TAG Mail 4 April 2019

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 Mail as a standing agenda item in clinical pharmacists’ and other clinicians’ meetings may help facilitate discussion of contemporary and emerging medicines and practice. NSW TAG may be contacted via email nswtag@stvincents.com.au or by calling 02 8382 2852.

NSW TAG ACTIVITIES

**New email discussions**
- “Deemed accountable” medicines: scope and management: due COB 10th April 2019
- Potential products as alternative to effervescent calcium product: due COB 10th April 2019
- Management of time critical medicines particularly levodopa: due COB 22nd April 2019

**Email requests**
- Local policies re areas appropriate for IV bolus dosing of S4Ds and S8s

**Recent email discussions uploaded to website**
- Management of tick bites in ED
- Formulary listing and use of silver sulfadiazine cream

**Life Saving Drug Registers (LSDRs)**
- The Antivenom and Antidote LSDRs (bulk updated Dec 2018, with updates from some hospitals in 2019) have had some formatting enhancements and are now available on our website. Features of the new LSDRs include: option to view stockholdings by individual drug, optimised viewing on mobile/tablet and more user friendly functions.
  Please note: It is recommended that members refer to the website for the latest version of the registers as the information may be updated periodically. Lastly, a reminder for any outstanding sites (annotated as ‘data TBC’ in the current register) to please provide an update to NSW TAG as soon as possible.

OTHER NEWS (new additions in bold)

**Australian Prescriber**
- **Episode 46**: Influenza: overview on prevention and therapy
- Podcast **Episode 45** – Old antibiotics and resistant UTIs

**Changes to benzathine benzylpenicillin (Bicillin® L-A).**
Key points to note:
- Change in active ingredient name (to benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate)
- Change from mg/mL to units/mL
- Change in storage condition recommendations (Refrigerate; Allow Storage at 30°C, for a single period of 2 months prior to batch expiry)

Please ensure all health professionals are aware of the change, and its implications to safe medication practice. Changes to eMeds may be needed.

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
NSQHS Standards Assessor Orientation Course is freely available for anyone who would like to learn about the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (second edition) - link

**HETI**

**MJA Podcasts**
 **Episode 14**: Lifting restrictions on medical abortion, with Prof Caroline de Costa AM  
 **Episode 13**: Antiretroviral therapy for HIV infections, with Prof Basil Donovan

**NSW Health**
- Protect your little one from flu: a poster to encourage uptake of the flu vaccine for young Aboriginal children - link

**PBS**
- Notification regarding restrictions for nilotinib item 9171Q - nilotinib 200 mg capsule, 120 (Tasigna, NV) - link  
- Correction for Venetoclax restriction - link 
- PBS Website Update - 1 April 2019 - link

**SLHD Centre for Education and Workforce Development**
- Pain Management 2 day Workshop 2019, 17-18 June 2019, Concord Hospital, register here

**The Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI) Macquarie University**
- 11th April 2019, 12-1pm, Going back to Parsons: The GI-factor in Patient Safety  
- 2nd May 2019, 12-1pm, Conflict of interest in the Canadian healthcare system

**The University of Sydney**
- Putting Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Skills into Practice (webinar training program, 7 sessions, various dates) - link

UPCOMING EVENTS
(New additions listed in TAGMail - click here for the running list of other events)

**PBS**
- Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Process Improvements Webinar Information Forum 5th April, 12-1.30pm- link

**Australian Pharmacy Council**
- Colloquium 2019: Together we can do more: Educating for social accountability across the health professions: An interprofessional symposium. Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, 3rd May 2019 - link

**Chronic Pain Australia**
- Information Sessions for consumers and medical professionals on medicinal cannabis-regents Park, Sydney 27th April 2019

CONSULTATIONS (new additions in bold)

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Consultation on the draft Cataract Clinical Care Standard – closes 5 April 2019 - link

**Pharmacy Board of Australia**
- Discussion paper - Public and stakeholder feedback on pharmacist prescribing – closes 15th April 2019

**TGA**
- Consultation on adoption of European Union guidelines in Australia - Closes 29 April 2019
- **Consultation**: Proposed new classification rule for medical devices that administer medicines or biologicals by inhalation - Closes 29 April 2019

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA**

**AIHW**
- National opioid Statistics Annual Data Collection (NOPSAD) 2018- [link](#)

**AHHA**
- The Health Advocate - April 2019 - [link](#)

**Heart Foundation**
- Clinical factsheets to complement our comprehensive clinical guidelines:
  - Atrial fibrillation screening and diagnostic work up
  - Stroke prevention in non-valvular atrial fibrillation using CHA2DS2-VASc score
  - Diagnosis and classification of heart failure
  - Pharmacological management of Chronic Heart Failure with reduced left ventricular ejection fraction (HFrEF)

**Pharmacy Council of NSW**
- Changes To Routine Inspection Procedures - [link](#)
- Are You Recording The Correct Information? - [link](#)
- Think Before You Compound That Medicine - [link](#)
- Ensure You’re Able To Dispense That Script! - [link](#)

