TAG Mail 16 May 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**

**Current email discussions**
- Supply of iron to pregnant ATSI patients by midwives in outreach services - closes 31 May
- Access to hydromorphone - closes 31 May

**Email discussions recently uploaded**
- Management of time critical medicines particularly levodopa
- Effervescent calcium formulations
- ‘Deemed’ S4 accountable medicines

**Other Communications**
- Look-alike product alert: Baxter-manufactured metronidazole 500 mg/100 mL (100 mL bag) and sodium chloride 0.9% (100 mL bag) have similar bag markings, ports and outer box packaging.

**OTHER NEWS (new additions in bold)**

**Australian Prescriber**
- Episode 49 Immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Podcast Episode 48 – My Health Record
- New drug: **Avanafil** for erectile dysfunction

**HealthShare NSW**
- Metoclopramide IV interruption to supply

**CEC**
- CEC Sepsis Antibiotic Guidelines user survey - closes Friday 24 May 2019

**Joint Commission**
- 2019 Medication Management Webinar Series – link to register

**MJA Podcasts**
- Episode 18: Advances in stroke medicine, with Professor Bruce Campbell - link

**NSW Health**
- Safety Notice: 005/19 - Lignocaine with adrenaline 1:200,000 injections – Disruption to supply and risk of patient harm
- Safety Notice 006/19: Fentanyl 100 microgram/2 mL injection – disruption to supply
- Nominations open - 2019 Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management - link
CONSULTATIONS

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care**
- DRAFT NSQHS Standards User Guide for Medication Management in Cancer Care; consultation period is open until 24 May 2019 - link

**Australian Department of Health**
- Educating the Nurse of the Future-Independent Review of Nursing Education Closes 30 June 2019

- Joint review: Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC) Public consultation - Submissions close on 7 June 2019 - link

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – AUSTRALIA

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC)**
- Third comprehensive report on antibiotic resistance identifies ongoing threat - link
- Implementing the Comprehensive Care Standard: Identifying goals of care - link

**Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)**
- Injury of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people due to transport, 2010–11 to 2014–15 - link
- Mobility scooter-related injuries and deaths - link
- Pedal cyclist injury deaths and hospitalisations 1999–00 to 2015–16 - link
- Youth justice in Australia 2017–18 – link

**Palliative Care**
- Position statement: Sustainable access to prescription opioids for use in palliative care

**TGA**
- Vaccines overview - link
- TGA presentation: ARCS Australian Pharmacovigilance Regulatory Requirements and Risk Management Plans Summit, 27 March 2019 - link
- AusPARs:
  -- Avelumab (Bavencio™) for treatment of adults and paediatric patients (12 years and older) with metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma.
  -- Sofosbuvir / Velpatasvir / Voxilaprevir (Vosevi™) for treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adult patients, without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis.

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS – INTERNATIONAL

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) USA**
- Patient Safety Primer: Opioid Safety - link
- Structured override reasons for drug–drug interaction alerts in electronic health records - link
- Deaths among opioid users: impact of potential inappropriate prescribing practices - link
- Highlights from AHRQ’s Patient Safety Network - link
  -- Understanding the clinical implications of resident involvement in uncommon operations.
  -- Psychological and psychosomatic symptoms of second victims of adverse events: a systematic review and meta-analysis.
  -- Impact of oncology drug shortages on chemotherapy treatment.

**Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health**
- Multidisciplinary Treatment Programs for Patients with Acute or Subacute Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Multidisciplinary Treatment Programs for Patients with Chronic Non-Malignant Pain: A Review of Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-effectiveness, and Guidelines - link
- Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorders during Pregnancy: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines - [link](#)
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of Vancomycin: Clinical Evidence and Cost-Effectiveness - [link](#)
- Ketamine for Pharmacological Management of Aggression and Agitation in Pre-Hospital Settings: A Review of Comparative Clinical Effectiveness, Safety and Guidelines - [link](#)

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- New licenced products
  - Trilasym™ (amantadine) 50 mg/ 5 ml Oral Solution: for prophylaxis and treatment of signs and symptoms of infection caused by influenza A virus; Parkinson’s disease; and, management of painful rash in elderly or debilitated patients with herpes zoster.

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) USA**
- Maximal Usage Trials for Topically Applied Active Ingredients Being Considered for Inclusion in an Over-The-Counter Monograph: Study Elements and Considerations - [link](#)
- What's New Related to Drugs: includes shortages, recalls, trial updates, guidance documents, podcasts - [link](#)
  
  New drug approvals
  - Aflibercept (Eylea™) injection for diabetic retinopathy
  - Ramucirumab monotherapy for second line treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in those who have an alpha-fetoprotein and previously treated with sorafenib
  - IncobotulinumtoxinA (Xeomin™) broadened indication for as first-line therapy for blepharospasm in adult patients

**GOV.UK – Department of Health & Social Care**
- Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Prescribing, Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (APRHI) annual report, 2017 to 2018 - [link](#)

**Global Initiative for Asthma**
- 2019 updates to the Pocket Guide for Asthma Management and Prevention, as well as an updated version (2.0) of the Pocket Guide on “Diagnosis and Management of Difficult-to-treat and Severe Asthma in adolescent and adult patients – [link](#)

