belongs to the Editorial Board of the *Journal de Pharmacie Clinique*, the official journal of the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy. He is also member of the French Society of Nephrology. He has been involved in ESCP activities since 2003 and is a member of the SIG Education and Training Committee and of the SIG Cancer Care Board.

Annalisa Campomori (Italy)

Annalisa Campomori completed her degree in Pharmacy at Bologna University in 1992 and obtained the

specialisation in Hospital Pharmacy in Modena University three years later. Her curriculum has been subsequently enriched by a Course in Pharmacoepidemiology at the Laboratory for Mother and Child Health at the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan where she was mainly involved in activities related to the Regional Drug Information Centre.

At present she is a clinical pharmacist working at the Centre of the Effectiveness of Health Care (CeVEAS), established in Modena within the Local Health Authority. She deals with the drug monitoring systems of pharmaceutical prescriptions both by hospital doctors and by general practitioners; she is responsible for the local Hospital Drug Committee and she has been involved in the elaboration and implementation process of clinical guidelines (such as use of low molecular weight heparins in thromboembolism prevention in surgery). In addition, she is collaborating in a hospital drug purchasing union project aimed at involving Health Authorities in a collective and integrated selection process of drugs acquisition pursuing economic advantages through drug industries competition.



"Among elements which can enrich the work of ESCP, emphasis on the multi-disciplinary role of clinical pharmacists is a key issue. Nowadays in many European countries some interesting experiments have been carried out regarding the role of the pharmacist who breaks classical barriers and enters a new dimension: becoming active in new projects on independent drugs' information. These projects focus on ad hoc training programmes for clinical pharmacists aimed at promoting information delivery to prescribers. My work experience in Italy, together with results obtained in other countries, convinces me of the importance of structuring and sharing new educational methods on the expanding role of clinical pharmacists within ESCP."

Who's Who



Jean-Baptiste Rey (France)

Jean Baptiste Rey has recently joined the ESCP Publications Committee led by Marie Caroline Husson (France). As one of his first responsibilities, he helped her in the abstract review process for the 5th ESCP Spring Conference in Stockholm.

Jean-Baptiste Rey studied pharmacy in Paris. He has been a hospital pharmacist at Reims University Hospital since 2002. He was formerly a pharmacy assistant at the Institut Gustave-Roussy (the first European cancer care and research centre) department of clinical pharmacy.

He is now in charge of the centralised parenteral nutrition unit of Reims university hospital and is the quality assurance manager of the pharmacy department. Besides the paediatric nutritional support activity, he is in charge of the validation of the manufactured batches (paediatric capsules, sterile injectable drugs) issued by the pharmacy.

His research activities focus on parenteral nutrition admixtures and their stability. He is now aiming to develop standard formulae for paediatrics in collaboration with the Pharmacie Centrale des Hôpitaux (AP-HP, Paris). The aim of this latter work is to obtain a marketing licence for these admixtures.

Jean-Baptiste Rey is a member of the Editorial Board of *Journal de Pharmacie Clinique*, the journal of the French Society of Clinical Pharmacy (SFPC). He has been a member of ESCP since 2003 and a member of the Publications Committee since the end of 2004. ●

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And even more. Annalisa is personally involved in the "Independent information delivery programme for Local Health Authorities" organized by CeVEAS. The programme is intended to promote evidence-based information using a social marketing approach and stimulating discussion among general practitioners by comparing drug prescriptions with best available evidence.

Expert in information retrieval (from original articles and systematic reviews) and in critical appraisal skills, Annalisa is a tutor in drug information and documentation in Bologna University, Faculty of Pharmacy and at Modena University Master in Evidence-Based Medicine programme.

She attended the following courses: "Epidemiology" - Erasmus University, Rotterdam (NL), August 1998; "How to teach Evidence Based Medicine", Center for Evidence Based Medicine, Oxford (UK), July 2002; and "Drug therapy decision making course", University of British Columbia, Vancouver (Canada) May 2004. ●

ESCP – EPSA Exchange Programme Call for Interest

In collaboration with the European Pharmaceutical Students' Association (EPSA), ESCP is looking into coordinating an exchange programme, to give students the opportunity to participate in the professional activities of a pharmacist (either hospital or community) in a European country for a determined period of time.

