SATURDAY, 17 AUGUST 2002

07:30-09:00 ■ Breakfast (Dining Room)
09:00-10:30 ■ ISPE Finance Committee Luncheon (Cedar)
10:45-12:00 ■ ISPE Committee Meetings
   Open to ISPE Members
   Data Privacy Committee (Wardlaw A)
   Membership & Public Relations Committee (Wardlaw B)
10:00-17:30 ■ Registration (James Watt Lounge)
13:30-18:00 ■ PRE-ICPE EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS
   [A] INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY (Lecture 4)
   Jacques LeLorier, Confounding by indication
   Judith Jones, Cohort studies
   Sean Hennessy, Case-control studies
   Nicolas Moore, Pharmacovigilence

   [B] ADVANCED TOPICS IN PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY (James Watt)
   Stephen Evans, Missing data & sampling
   Wayne Ray, Automated databases: beyond the basics
   Alexander M. Walker, Propensity scores
   Ken Rothman, Is matching desirable in case-control studies?

15:30-16:30 ■ Meeting, National Drug Utilization Research Groups (Cedar)
16:30-17:30 ■ EURODurg General Assembly (Cedar)
18:00-18:45 ■ Council Meetings
   Academic Council (Wardlaw A)
   Industry Council (Wardlaw B)
   Government Council (Carnegie)
19:00-22:30 ■ WELCOME RECEPTION & CEILIDH (Hall)
   Cash Bar

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SUNDAY, 18 AUGUST 2002

07:30-09:00 ■ Breakfast (Dining Room)
09:30-10:45 ■ ISPE Committee Meetings
   Open to ISPE Members
   Data Privacy Committee (Wardlaw A)
   Membership & Public Relations Committee (Wardlaw B)
10:45-12:00 ■ ISPE Committee Meetings
   Open to ISPE Members
   Bylaws & Policy Committee (Wardlaw A)
   Public Policy Committee (Wardlaw B)
10:00-17:30 ■ Registration (James Watt Lounge)
15:30-16:00 ■ Meeting, National Drug Utilization Research Groups (Cedar)
16:30-17:30 ■ EURODurg General Assembly (Cedar)
18:00-18:45 ■ Council Meetings
   Academic Council (Wardlaw A)
   Industry Council (Wardlaw B)
   Government Council (Carnegie)
19:00-22:30 ■ WELCOME RECEPTION & CEILIDH (Hall)
   Cash Bar

MONDAY, 19 AUGUST 2002

06:00-08:00 ■ Exhibitor Set-up/Open (Hall)
07:00-08:00 ■ Poster Set-up (Session A) (Hall)
07:00-17:00 ■ Registration (James Watt Lounge)
07:00-17:00 ■ Speaker Ready Room (James Watt Centre II Office)
07:30-09:00 ■ Breakfast (Dining Room)
08:30-10:00 ■ OPENING SESSION (James Watt)
   Welcome
   Thomas M MacDonald, Chair, 2002 Scientific Program Committee
   Roland T Jung, Chief Scientist for Scotland
   Presidential Address
   Jacques LeLorier, President, ISPE
   Keynote Address
   Alasdair Breckenridge
   For the good of the patient: risks and benefits of medicines

10:30-12:15 ■ CONCURRENT SESSIONS
   [A] SYMPOSIUM: PHARMACOECONOMICS IS NOTHING WITHOUT PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY (James Watt)
   Moderator:
   Peter Davey
   Panelists:
   David Henry, Integrating evidence based medicine and pharmacoeconomics
   Maarten Postma, Using Modeling to extend the results of clinical trials
   Andrew Walker, Rigorous methods for incorporating value judgements into analysis of decision making

   [B] SYMPOSIUM: PHARMACOGENETICS (Lecture 4)
   Moderator:
   Munir Pirmohamed,
   Panelists:
   Roland Wolf, Research developments and practical applications in pharmacogenetics,
   Diederick E Grobbee, Methodological issues in pharmacogenetics

