



NSW
Therapeutic
Advisory
Group Inc.

Advancing
quality use
of medicines
in NSW

TAG Mail - 17 October 2019

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

**Current [open email discussions](#)

- Governance of chemotherapy dosing protocols – **closes 31st October 2019**
- Active ingredient prescribing – **closes 24th October 2019**
- Analgesic/opioid stewardship activities in NSW hospitals - **closes 23rd October 2019**
- Statewide Standing Order for use of a patient's own adrenaline autoinjector in hospital – **closes 22nd October 2019**

**Recently uploaded completed [email discussions](#)

- TGA development of a new standard for 2D DataMatrix codes for medicines
- Listing of last line antimicrobials on Life Saving Drug Register

**Upcoming TAG meeting [dates](#)

Monday 21 October 2019

- 1:30pm TAG Management Committee Meeting
- 3:00pm TAG General Meeting
- 5:00pm Annual General Meeting

Tuesday October 22 2019

- 11:00am TAGNet Meeting

OTHER NEWS (new additions in bold)

**ACI

- Intellectual Disability and Rehabilitation Networks webinar: National Disability Insurance Scheme, 12-1pm 6th of November 2019 – [link](#)

**AHHA [webinars](#) 12:30pm – 1:30pm

- 22 October 2019 - Can we increase the uptake of shared decision making in Australia
- 11 December 2019 - Outcomes Based Commissioning - Diabetes Practical Case Study

**AIHI Seminar Series 2019 – held at Macquarie University

- From research to implementation – how to overcome challenges and barriers when implementing evidence based telemedicine solutions across the healthcare sector. Experiences from Denmark, Christian Mercado, 21 Oct 2019, 12–1pm - [link](#)
- Toward useful AI / cognitive aides in clinical practice at scale, Dr Blackford Middleton, 29 Oct 2019, 11-12pm – [link](#)

**Australian Prescriber

- **Podcast episode 60: Stopping and switching antipsychotic drugs, Prof Nicholas Keks**
- **New Drug: Dupilumab for atopic dermatitis**
- Volume 42 Issue 5 [October 2019](#)

**CEC

- Information for patients, families and carers managing side effects of opioid medicines in hospital leaflet - [link](#)

****MJA Podcasts**

- [Episode 44: Transplant tourism, with Prof Toby Coates](#)
- [Episode 43: Digital technologies for mental health care delivery, Prof Ian Hickie](#)

****NHMRC - Research Impact Project - [survey open now](#) (closes 31 Oct 2019)**

The Research Impact Working Group of the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes is developing a framework that will enable medical research institutes to measure how their research contributes to knowledge, society, health and the economy. Stakeholder input through a Research Impact Survey is sought for the first phase of the project.

****NPS MedicineWise**

- **SafeScript [podcast series](#)**

(Discussions about the clinical risks associated with long-term opioid and benzodiazepine use, the importance of ensuring continuity of care for all patients, and how SafeScript, Victoria's real-time prescription system, is assisting clinicians to provide safer patient care).

- News:

- Opioids, chronic pain and the bigger picture - [link](#)
- Pharmacy Practice Review: [Opioids: reducing harms from long-term use](#)
- Thyroid disease: challenges in primary care (Updated 26 September 2019 to reflect new recommendations for adult thyroid testing, as outlined in the NPS MedicineWise Adult Thyroid Testing Algorithm) - [link](#)

****NSW Health**

- [IB2019_041 - Schedule 8 Cannabis Medicines and Unregistered Schedule 8 Medicines](#)
- [Safety Notice 014/19: Ranitidine – Product Recall](#)
- New regulatory approach to Schedule 8 cannabis medicines – [link](#)
- [Cardiovascular Research Capacity Program](#) Grants Open – applications close 30/10/2019

****NSW Health and The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA)**

- Education - Constructive Conversations: Prescription Medicine Safety - [Online Module](#) (free)

****NSW Mental Health Commission**

- **Expression of Interest - for the Community Advisory Council – [link](#)**

****Pharmacy Council of New South Wales - New compounding [resources](#) now available:**

- [Compounding checklist](#)
- [Premises and equipment guidance for non-sterile complex compounding](#)

****Pharmacy Practice News**

- Good Opioid Stewards - Pharmacists aid in managing a crisis - [link](#)

****Sanofi VTE matters**

- **Resource for Clexane® Safety Lock syringes - [link](#)**

****SWSLHD Research Directorate**

- REGIS + Research Information Webinars every second Wednesday at 2:00pm via Pexip - [link](#)

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

****Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**

- Acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease in Australia - [link](#)
- Acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease: in brief - [link](#)
- GEN Aged Care Data: Pathways in Aged Care - [link](#)