If you are interested in hosting a student and involving him/her in your practice, please provide the ESCP International Office with the following information:

- The setting in which you work (hospital or community pharmacy).
- The type of activity in which you intend to involve the student.
- The language that the student should master.
- The minimal and maximal duration of the traineeship you can provide.
- Whether you can provide / find accommodation for the student.
- Whether you can provide the student with a salary, and if so, provide details.
- Any other requirement you may have.

Should we receive sufficient interest from the ESCP membership, it will allow us to further investigate the feasibility of such an exchange programme.

Interested members should contact Geraldine Damar with the above requested information via e-mail: info@escpweb.org or by fax: +32-2-743 1550. ●

Clinical Medication Review

During the ESCP annual conference held in Prague last October, the SIG Education and Training organised a workshop on 'Standards of practice: Clinical medication review'. The workshop was intended to explore different approaches to the process of clinical medication review and to identify methods of assuring the quality of this process through assessment of performance.

During the workshop, participants shared their experiences of clinical medication review. It was apparent that in some countries pharmacists undertake this activity in the hospital environment in an ad-hoc manner and no standards exist. Participants reported that there are some models in Portugal of community pharmacy medication review for chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, and asthma.

Purpose of medication review

During the workshop, the purpose of medication review was identified as follows:

- To establish that the medicine being taken by the patient is the best for their needs.

- To evaluate the effectiveness of the medicine from the patient's point of view.
 - To identify reasons why medicines are not taken or taken incorrectly.
 - To answer patients' questions on the medicines and their illness.
 - To identify untreated illness.
 - To reach agreement about continuing or changing treatment.
- Participants also discussed what patients expect from a medication review exercise:

- Specific time set aside.
- Someone to listen carefully to their questions.
- Clear explanations in simple language.
- Open and honest interaction including consequences of taking

- or not taking medicines.
- A written record of discussion.

Participants discussed in small groups the skills required by pharmacists undertaking clinical medication review. These skills include skills in analysis of information such as evaluation of information, interpretation and use of evidence-based guidelines and national policies. The pharmacists should also have clinical and interpersonal skills for example: application of therapeutics for individual patient's needs, clinical decision making, problem solving, documentation of pharmaceutical care plans, consultation, listening and responding to questions.

Finally the participants were asked to address the following questions: how do we assure consistency in standards of practice? How do we assess performance? Participants considered potential methods of assessing skills with particular emphasis during patient interview and interactions with prescribers.

There was acknowledgement for a need to establish an infrastructure to monitor standards of practice as pharmacist-led medication review develops across Europe. ●

SIG Pharmacoepidemiology

The aim of the SIG Pharmacoepidemiology is to share information about drugs and their use, both in the community and in the hospital. Currently the SIG includes 107 members. The present co-ordinator of the SIG is Susanna Maltoni from Italy, who was elected during the annual ESCP Symposium held in Florence, Italy, on 31 October 2002. She succeeded Andrea Messori.

Use of new drugs

Past activities of the SIG included interventions aimed at facilitating the collaboration and the exchange of information among SIG members. In particular, during the SIG meet-

ing held during the 31st European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy (Florence, Italy, 2002), a multi-centre observational study model was proposed to investigate specific clinical topics such as: the use of new drugs for which the clinical data available does not support a better effectiveness if compared to older ones, or drugs with a very high cost. During the SIG meeting the attention was focused on a database hosted by an Internet website to gather the clinical data. As an application of this tool an Italian observational trial, aimed at studying the use of temozolomide in central nervous system tumours, was presented.