   ■ ACE-ID and APOE Gene-Drug Interactions in Statin Therapy [26 & 35]
   Anke Hilse Maitland-van der Zee (The Netherlands)
   Recipient of the 2002 Edlavitch Award
Potential Interaction between Acenocoumarol and Diclofenac, Naproxen and Ibuprofen and the Role of CYP2C9 Genotype [162]
Karen N van Dijk, Arian W Plat, Alieke AC van Dijk, Margriet Piersma-Wichers, Jennita Slomp, Lolkje TW de Jong-van den Berg, Jacobsus RJB Brouwers (The Netherlands)

Variation in the Gene for the Glycogen Targeting Subunit of Protein Phosphatase-1 (PPP1R3A) Is Associated with Lipid Levels and Cardiovascular Risk in Type II Diabetics in Tayside, Scotland [405]
Alexander Doney, Bettina Fischer, Douglas Boyle, Andrew Morris, Patricia Cohen, David Frew, Colin Palmer (United Kingdom)

12:30-14:30
- Lunch (Dining Room)
- Posters/Exhibits (Hall)
- EURODurg Executive Committee Luncheon (Cedar) (By Invitation Only)

12:30-13:30
- ISPE Committee Meetings/Lunch
  - Publications Committee (Carnegie A)
  - Development Committee (Carnegie B)

13:30-14:30
- ISPE Annual Meeting of Members (James Watt)
  - Annual Reports
  - Awards Ceremony (ISPE)
    - Distinguished Service Award: Hugh Tilson
    - Student Awards
      - Edlavitch Award (Best Student Abstract): Anke Maitland-van der Zee
      - 2nd Best Student Abstract: David Spiro
      - 3rd Best Student Abstract: Joelle Erkens
      - Best Student Methods Abstract: Maarten ten Berg
      - Best Student Drug Utilization Abstract: Willeke Kasje
    - ISPE-PDS Prize

14:30-16:00
- CONCURRENT SESSIONS
  - METHODS IN PHARMACOVIGILANCE (Lecture 4)
    - Moderators: Karen Wilcock & Inke Neutel

14:30
- Communication with Patients Increases Capture of Etanercept Post-Marketing Adverse Events [440]
  - Diana F Sabath, Wayne J Wallis, Thy P Do, Tom W Brethauer, John Goodleaf, Joan Holman, Daniel J Burge, Dawn Viveash

14:45
- A Replication of the Weber Effect Using Post-Marketing Adverse Event Reports Submitted to the SRS and AERS [186]
  - Nicole R Crawford, James P Wilson

15:00
- Implementation of a Computer Monitoring System for Detection of Adverse Drug Reactions by Laboratory Signals [362]
  - Manfred Criegee-Rieck, Antje Neubert, Harald Dormann, Tobias Egger, Anim Geise, Eckhardt G Hahn, Kay Brune (Germany)

15:15
- Influence of Backgrounds in Proportional Analysis [358]
  - Victor V Gogolak, Ralph Edwards

15:30
- Data Mining: A Pharmacovigilance Tool for the Evaluation of Drug Interactions in the Post-Marketing Setting [383]
  - June S Almenoff, William H DuMouchel, Xionghu Yang, Allen L Kindman, David M Fram

15:45
- Understanding Quantitative Signal Detection Methods in Spontaneously Reported Data [443]
  - Andrew J Bate, Marie Lindquist, Ivor Ralph Edwards, Roland Ore (Sweden)

15:30
- Ensuring Public Confidence in Vaccine Safety: Some Lessons from Enron and Other Public Fiascos [467]
  - Robert T Chen

14:45
- The Public's Obligations and Rights with Regard To Providing Data for Research [442]
  - Ingunn Björnsdóttir, Janine Morgall Traulsen (Iceland)

15:00
- Use of Electronic Medical Records in Family Physicians’ Offices for Research: Privacy Concerns of Patients [446]
  - Donald J Willison, Karim K Keshavjee, Kalpana Nair, Anne M Holbrook, Charlie Goldsmith, Sue Troyan (Canada)

15:15
- A Consent-Based Stroke Registry: If You Build It, Will They Come? [448]
  - Donald J Willison, Pierrot Peladeau, Frank L Silver (Canada)