****TGA**

- AIVC recommendations for the composition of influenza vaccine for Australia in 2020 - [link](#)
- Updated information about the personal importation of nicotine-containing e-cigarette products - [link](#)
- AusPARs:

- [Certolizumab pegol](#) (Cimzia®) for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA

- Pharmacist-led, video-stimulated feedback to reduce prescribing errors in doctors-in-training: A mixed methods evaluation - [link](#)
- Effect of a sedation weaning protocol on safety and medication use among hospitalized children post critical illness - [link](#)

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health

- Medicinal and Synthetic Cannabinoids for Pediatric Patients: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA

- New Drug approvals
- [rivaroxaban](#) (Xarelto®) new indication: prophylaxis of venous thromboembolism in acutely ill medical patients at risk for thromboembolic complications not at high risk of bleeding
- [asenapine](#) (Secuado®) new formulation: transdermal system

**Health Quality & Safety Commission New Zealand

- Toolkit encourages staff and senior leadership engagement in infection prevention - [link](#)

**Joint Commission

- [State of Care](#) - annual assessment of health care and social care in England.

**NHS England

- Cannabis-based products for medicinal use: Frequently Asked Questions - [link](#)
- NHS website publishes patient guides for hydroxocobalamin, amoxicillin + clavulanate and ciprofloxacin - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK

- Diabetic foot problems: prevention and management – updated guidance ([NG19](#))
- End of life care for adults: service delivery – guidance ([NG142](#))
- Shared Learning Database
- Lime Square Medical Centre - Safe prescribing of high-risk drugs - [link](#)
- Improving care for older people with co-existing mental disorders and alcohol misuse - [link](#)

**Public Health England

- Updated guidance on flu immunisation for early years' settings including child minders - [link](#)

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society

- [Infographic](#): Is hormone replacement therapy worth the risks?

**Specialist Pharmacy Services

- Using Standardised Strengths of Unlicensed Liquid Medicines in Children: joint statement from the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists' Group (NPPG) and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) – [link](#) - [link](#)
- Specialist Pharmacy Services (SPS): Medicines Use and Safety Team – [Annual Report 2018-19](#)
- Glucosamine – what are its drug interactions? - [link](#)

**The King's Fund (UK)

- Advancing our health: prevention in the 2020s consultation - [link](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)

- Revised SPCs

- Zocor™ ([simvastatin](#))- warns that myopathy and/or rhabdomyolysis have been reported with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (e.g. simvastatin) co-administered with daptomycin.
- Sutent™ ([sunitinib](#))- warns that use of VEGF inhibitors in patients with/without hypertension (HT) may promote formation of aneurysms (ANs) and/or artery dissections. This risk should be carefully considered before treatment in patients with risk factors such as HT/AN history.
- Yervoy™ ([ipilimumab](#))- Stomatitis added as a possible adverse drug reaction of unknown frequency for ipilimumab 3mg/kg monotherapy.
- Cyramza™ ([ramucirumab](#))- warns that use of ramucirumab in patients with or without hypertension (HT) may promote formation of aneurysms (ANs) and/or artery dissections; and risk should be carefully considered in patients with risk factors such as HT or AN history.
- Renagel™ and Renvela™ ([sevelamer](#) hydrochloride)- The following potential adverse effects (frequency unknown) have been listed: gastrointestinal haemorrhage, intestinal ulceration, gastrointestinal necrosis, colitis and intestinal mass.

****Health Canada – MedEffect Notices**

- Some EpiPen and EpiPen Jr auto-injectors may be difficult to remove from their carrier tubes - [link](#)
- LEMTRADA® ([alemtuzumab](#)) – Risk of Autoimmune Hepatitis, Haemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis, and Associated Serious Cardiovascular Reactions.

****Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**

- Emerade® [adrenaline \(epinephrine\)](#) pens – patients reminded to carry 2 pens at all times.