National prescription data

During the last ESCP Annual Congress held in Prague last October,

the SIG Pharmacoepidemiology organised a workshop led by Susanna Maltoni and Andrea Messori. The workshop tackled the analysis of national prescription data by regulatory agencies and it was very interactive. The beginning of the workshop was dedicated to a short presentation of Italian and international data on drug prescription and the participants were invited to give information on data from their own countries; workshop co-ordinators helped the participants in trying to explore possible explanations of different prescribing behaviour among countries or regions. Then, the core of the workshop was focused on possible ways to utilise drug monitoring data to draw information both on appropriate use of medicines and on the appropriate allocation of resources. Several examples were presented and a very stimulating discussion between moderators and participants ensued. ●

SIG Workshops During ESCP Conference in Stockholm



ESCP News presents an overview of the SIG activities that will be held during the 5th Spring Conference on Clinical Pharmacy in Stockholm, 25 - 28 May 2005.

During the first day of the conference, which is dedicated to 'Adopting and Adapting Clinical Pharmacy Practice', four SIGs are organising interactive workshops.

SIG Integrated Primary Care

This workshop entitled 'Pharmaceutical care of drug misusers at the interface' and led by Christine Bond, a consultant in pharmaceutical public health, with the NHS in the United Kingdom, aims to describe the clinical implications for drug misusers when continuity of care is threatened, and to heighten awareness of mechanisms to address pharmaceutical care of drug misusers at the primary/secondary care interface. Both the role of the hospital and the community pharmacist will be analysed as well as the ideal communication between pharmacy services, which is key to the continued care of this group of patients.

SIG Geriatrics

The theme of the workshop is 'Drug regimen reviews in nursing homes: a method for quality drug use among elderly fragile patients' and will be moderated by Bodil Lidstrom from Sweden. Elderly persons consume a lot of medication. Multiple medications and health status often increase the risk of drug interactions, adverse effects and hospitalisation. The workshop aims at discussing various methods through which pharmacists can make a positive impact on detecting and solving medication-related problems in nursing homes.

SIG Infectious Diseases

The workshop entitled 'Implementation of guidelines for sequential antimicrobial therapy' is led by Frank Buyle, a hospital pharmacist from Ghent University Hospital in Belgium. The objectives of the work-

shop are to present rationale for sequential antimicrobial therapy, to identify and discuss criteria for sequential antimicrobial therapy based on patient data and to discuss different interventions in order to implement guidelines for sequential therapy. Implementation of sequential therapy can have a substantial impact in reducing hospital expenditures without compromising clinical outcomes. The clinical pharmacist can play a crucial role in implementing these guidelines in daily practice.

SIG Pharmacoeconomics

Led by two French pharmacists, Benoît Allenet from Grenoble and Patrick Tilleul from Paris, this work-

shop will analyse 'Cost minimisation - application to antimicrobials.' Pharmacoeconomics represents a powerful tool for clinical pharmacists to assist decision makers in choosing among competing alternatives in situations of uncertainty and limited resources. The pharmacist thereby progresses all the way from being able to read and analyse an article to participating in the design of a pharmacoeconomic protocol. The session will look closely at the basics of the methodology of pharmacoeconomics (cost-minimisation, cost-efficacy, cost-utility and cost-benefit) and at major pharmacotherapeutic themes (anti-infectious, cardiology, cancer...).

On the second day of the conference, which is dedicated to 'Documenting and Evaluating Clinical Pharmacy Practice', three SIGs will hold workshops.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 ➤

Renal Insufficiency in Cancer Patients

Vincent Launay-Vacher, Jean-Baptiste Rey and Agnelo Paci, board members of the SIG Cancer Care are co-authors in the paper published in the Medical Science Monitor Journal on 'Incidence of renal insufficiency in cancer patients and evaluation of information available on the use of anticancer drugs in renally impaired patients' (Med Sci Monit 2004; 10(5): CR209-212).