**PBS**
- Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) Outcome Statement 7-8 February 2019: Bendamustine for indolent non-Hodgkins lymphoma (iNHL) and mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) and Eculizumab for atypical haemolytic uraemic syndrome (aHUS) - [link](#)

**Safer Care Victoria**
- Change package regarding use of a patient's own adrenaline (epinephrine) autoinjector in hospital- [link](#)

**TGA**
- Guidance for TGO 101- Standard for tablets, capsules and pills - [link](#)
- New AusPARs:
  - Ertugliflozin and ertugliflozin combinations with sitagliptin and metformin [Steglatro®, Steglujan®, Segluromet®] - [link](#)
  - Apalutamide [Erligan®] - [link](#)

**Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine**
- Clinical Communique March 2019: focus on human factors - [link](#)

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL**

**British National Formulary**
- Newsletter covers new monographs, dose changes for pembrolizumab, adalimumab, imipenem with cilastatin, anthrax vaccine and Japanese encephalitis vaccine, and MHRA advice on tapentadol and ipilimumab

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Pharmaceutical Reviews Update 6 - [link](#)

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- New products
  - Rucaparib (Rubraca): as monotherapy for maintenance treatment of adults with platinum-sensitive relapsed high-grade epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer responding to platinum-based chemotherapy
**European Medicines Agency (EMA)**
- Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 25-28 March 2019 - [link](#)
  - Questions & answers: EU actions to prevent medicine shortages due to Brexit - [link](#)
  - 20 years of sampling and testing programme for medicines authorised for the EU - [link](#)
  - Confirms omega-3 fatty acids medicines are not effective in preventing further heart problems after a heart attack - [link](#)

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- FDA approves new oral treatment for multiple sclerosis - [link](#)
  - Statement by FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on new strategies to modernize clinical trials to advance precision medicine, patient protections and more efficient product development - [link](#)

**Health Quality and safety Commission New Zealand**
- Reducing harm from falls: Recommended evidence-based resources 2019 - [link](#)

**Institute for Healthcare Improvement**
- Advancing the Safety of Acute Pain Management - [link](#)
  - The Missing piece in Improvement: Understanding How to Motivate Change - [link](#)

**Midlands Therapeutics Review and Advisory Committee**
- Considerations for Commissioners Tapentadol (Palexia SR®) - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse in women: management - [link](#)
  - Specialist neonatal respiratory care for babies born preterm - [link](#)
  - NICEimpact mental health - [link](#)
  - New Key Therapeutic Topics
    - Shared decision making - [link](#)
    - Suicide prevention: optimizing medicines and reducing access to medicines as a means of suicide - [link](#)

**Public Health England**
- NHS RightCare Toolkit: Physical ill-health and CVD prevention in people with severe mental illness (SMI) - [link](#)

**Royal Pharmaceutical Society**
- Rescheduling of gabapentin and pregabalin to Schedule 3 Controlled Drugs from 1 April 2019 - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- Should patients on statins take Coenzyme Q10 supplementation to reduce the risk of statin-induced myopathy? - [link](#)
  - How to minimise the risks of medication errors with rivastigmine patches - [link](#)
  - Patient Group Directions (PGDs) for administration of contrast media in radiology services and exemplar PGD templates – [link](#)

**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**Electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  - Benralizumab (Fasenra): includes anaphylactic reactions and anaphylaxis within the hypersensitivity reactions subsection
  - Levteriracetam (Keppra): provides clarification of dosing in renal impairment and categorises delirium and encephalopathy as rare adverse reactions.
  - Infliximab (Remicade): updated to include lichenoid reaction as a rare adverse reaction.
  - Guselkumab (Tremfya) serious hypersensitivity reactions have been reported in the post-marketing setting. Some cases occurred several days after treatment with guselkumab, including cases with urticaria and dyspnoea.
- Deferiprone (Ferriprox): dose adjustment is not required in mild, moderate, or severe renal impairment or mild-moderate hepatic impairment. However, safety and pharmacokinetics are not known in end stage renal disease and severe hepatic impairment.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
- Medication Safety Alert!
  - Improving Intravenous Drug Delivery Safety - link

**Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK**
- Focus on Three Psychoactive Drugs - link
- Field Safety Notice: 25 to 29 March - link

**TGA**
- Mylanta Antacid Double Strength Oral Liquid 500 mL Product defect correction - link

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health System Pharmacy**
- Pharmacogenomic potential in advanced cancer patients- link
- The opioid crisis: Origins, trends, policies, and the roles of pharmacists-link
- Derivation and validation of a hospital all-cause 30-day readmission index-link
- Development of an iterative validation process for a 30-day hospital readmission prediction index-link
- Instilling value, quality, and safety through hematology and oncology stewardship-link
- Drug formulary decision-making: Ethnicographic study of 3 pharmacy and therapeutics committees- link
- Implementation of a controlled substance collection receptacle-link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Rituximab for Myalgic Encephalitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome - link
- Pharmacologic and Nonpharmacologic Treatments for Urinary Incontinence in Women: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis of Clinical Outcomes - link
- Use of low Dose Aspirin and Mortality after prostate Cancer Diagnosis: A Nationwide Cohort Study- link