****TGA**

- Tofacitinib Update - Warning about increased risks of blood clots and of death at higher dose for certain patients - [link](#)

PAPERS OF INTEREST

****Age and Ageing**

- New horizons in deprescribing for older people - [link](#)

****Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

- Assessment of steroid use as a key performance indicator in inflammatory bowel disease—analysis of data from 2385 UK patients - [link](#)

****Australian Health Review**

- Digitising an Australian university hospital: qualitative analysis of staff-reported impacts - [link](#)

****American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**

- Inpatient pain management in sickle cell disease - [link](#)

****Annals of Internal Medicine**

- Rivaroxaban Versus Vitamin K Antagonist in Antiphospholipid Syndrome: A Randomized Non-inferiority Trial - [link](#)
- Dapagliflozin reduced cardiorenal outcomes but not MACE in T2 diabetes with or at risk for atherosclerotic CVD – [link](#)
- Pantoprazole did not reduce risk for a composite of upper gastrointestinal events in stable arterial disease - [link](#)
- Pooled RCTs: In acute ischemic stroke with salvageable brain tissue, alteplase at 4.5 to 9 hours improved function - [link](#)
- Comparative Efficacy of Interventions for Aggressive and Agitated Behaviors in Dementia: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis – [link](#)
- Cases in Precision Medicine: A Personalized Approach to Stroke and Cardiovascular Risk Assessment in Women - [link](#)
- Ensuring Sustainability of Needed Antibiotics: Aiming for the DART Board – [link](#)
- Guideline: USPSTF recommends pre-exposure prophylaxis with antiretroviral therapy for persons at high risk for HIV - [link](#)
- Review: In older adults with acute major depression, SNRIs, but not SSRIs, increase adverse events vs placebo - [link](#)

- Review: In nonsurgical settings, tranexamic acid reduces mortality and does not increase thrombotic events - [link](#)
- Review: Extended therapy with DOACs, but not VKAs, reduces mortality after VTE treated with initial anticoagulation - [link](#)

**Annals of Rheumatic Diseases

- Diagnosis of osteoporosis in statin-treated patients is dose-dependent – [link](#)

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

- A sequence symmetry analysis of the interrelationships between statins, diabetes and skin infections - [link](#)

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)

- Antithrombotic treatment after coronary artery bypass graft surgery: systematic review and network meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Prescribing for pregnancy: general pre-pregnancy care - [link](#)
- HRT and breast cancer risk - [link](#)
- Underuse of ECG monitoring in oncology patients receiving QT-interval prolonging drugs - [link](#)
- A guide to prospective meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Expert briefing advises that chronic illness linked to Lyme disease is rare - [link](#)
- Unique cardiovascular risk factors in women – [link](#)
- Adherence and persistence to direct oral anticoagulants in atrial fibrillation: a population-based study – [link](#)
- Low total cholesterol is associated with increased major adverse cardiovascular events in men aged ≥70 years not taking statins – [link](#)
- Can surgery be avoided in patients with symptomatic gallstone disease and no complications? - [link](#)

**Circulation

- Comparison of Events across Bleeding Scales in the ENGAGE AF-TIMI 48 Trial - [link](#)
- Effects of Intensive Versus Standard Ambulatory Blood Pressure Control on Cerebrovascular Outcomes in Older People (INFINITY) - [link](#)

**Cochrane

- Fluoxetine for adults who are overweight or obese - [link](#)
- Smoking reduction interventions for smoking cessation - [link](#)
- Natriuretic peptide-guided treatment for the prevention of cardiovascular events in patients without heart failure - [link](#)
- Antiepileptic drugs for seizure control in people with neurocysticercosis - [link](#)
- Tiagabine add-on therapy for drug-resistant focal epilepsy - [link](#)
- Treatments for seizures in catamenial (menstrual-related) epilepsy - [link](#)
- Combined spinal-epidural versus spinal anaesthesia for caesarean section - [link](#)
- Inhaled nitric oxide for treating pain crises in people with sickle cell disease - [link](#)

**Critical Care Medicine

- Clinical Practice Guidelines and Consensus Statements about Pain Management in Critically Ill End-of-Life Patients: A Systematic Review - [link](#)

**Diabetes Care

- Glycemic Outcomes in Adults with T1D Are Impacted More by Continuous Glucose Monitoring than by Insulin Delivery Method: 3 Years of Follow-Up From the COMISAIR Study - [link](#)

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy

- Global summit releases 10 actions towards vaccination for all - [link](#)

**Heart, Lung and Circulation

- Development of Quality Indicators for Cardiac Rehabilitation in Australia: A Modified Delphi Method and Pilot Test - [link](#)
- 15-Year Trends in Patients Hospitalised with Heart Failure and Enrolled in an Australian Heart Failure Management Program - [link](#)

****Internal Medicine Journal**

- World Thrombosis Day and prevention of hospital-associated venous thromboembolism - [link](#)

****JAMA**

- JAMA Insights Clinical Update: Pain Management with opioids in 2019-2020 - [link](#)
- Patient-Centered Reduction or Discontinuation of Long-term Opioid Analgesics: The HHS Guide for Clinicians - [link](#)

****JAMA Cardiology**

- Long-term Thromboembolic Risk in Patients With Postoperative Atrial Fibrillation After Left-Sided Heart Valve Surgery - [link](#)