The authors carried out a study to determine the frequency of patients with altered renal function within a population of cancer patients and to assess use of antineoplastic drugs which are excreted by the kidney in these patients. Three hundred and sixteen patients were included in the study regardless of their cancer presentation or treatment followed. Out of the 316 cancer patients, the authors report that 287 patients (91%) had normal serum creatinine levels. However patients (104,

33%) with serum creatinine within normal range presented renal insufficiency when renal function was assessed by calculating serum creatinine clearance using the Cockcroft and Gault formula. When reference sources used in France and the US Physicians' Desk Reference were used to identify information on the use of the drugs being administered to patients with altered renal function, only two drugs (carboplatin and vinorelbine) were presented with this information. ●

SIG Cancer Care

'Pharmaceutical care for cancer patients: trying to find solutions from role playing' will be presented by Hannelore Kreckel, from the Pharmacy Department of the University Hospital in Giessen, Germany and Angelo Paci from the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at the Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France. Participants will be asked to play an active role in the workshop in order to increase the awareness of problems in patient care in day-to-day situations and to identify potential solutions. The workshop aims to demonstrate the attitude of a clinical pharmacist in the health care setting, in order to show how partners in a given setting might feel, and to allow more adequate reactions from the participants in similar situations in the future.

Participants are encouraged to discuss problems from their daily practice.

SIG Paediatrics

Moderated by Anne Hulin, France; Per Nydert, Sweden and Johan Wallin, Sweden; the workshop looks into the 'Management of immunosuppressive therapy in transplantation for paediatrics'. Transplantation requires immunosuppressive polytherapy which presents many adverse effects and drug interactions. The workshop addresses organ transplantation in paediatric patients discussing management use of immunosuppressive agents and therapy monitoring.

It aims to help participants understand the pathophysiology, prevention and treatments of acute rejection after transplantation. Partici-

pants will gain confidence and improve knowledge in clinical and pharmaceutical practice by working with realistic scenarios in workshops run by practitioners.

SIG Nutrition

Led by Maria Skouroliakou, Greece, the workshop discusses 'Dietary supplements, drugs, herbs and memory'. The goal of the workshop is to promote a better understanding of the dietary supplements, drugs and herbs available for memory enhancement. The workshop will look at what is available to the public and the degree of effectiveness in memory enhancement. A selection of questions and answers will be used to develop better practice guidelines, which are necessary due to the constant use of such supplements by the general public. ●

Developments in Pharmacy Education

With the 5th ESCP Spring Conference in May in Stockholm being dedicated to 'Integrating Research, Education and Clinical Practice', *ESCP News* deems fit to present the Malta Declaration on Pharmacy Education that was recently adopted by the executive committee and delegates at the 2005 Annual Conference of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy.

The scope of the declaration is to define university courses for pharmacy education programmes so as to promote harmonisation and cooperation among faculties of pharmacy in Europe. This will promote international student and staff mobility and supports recognition of professional qualifications between member states of the European Union.

The declaration recognises EU directive 85/432, the amended proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications, the recommendations of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) and the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU).

In the declaration, EAFP holds that:

a) Pharmacist education programmes should be equivalent to at least 300 ECTS.

b) A balance between theoretical, laboratory and patient centred training is required whilst maintaining the university character of the curriculum.

c) A thorough grounding in the basic sciences including research approach should be maintained while contemporary developments in pharmacy namely pharmaceutical care, professionalism-values, behaviours and attitudes, clinical pharmacy and clinical analysis, prescription and non-prescription medicines regulatory affairs, pharmacoeconomics, medical devices, and industrial pharmacy should be given adequate coverage.

d) A six-month traineeship in a pharmacy which is open to the public or in a hospital under the supervision of a pharmacist should be

carried out within the university course so as to integrate the knowledge-base and professional practice within a university milieu.

e) In addition to the training period mentioned in (d), training periods should be considered for other pharmacy related areas such as industrial pharmacy. Training periods may also be offered in one or more optional areas depending on the individual institution.

EAFP recommends at least a five-year programme of university education and training for a pharmacist to ensure that the individual has acquired knowledge and skills in the scientific areas of chemistry and manufacture of medicines, effects, actions and use of medicines as well as in the practice areas of the provision of professional services according to good professional standards, evaluation of information on medicines and pursuit of continuing professional development programmes in the interest of patients requiring therapeutic intervention. ●

ESCP would be interested in hearing comments and feedback from its members regarding the Directive and the Malta Declaration. Please let the Education Committee know your thoughts by e-mail via: info@escpweb.org.