**Australian Health Review**
- Financial costs associated with monopolies on biologic medicines in Australia- link
- End-of-life care in hospital: an audit of care against Australian national guidelines - link
- Failure to access prescribed pharmaceuticals by older patients with chronic conditions- link
- Shared decision making implementation: a case study analysis to increase uptake in New South Wales- link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Population/regional differences in efficacy of 3 drug categories (antidiabetic, respiratory and psychotropic agents) among East Asians: A retrospective study based on multiregional clinical trials - link
- Patterns of gabapentin and pregabalin use and misuse: Results of a population-based cohort study in France - link
- Open-label study to evaluate trifluridine/tipiracil safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics in patients with advanced solid tumours and hepatic impairment - link

**BMJ Open**
- Clinical characteristics and lipid lowering treatment of patients initiated on proprotein convertase subtilisin-kexin type 9 inhibitors: a nationwide cohort study- link
- Impact of bacterial probiotics on obesity, diabetes and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease related variables: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - link

**BMJ**
- British Medical Association policy paper on prevention before cure: prioritising population health- link
**Cochrane Reviews**
- Support during pregnancy for women at increased risk of low birthweight babies - [link](#)
- Lifestyle changes in women with polycystic ovary syndrome - [link](#)
- Benzodiazepines versus placebo for panic disorder in adults - [link](#)
- Brivaracetam add-on therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy - [link](#)
- Vaccines for preventing rotavirus diarrhoea: vaccines in use - [link](#)

**Diabetes Care**
- Association between Topical Corticosteroid Use and Type 2 Diabetes in Two European Population-Based Adult Cohorts - [link](#)

**European Heart Journal**
- Metformin prescription and aortic aneurysm: systematic review and meta-analysis - [link](#)
- Oral anticoagulation among atrial fibrillation patients with anaemia: an observational cohort study - [link](#)

**JAMA**
- Management of Small Kidney Tumors in 2019 - [link](#)

**JAMA Dermatology**
- Assessment of Topical Corticosteroid Prescribing, Counseling, and Communication among Dermatologists and Pharmacists - [link](#)
- Application of Topical Phosphodiesterase 4 Inhibitors in Mild to Moderate Atopic Dermatitis - [link](#)
- Association of Ustekinumab vs TNF Inhibitor Therapy with Risk of Atrial Fibrillation and Cardiovascular Events in Patients with Psoriasis or Psoriatic Arthritis - [link](#)
- Evaluation of Prospective HLA-B*13:01 Screening to Prevent Dapsone Hypersensitivity Syndrome in Patients with Leprosy - [link](#)
- Screening HLA to Prevent Severe Drug Reactions—A Devil’s Advocate Perspective - [link](#)

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Clinician-Family Communication about Patients' Values and Preferences in Intensive Care Units - [link](#)
- Estimation of Study Time Reduction Using Surrogate End Points Rather Than Overall Survival in Oncology Clinical Trials - [link](#)

**JAMA Neurology**
- Antiepileptic Drug Treatment Patterns in Women of Childbearing Age with Epilepsy - [link](#)

**JAMA Oncology**
- Safety, Tolerability, and Management of Toxic Effects of Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase Inhibitor Treatment in Patients with Cancer - [link](#)
- US Food and Drug Administration Approval of New Drugs Based on Noninferiority Trials in Oncology - [link](#)

**JAMA Ophthalmology**
- Association of Ledipasvir-Sofosbuvir Treatment with Uveitis in Patients Treated for Hepatitis C - [link](#)

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Disconnected: a survey of users and nonusers of telehealth and their use of primary care - [link](#)
- Comparison of blockchain platforms: a systematic review and healthcare examples - [link](#)
- Novel displays of patient information in critical care settings: a systematic review - [link](#)

**Journal of Clinical Oncology**
- Treatment of Multiple Myeloma: ASCO and CCO Joint Clinical Practice Guideline - [link](#)

**Medical Journal of Australia**
- New guidelines from the Thrombosis and Haemostasis Society of Australia and New Zealand for the diagnosis and management of venous thromboembolism - link
- Nicotine and other potentially harmful compounds in “nicotine-free” e-cigarette liquids in Australia - link

**Monthly Index of Medical Specialties (MIMS)
- MIMS table of oral iron supplements for iron-deficiency states - link

**New England Journal of Medicine
- A Trial of a Shorter Regimen for Rifampin-Resistant Tuberculosis - link
- Darolutamide in Nonmetastatic, Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer - link
- Antibacterial Envelope to Prevent Cardiac Implantable Device Infection - link

**Prescrire
- April 2019 includes Drugs in 2018: a brief review; Towards better patient care: drugs to avoid in 2019; and, Multiple sclerosis: wasted opportunities- link

**The Lancet
- Regulating endocrine disruptors linked to cancer - link
- Tetanus- link

**The Lancet Oncology
- Gene-expression profiling of bortezomib added to standard chemoimmunotherapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (REMoDL-B): an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial - link

**Therapeutic Advances in Psychopharmacology
- Restarting antidepressant and antipsychotic medication after intentional overdoses: need for evidence-based guidance - link

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