****JAMA Facial Plastic Surgery**

- Changes in Opioid Prescribing Habits for Patients Undergoing Rhinoplasty and Septoplasty - [link](#)

****JAMA Internal Medicine**

- Effect of Clinical Geriatric Assessments and Collaborative Medication Reviews by Geriatrician and Family Physician for Improving Health-Related Quality of Life in Home-Dwelling Older Patients Receiving Polypharmacy: A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

****JAMA Neurology**

- Risk of Developing Parkinson Disease in Bipolar Disorder - A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis - [link](#)

****JAMA Paediatrics**

- Efficacy and Safety of Varenicline for Adolescent Smoking Cessation; A Randomized Clinical Trial - [link](#)

****JAMA Psychiatry**

- Evidence-Based Drug Treatment of Acute Depression in Bipolar Disorder - [link](#)

****JAMIA**

- Comparison of the cohort selection performance of Australian Medicines Terminology to Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical mappings - [link](#)
- Evaluation of interventions to improve inpatient hospital documentation within electronic health records: a systematic review - [link](#)

****Journal of Palliative Medicine**

- Levetiracetam at the End of Life: A Case Report and Discussion - [link](#)
- Top Ten Tips Palliative Care Clinicians Should Know When Caring for Patients with Brain Cancer - [link](#)

****Lancet**

- Effects of tranexamic acid on death, disability, vascular occlusive events and other morbidities in patients with acute traumatic brain injury (CRASH-3): a randomised, placebo-controlled trial - [link](#)
- Series: [Frailty](#)
- Review: [Opioid-induced endocrinopathies](#)
- Review: [Diabetic peripheral neuropathy](#): advances in diagnosis and strategies for screening and early intervention
- Review: [Glycolysis as a therapeutic target for Parkinson's disease](#)

****Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI) – Pharmacy Journal**

- Advancing Pharmacist Collaborative Care within Academic Health Systems - [link](#)

****Medical Journal of Australia**

- Residual risk of infection with blood-borne viruses in potential organ donors at increased risk of infection: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Phage therapy for severe bacterial infections: a narrative review - [link](#)

****National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Signals**

- Short-term dual antiplatelet treatment may be best for most patients after receiving a drug-eluting stent - [link](#)

****NEJM**

- Randomized Trial of Medical versus Surgical Treatment for Refractory Heartburn - [link](#)
- Lipid Management for the Prevention of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease - [link](#)

****Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis**

- Effect of multidose drug dispensing on the time in therapeutic range in patients using vitamin-K antagonists: A randomized controlled trial - [link](#)

****Public Library of Science (PLOS)**

- Disparities in glycaemic control, monitoring, and treatment of type 2 diabetes in England: A retrospective cohort analysis - [link](#)

****Rheumatology**

- Cytopenias among patients with rheumatic diseases using methotrexate: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled clinical trials - [link](#)

****The Journal of the American Medical Directors Association**

- Accumulation of Hospital Days among Antipsychotic Initiators with Alzheimer's Disease - [link](#)

****Thrombosis and Haemostasis**

- Safety of Primary Thromboprophylaxis Using Apixaban in Ambulatory Cancer Patients with Intracranial Metastatic Disease or Primary Brain Tumors - [link](#)

CONSULTATIONS

****TGA**

- Products used for and by people with disabilities - **closes 25 October 2019** - [link](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

(New additions listed in TAGMail - click [here](#) for the running list of other events)

****HealthShare NSW and eHealth NSW Expo**

22 November 2019, International Convention Centre, Sydney – [link](#)

****Australian Cardiovascular Alliance and the University of Sydney Cardiovascular Initiative Precision Medicine Symposium**

25 November 2019, Sydney Nano Hub (Building A31), University of Sydney - [link](#)

****25th Congress of the EAHP - Hospital Pharmacy 5.0 - the future of patient care**

25 – 27 March 2020, Gothenburg, Sweden - [link](#)

****International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare**

Tuesday 28 – Thursday 30 April 2020 in Copenhagen, Denmark - [link](#)

****International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare**

4-5 July 2020, New Delhi - [link](#)

****80th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences**

13 - 17 September 2020, Seville, Spain - [link](#)

****International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare**

30 September - 2 October 2020, Sydney - [link](#) (Call for Speakers closes on 13 November 2019)

In case you missed last week's TAG Mail...

Please visit the website for a [cumulative](#) listing.

The purpose of TAG Mail is to assist TAG members to 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.** TAG Mail as a standing agenda item in clinical pharmacists' and other clinicians' meetings may help facilitate discussion of contemporary and emerging medicines and practice.

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