Learning by Practising: Let's go to the Clinical Ward and Meet the Patient

Having participated in the 5th ESCP Course in Patient Centred Teaching organised in Malta last March, André Rieutord, Chair of the ESCP Education Committee, reports on the benefits of the course and ESCP's plans to increase the number of patient centred teaching courses in the future.

From 7 - 9 March 2005 I was glad to attend the famous Malta course on Patient Centred Teaching as a teacher practitioner but also as representative of the ESCP's Education Committee. The course was held as a pre-conference activity to the 2005 Annual Conference of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy (EAFP) and Richard Suverkrup (Germany), General Secretary of EAFP also participated in the course.

In three days we all experienced the advantages of such an active teaching method, in a very friendly environment. At the end of the session we were able to:

- Identify the advantages of real patients in problem based learning.
- Describe the concept of pharmaceutical care plan.
- Design a plan for small group teaching.
- Identify pharmaceutical care issues from the case study.
- Deliver a case presentation to a peer group.

The whole group was very enthusiastic about the course, looking forward to put into practice this innovative teaching method when back to work.

ESCP has in the past delivered several educational programmes on patient orientated teaching (Glasgow 1997, Jerusalem 1998, Reykjavik 2000, Malta course 2001-2004) as a collaboration between the SIG Education and Training and colleagues from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland.

ESCP's future plans

The ESCP Education Committee, which I have chaired since October 2003, has prioritised 'patient centred teaching'. The current chair of the SIG Education and Training, Moira Kinnear, is also a member of the Education Committee and is leading this initiative. We have plans to include 'patient centred teaching' courses on a regular basis associated with future conferences. For example: one is being held as a pre-conference activity to ESCP's 5th Spring Conference in Stockholm



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Furthermore, discussions are underway regarding a course in Amsterdam, the Netherlands in October 2005 prior to ESCP's 34th Symposium, which would be based not only in a hospital but also in a community setting. We also intend to run 'stand alone' courses similar to the Malta course in other countries in Europe.

I believe such courses provide opportunities to:

- Stimulate changes in the formation of pharmacists that are especially needed in the countries where clinical pharmacy is in its infancy.
- Observe clinical pharmacy at the bedside.
- Motivate students by enjoying the reality of focusing on individual patients.
- Start implementing clinical pharmacy either at the hospital or in the community

I would personally like to thank all the Malta team for their smooth organisation, all the tutors for their excellent job and congratulate the Maltese students for their high level of knowledge.

Let me also wish that there will very soon be ESCP satellite centred teaching courses all over Europe!

André Rieutord
France



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1. Course participants during the case presentations
2. Course participants, Syireen Alwi (UK), Anna Finquist (Sweden) and Audrey Grech (Malta) during the teaching session on the ward
3. A course participant, Branislava Milkjovic (Serbia), looking up information from the British National Formulary

For Your Diary ESCP Conferences and Courses

2005

23-25 May	Stockholm Sweden	ESCP Educational Course: Patient Centred Teaching
25-28 May	Stockholm Sweden	5 th Spring Conference on Clinical Pharmacy Integrating Research, Education and Clinical Practice
26 October	Amsterdam The Netherlands	Masterclass in Search of Excellence SIG Cancer Care: Individualisation of Cancer Treatment: Clinical & Genetic Approaches
26 October	Amsterdam The Netherlands	6 th EPSA-ESCP Students Symposium Student Profiling: Finding the Future Clinical Pharmacist
26-29 October	Amsterdam The Netherlands	34 th European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy Patient Profiling: Key to Successful Treatment

2006

24-27 May	Vilnius Lithuania	6 th Spring Conference on Clinical Pharmacy Chronic Disease Management: the Role of the Pharmacist
18-21 October	Vienna Austria	35 th European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy The Role of Communication in Patient Safety and Pharmacotherapy Effectiveness

Important Reminders

- **34th European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy**, Amsterdam
 - Abstract submission NOW open!** Deadline for submission is **30 June 2005**
 - Early bird registration** (saving upto €200). **Deadline 8 August 2005**

Further information is available at: www.escpweb.org

Announcements



European Society of Clinical Pharmacy

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