15:30
- Drug Prices Comparison for the Reimbursable Medicines among Some East European Countries [190]
  - Jan Komrska, Sasha Spasic, Jane Arsov, Bistra Angelovska, Guenka Petrova (Bulgaria)

15:45
- Do Doctors Rely on Pharmaceutical Industry Funding To Attend Conferences and Do They Perceive That This Creates a Bias in Their Drug Selection? - Results of a Questionnaire Survey to Edinburgh Doctors [143]
  - Philip Rutledge, David Crookes, Brian McKinstry, Simon RJ Maxwell (United Kingdom)
14:30  The Risks of Upper Gastrointestinal Haemorrhage (UGIH) in Users of Meloxicam, Cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) Specific Inhibitors and Other Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) [30]
Thomas M MacDonald, Daniel A Pettitt, Jay L Goldstein, Tom A Burke, Sean Z Zhao, Steve V Morant (United Kingdom)

14:45  Declining Hospitalization and Mortality Rates from Peptic Ulcer Disease in the 1990s: Correlation with Sales of NSAIDs and Acid Suppression Medications [31]
James D Lewis, Warren B Bilker, Colleen Brensinger, John T Farrar, Brian L Strom

15:00  The Risk of Esophageal Obstruction Associated with an Anti-Allergy Medication (Claritin-D 24 Hour)® [260]
Bharati Manda, Deborah Shatin, David Graham, Carol Drinkard

15:15  A Swedish Case Control Network of Drug Induced Morbidity - Acute Pancreatitis [138]
Kerstin B Blomgren, Anders Sundström, Gunnar Steineck, Sven Genell, Svante Stjöstedt, Bengt E Wiholm (Sweden)

15:30  Irritable Bowel Syndrome and Medical Resource Use [112]
Eric Van Ganse, Michel Dapoigny, François Dyard, Jean Charles Grimaud, Philippe Guyot (France)

15:45  Risk Factors for Hospitalized Complications of Constipation: A Case-Control Study [262]
Alexander M Walker, Rhonda L Bohn, Clorinda M Cali, Suzanne F Cook, Bruce E Sands

[D] HORMONES OUT OF CONTROL (Lecture 4)
Moderator: Jean-Pierre Gregorie

14:30  Tibolone and Endometrial Cancer: A Nested Case-Control Study in the United Kingdom [422]
Corinne S de Vries, Susan E Bromley, Timothy J Williams, Hilary Thomas, Richard DT Farmer (United Kingdom)