**London: The Health Foundation**
- Untapped potential: Investing in health and care data analytics - [link](#)

**National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) UK**
- Abemaciclib with fulvestrant for hormone receptor-positive, HER2-negative advanced breast cancer after endocrine therapy – guidance (TA579)
- Enzalutamide for hormone-relapsed non-metastatic prostate cancer – guidance (TA580)
- Nivolumab with ipilimumab for untreated advanced renal cell carcinoma – guidance (TA581)
- Prostate cancer: diagnosis and management – guidance (NG131)
- Prostate cancer – quality standard (QS91)

**Public Health England**
- Rabies post-exposure treatment: management guidelines - [link](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Services**
- New Product Evaluations April 2019 - [link](#)
- Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee Newsletter Issue 4 2019 - [link](#)

**The Medicines Optimisation Group East Anglia**
- Toolkit for Tackling Chronic Opioid Use in Non-Cancer Pain - [link](#)

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**
- Improving the quality of health services: tools and resources - [link](#)
- No Time to Wait: Securing the Future from Drug-Resistant Infections – Report to the secretary-general of the United Nations - [link](#)
- World Health Organization (WHO) issues guideline on prevention of dementia - [link](#)
- WHO consolidated guidelines on drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment 2019 - [link](#)
**MEDICATION SAFETY**

**electronic Medicines Compendium (eMC) (UK)**
- Revised SPCs
  -- Prezista™ (darunavir): Darunavir boosted with either ritonavir or cobicistat inhibits elimination of medicines highly dependent on CYP3A for clearance. Ivabradine, dapoxetine, domperidone, and naloxegol added to list of concomitant treatments that are contraindicated.
  -- Repatha™ (evolocumab): Angioedema added as a rare adverse reaction.
  -- Venofer™ (iron sucrose): Influenza-like illness added as an undesirable effect; now state that anaphylactoid/anaphylactic reactions reported only in the post-marketing setting (estimated as rare); fatalities have been reported.
  -- Jext™ (adrenaline) pre-filled pen for injection: Now states that in patients with thick subcutaneous fat layer, there is a risk of adrenaline being administered in sub-cutaneous tissue which may result in a slower adrenaline absorption and a suboptimal effect, increasing the need for a second injection.
  -- Kaletra™ (ritonavir/lopinavir) and Norvir™ (ritonavir) – all presentations: use of lopinavir and ritonavir (both CYP3A inhibitors) contra-indicated with lomitapide.
  -- Utrogestan™ (progesterone) vaginal 200mg capsules: Failed abortion added as a contraindication. Vaginal discharge, vaginal haemorrhage and pruritus added as adverse events of unknown frequency.
  -- Aripiprazole (Abilify™) injection: may cause somnolence, postural hypotension, motor and sensory instability, which may lead to falls. Caution advised when treating patients at higher risk (consider lower start dose). Oculogyric crisis listed as an adverse event.
  -- Lipitor™ (atorvastatin): Lupus-like syndrome added as a very rare adverse effect.
  -- Neurontin™ (gabapentin): Dysphagia added as an uncommon adverse effect.

**EMA**
- Dupixent™ (dupilumab) licensed for severe asthma with type II inflammation, as characterised by raised blood eosinophils and/or raised fractional exhaled nitric oxide.

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) USA**
Medication Safety Alert! May 9, 2019
-- As Approval of Medical Cannabis Spreads State by State, Product Labeling Improvements Are a Must
-- Payer-driven biosimilar requirements: New risks in patients with cancer and chronic diseases
-- Fasting during Ramadan and safe drug administration
-- A mitoMYcin-mitoXANTRONE mix-up

**Medsafe (New Zealand Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Authority)**
- Review of the risks of harm and chance of benefit of Cafergot (ergotamine tartrate + caffeine) under section 36 of the Medicines Act 1981 - link
- Actemr® (tocilizumab) - A new important identified risk: Hepatotoxicity
- Risk of infections with Prolia™ (denosumab)

**PAPERS OF INTEREST**

**American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy (AHJP)**
- Current interventions to promote safe and appropriate pain management - link
- Development and validation of a medication regimen complexity scoring tool for critically ill patients - link

**Annals of Internal Medicine**
- Fournier Gangrene Associated with Sodium–Glucose Cotransporter-2 Inhibitors: A Review of Spontaneous Postmarketing Cases - link

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology**
- Perpetrator effects of ciclosporin (P-glycoprotein inhibitor) and its combination with fluconazole (CYP3A inhibitor) on the pharmacokinetics of rivaroxaban in healthy volunteers - [link]

**British Journal of Surgery**
- Reducing surgical mortality in Scotland by use of the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist - [link]

**British Medical Journal (BMJ)**
- Hyponatraemia in primary care - [link]
- Investigating vitamin B12 deficiency - [link]
- Association of habitual glucosamine use with risk of cardiovascular disease: prospective study in UK Biobank - [link]
- Breast cancer risk in transgender people receiving hormone treatment: nationwide cohort study in the Netherlands - [link]
- Chronic use of tramadol after acute pain episode: cohort study - [link]
- Thyroid hormones treatment for subclinical hypothyroidism: [a clinical practice guideline](#)