14:45  Risk of Edema in Diabetic Patients Treated with Thiazolidinediones [451]
Odile Sheehy, Jacques LeLorier, Jean-Louis Chiasson (Canada)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presenters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>The Occurrence of Colonic Ischemia, Complications of Constipation, and Bowel Surgery in Relation to Irritable Bowel Syndrome [63]</td>
<td>J Alexander Cole, Suzanne F Cook, Anull N Ajene, David P Miller, Alexander M Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00-16:30</td>
<td>Refreshment Break/Viewing of Posters &amp; Exhibits (Hall)</td>
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<td>16:30-18:00</td>
<td>CONCURRENT SESSIONS (15 minute oral abstract presentations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[A]</td>
<td>SPONTANEOUS REPORTS/PHARMACOVIGILANCE (Lecture 3)</td>
<td>Moderator: Valarie Simmons</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:45</td>
<td>The Association of Suicidal Behaviour with Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs). Treatment or Condition? [231]</td>
<td>Cheryl Key (United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>Drug Safety Issues Related to Etanercept and Infliximab: An Analysis Based on WHO/UMC Safety Database [83]</td>
<td>Sean Z Zhao, Matthew W Reynolds</td>
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<td>17:15</td>
<td>Safety Profile of Rofecoxib as Used in General Practice in England: Results of a Prescription-Event Monitoring Study [121]</td>
<td>Deborah Layton, Jayne Riley, Lynda V Wilton, Saad AW Shakir (United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
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<td>17:30</td>
<td>Signal Generation in Prescription Event Monitoring: Investigation of a Possible Signal of Colitis during Rofecoxib Treatment [102]</td>
<td>Emma L Heeley, Deborah Layton, Saad A Shakir (United Kingdom)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:45</td>
<td>Adverse Drug Reactions Associated with Hospitalisations in South Australia: Trends over 13 Years [74]</td>
<td>Elizabeth R Roughead, Susan J Semple (Australia)</td>
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<td>[B]</td>
<td>GLOBAL PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY AND ANTI-INFECTIVES (Lecture 2)</td>
<td>Modifiers: Byung Joo Park &amp; Samuel Lesko</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30</td>
<td>Antibacterial Use and Resistance in a Large Teaching Hospital in Tehran, Iran [270]</td>
<td>Faranak Ansari, Zohreh Rostami, S Mansor Razavi (United Kingdom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:45</td>
<td>Antibiotic Use Profile at Pediatric Clinics in Two Transitional Countries [289]</td>
<td>Goran Palcevski, Svetlana Ratchina, Vesna Rosovic-Bazijanac, L Averchenkova, Vladimir Ahel (Croatia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:15</td>
<td>Utilization of Antimicrobials in Rijeka (Croatia) [215]</td>
<td>Vera Vlahovic-Palcevski, Vesna Rosovic-Bazijanac (Croatia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>Epidemiology and Economy of Antibiotics Usage during Hospital Pneumonia Management in a Region of Belarus [376]</td>
<td>Maksim Nikolay Mily, Sergey Alexander Golubev, Vladimir Yeugen Lugovoy, Gennadly Gennadly Voronov (Belarus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:45</td>
<td>Quality Predictors of Traditional Drugs Produced in Thailand [42]</td>
<td>Arthorn Riewpaiboon, Rungravi Temsirirakkul, Malyn Chulasiri (Thailand)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[C]</td>
<td>MULTIPLE DRUG CLASSES (Lecture 1)</td>
<td>Moderator: Judith Jones</td>
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<td>16:30</td>
<td>Drugs Associated with a Protective Effect on Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma [176]</td>
<td>Annette B Beiderbeck, Elizabeth A Holly, Miriam CJM Strukkenboom, Jan-Willem W Coebergh, Bruno HCh Stricker, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MONDAY, 19 AUGUST 2002 (Continued)

16:45  ■ Folic Acid and Oral Cleft: A Case-Control Study in the United Kingdom [423]
       Corinne S de Vries, Man Chie Chow, Richard TD Farmer, Lolkje TW de Jong-van den Berg (United Kingdom)

17:00  ■ Overanticoagulation Associated with Combined Use of Antibacterial Drugs and Coumarin Anticoagulants [9]
       Loes E Visser, Femie JA Penning-van Beest, AA Harrie Kasbergen, Peter AGM De Smet, Arnold G Vulto, Albert Hofman, Bruno HCh Stricker (The Netherlands)

17:15  ■ Drugs Associated with Increased Risk of Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma [180]
       Annette B Beiderbeck, Elizabeth A Holly, Miriam CJM Sturkenboom, Jan-Willem W Coebergh, Bruno HCh Stricker, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)

17:30  ■ Adverse Drug Events Caused by Medication Errors in Medical Inpatients [46]
       Beat Hardmeier, Suzanne Braunschweig, Marzia Cavallaro, Malgorzata Roos, Peter J Meier, Karin Fattinger (Switzerland)

17:45  ■ A Post-Marketing Cohort Study of Leflunomide and Other DMARDs: A Comparative Risk Analysis [225]
       William L Holden, Juhaeri Juhaeri, Wanju Dai

[D] CASE CONTROL & COHORT STUDIES (James Watt)

Moderator: Wayne Ray

16:30  ■ The Relative and Population Attributable Risk of Non-RTA Vertebral and Non-Vertebral Fracture in Patients Taking Oral and/or Inhaled Corticosteroids [244]
       Peter T Donnan, Gillian Libby, Anne C Boyter, Phillip Thompson (United Kingdom)

16:45  ■ Hetastarch and Bleeding Complications after Coronary Artery Surgery [397]
       Jerry Avorn, Minalkumar Patel, Raisa Levin, Robert J Glynn, Wolfgang C Winkelmayer

17:00  ■ Factors Associated with Allograft Rejection among Renal Transplant Patients in the U.S. [108]
       Donnie P Funch, Hnin Hnin Ko, Diana Grigsby, Jacqueline Travasso, Alexander M Walker

17:15  ■ Concomitant Use of Sildenafil and Nitrates and Risk of Ischemic Events [302]
       Patrick C Souverein, Toine CG Egberts, Eric JH Meuleman, John Urquhart, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)

17:30  ■ Descriptive Epidemiology of Early-Onset Adverse Effects of Cancer Chemotherapy [156]
       Sean Hennessy, Carol A Carozzone, Mark G Weiner, Gene A Gibson, Alice Livshits, Warren B Bilker, Erin McMenamin, M Anne Blackwood-Chirchir, Jeffrey H Silber

17:45  ■ Safety and Efficacy of Ondansetron Following Exposure during Pregnancy: A Prospective Comparative Study [67]
       Adrienne Einaron, Kiran Chandra, Maltepe Caroline, Navois Yvette, Koren Gideon (Canada)

[E] PROVOCATIVE METHODS (Lecture 4)

Moderator: Alexander M. Walker

16:30  ■ Improved Comorbidity Adjustment in Epidemiologic Studies Using Medicare Claims Data [305]
       Sebastian Schneeweiss, Philip S Wang, Jerry Avorn, Robert J Glynn

16:45  ■ Adjusting Using the Propensity of Adherence: Theory, Simulation and Practical Application [429]
       Jixian Wang, Li Wei, Thomas M MacDonald (United Kingdom)

17:00  ■ A Practical Method of Anonymising and De-Identifying Medical Records for Research [417]
       Philip Thompson, Frank M Sullivan, John Parkinson, Thomas M MacDonald (United Kingdom)

17:30  ■ Using Record Linkage in Combination with Clinical Trials as a Resource for Pharmacoepidemiology [94]
       Ian Ford, Alex D McMahon (United Kingdom)

17:45  ■ Assessment of a Formula for Converting Odds Ratios To Effect Sizes: Depression Scale Outcomes as a Model [219]
       Maarten J ten Berg, Michiel EH Hemels, Thomas RE Einaron (The Netherlands & Canada)

19:00-22:30 ■ EVENING AT DYNAMIC EARTH

Admission by ticket only. Ticket includes dinner, transportation and admission. Buses depart Heriot-Watt at 19:30. (Cash bar)
TUESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2002

Joint ISPE-EURODurg Day

07:00-08:00
- Poster Set-up (Session B) (Hall)
- Exhibits Open (Hall)

7:00-08:30
- CERTs BREAKFAST ROUNDTABLE UPDATE – 2002 (Carnegie)
  The US Centers for Education and Research in Therapeutics (CERTs) ... a Roundtable [459]
  Hugh H Tilson, Lynn Bosco, Brian Strom, Wayne Ray

07:00-17:00
- Registration (James Watt Lounge)
- Speaker Ready Room (James Watt Centre II Office)

07:30-09:00
- Breakfast (Dining Room)

08:30-10:15
- PLENARY SESSION (James Watt)
  BRINGING EPIDEMIOLOGY INTO DRUG UTILIZATION RESEARCH
  Moderators:
  Jacques LeLorier, President, ISPE
  Robert Vander Stichele, President Elect, EURODurg
  Panelists:
  Jerry Avorn, Moving beyond drug utilization data to drug appropriateness data
  Jesper Hellas, Individual-based drug utilization statistics. How to characterize drug use from data on individual drug dispensing
  Keith Beard, Drug use patterns: who decides and how?
  David Henry, Assessing appropriateness of prescribing with quality indicators in drug utilization research

10:15-10:45
- Refreshment Break/Viewing of Posters & Exhibits (Hall)