**BMJ Quality and Safety**
- Major reductions in unnecessary aspartate aminotransferase and blood urea nitrogen tests with a quality improvement initiative - [link]
- Altering standard admission order sets to promote clinical laboratory stewardship: a cohort quality improvement study - [link]

**Clinics in Geriatric Medicine**
- The Overlap between Falls and Delirium in Hospitalized Older Adults: A Systematic Review

**Cochrane**
- Interventions for hand eczema - [link]
- Probiotics for the prevention of paediatric antibiotic-associated diarrhoea - [link]
- Enteral lactoferrin for the treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates - [link]

**European Heart Journal**
- Long-term proarrhythmic pharmacotherapy among patients with congenital long QT syndrome and risk of arrhythmia and mortality - [link]
- Spontaneous haemorrhage on apixaban masquerading as obstructive cholangitis after heart surgery - [link]

**European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy**
- New direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C treatment and neuropsychiatric symptoms in psychiatric risk groups - [link]
- A case of probable piperacillin/tazobactam-induced bone marrow suppression in a pregnant woman - [link]
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): EAHP position paper - [link]
- Procurement: EAHP position paper - [link]
- Review of studies examining microbial contamination of vials used for preparations done with closed-system drug transfer devices - [link]

**Health Affairs**
- A Culture Of Openness Is Associated With Lower Mortality Rates Among 137 English National Health Service Acute Trusts - [link]

**Internal Medicine Journal**
- Are General Practitioners getting the information they need from hospitals and specialists to provide quality cancer care for Indigenous Australians? - [link]
- Antimicrobial stewardship in diabetic ketoacidosis: a single centre experience - [link]

**JAMA**
- Abnormal Uterine Bleeding in Reproductive-Age Women - [link]

**JAMA Cardiology**
**JAMA Dermatology**
- Multiple Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Immunosuppressed vs Immunocompetent Patients - link
- Risk of Serious Infection in Patients Receiving Systemic Medications for the Treatment of Psoriasis - link

**JAMA Internal Medicine**
- Electrocardiographic Changes after Overdose of Epinephrine in a Patient With Anaphylaxis - link
- The Dangers of Ignoring the Beers Criteria—The Prescribing Cascade - link

**JAMA Network Open**
- Association of High Intakes of Vitamins B6 and B12 from Food and Supplements with Risk of Hip Fracture among Postmenopausal Women in the Nurses’ Health Study - link
- Association of a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy Program with Transmucosal Fentanyl Prescribing - link

**JAMA Neurology**
- Frequency of Intracranial Hemorrhage with Low-Dose Aspirin in Individuals without Symptomatic Cardiovascular Disease - link
- Association of Intensive Blood Pressure Reduction with Risk of Hematoma Expansion in Patients with Deep Intracerebral Hemorrhage - link

**JAMA Oncology**
- Another Treatment Option for Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma with Portal Vein Thrombosis in China - link
- Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy - link

**JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery**
- Evaluation of Prolonged vs Short Courses of Antibiotic Prophylaxis Following Ear, Nose, Throat, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery - link

**JAMIA (Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association)**
- Systems engineering and human factors support of a system of novel EHR-integrated tools to prevent harm in the hospital - link

**Lancet**
- Pomalidomide, bortezomib, and dexamethasone for patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma previously treated with lenalidomide (OPTIMISMM): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial - link
- Prophylactic antibiotics in the prevention of infection after operative vaginal delivery (ANODE): a multicentre randomised controlled trial - link
- The contribution of injection drug use to hepatitis C virus transmission globally, regionally, and at country level: a modelling study - link
- Estimates of global chemotherapy demands and corresponding physician workforce requirements for 2018 and 2040: a population-based study – link
- New asthma treatment recommendations - link
- Understanding the mechanisms of reversal of type 2 diabetes - link

**Longwoods Healthcare Quarterly**
- Closed-Loop Medication System: Leveraging Technology to Elevate Safety - link
- Generational Differences in Hospital Technology Adoption: A Cross-Sectional Study - link
- Optimizing Nursing Practice through Integration of Best Practice Guidelines into Electronic Medical Records - link
**New England Journal of Medicine**
- Thrombolysis Guided by Perfusion Imaging up to 9 Hours after Onset of Stroke - link
- A Randomized Trial of Progesterone in Women with Bleeding in Early Pregnancy - link
- Dabigatran for Prevention of Stroke after Embolic Stroke of Undetermined Source - link

**Pediatrics (American Academy of Pediatrics)**
- Standardizing Clinical Response to Results of Lead Screening: A Quality Improvement Study - link

**Pharmacotherapy**
- Alteplase Therapy for Acute Ischemic Stroke in Pregnancy: Two Case Reports and a Systematic Review of the Literature - link
- Falsely Elevated Vancomycin Concentrations in a Patient Not Receiving Vancomycin - link

**Public Library of Science (PLOS)**
- Health professional beliefs, knowledge, and concerns surrounding medicinal cannabis – A systematic review - link

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

Nil

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