10:45-12:45
- CONCURRENT SESSIONS
  [A] SYMPOSIUM: THE EMPOWERMENT OF PHARMACOGENOMICS BY PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY [372] (Lecture 4)
  Moderators:
  Abraham G Hartzema, M. Lee Morse

  [B] SYMPOSIUM: IMPACT OF DRUG SAFETY SCARES ON PHYSICIANS (James Watt)
  Moderators:
  Stephen Evans, Alice White

12:45-14:30
- Lunch (Dining Room)
- Posters/Exhibits (Hall)
- EURODurg Poster Walk (Hall)
- Student Council/Lunch (Wardlaw)

13:00-14:00
- 2003 ICPE Scientific Program Committee Luncheon (Carnegie)

14:30-16:00
- CONCURRENT SESSIONS
  (15 minute oral abstract presentations)

  [A] VARIOUS TOPICS IN DRUG UTILIZATION (Lecture 1)
  Moderator:
  Frank May

14:30
- Evaluation of the MedMaIDE To Assess Medication Management Deficiencies in the Elderly Living in the Community [197]
  Denise L Onwig, Nicole J Brandt, Ann L Gruber-Baldini

14:45
- Changes of Lipid Profiles after Vitamin E Supplementation: Comparison with Controls with out Any Drug Use -Results of the German Federal Health Survey- [54]
  Hans-Ulrich W Melchert, Yong Du, Hildtraud Knopf, Ellen Pabel, Wulf Thierfelder (Germany)

15:00
- Epoetin Alfa: Drug Utilization Study [259]
  Katerina Mamzoridi, Aliki Tsakalou, Eleni Doulianaki (Greece)

15:15
- Medication Management Services: Alleviating Adverse Drug Reactions [87]
  Andrew L Gilbert, John D Barratt, Elizabeth E Roughhead (Australia)

15:30
- Medication Use in Community-Dwelling Seniors: Baseline Results from Canadian Randomized Trial [298]
  Michelle Howard, Janusz Kaczorowski, Connie Sellors, Lisa Dolovich, John Sellors (Canada)

15:45
- Lack of Discernable Effects of Retrospective Drug Utilization Review Programs on the Frequency of Presumptive Drug Therapy Problems [194]
  Sean Hennessy, Warren B Bilker, Colleen Brensinger, Brian L Strom
15:00 ■ Respiratory Events in Patients Receiving Inhaled Zanamivir [98]

15:15 ■ Severe Local Reactions Following Booster Doses of DTaP Vaccines in the U.S.: A Signal from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System [325]
   Vitali Pool, Robert Pless, Robert T Chen

15:30 ■ Drug-Induced Agranulocytosis and Thrombocytopenia: A Review of 20 Years’ Experience in a Spontaneous Reporting Scheme [151]
   Katharina Hartmann, Christian Eggenberger, Max Kuhn (Switzerland)

15:45 ■ Investigation of a Cluster of Cellulitis Following Smallpox Vaccination [369]
   Christine Casey, Gina Mootrey, Vitali Pool, Robert Pless, Young Hur, Robert Chen

[D] FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES: DRUG UTILIZATION IN CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE (Lecture 2)

Moderator:
   Robert Vander Stichele

14:30 ■ Treatment of Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Type 2 Diabetic Patients - Who Is Not Getting Optimal Treatment? [301]
   Petra Denig, Willeke N Kasje, Flora M Haaijer-Ruskamp (The Netherlands)

14:45 ■ Assessment of Left Ventricular Function as a Basis for Starting Treatment with ACE Inhibitors after an Acute Myocardial Infarction [131]
   Åsmund Reikvam, Elena Kvan, Knud Landmark, Ivar Aursnes, INFARM Study Investigators (Norway)

15:00 ■ A Survey of Secondary Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease in Ravenna, Italy [256]
   Fausto Marchetta, Ezio Degli Esposti, Stefania Saragoni, Giorgia Valpiani, Leona Bassein, Stefano Buda (Italy)

15:15 ■ Incidence and Determinants of CK and Liverfunction Measurements in Patients Using Statins [165]
   Jeroen J Derijks, Toine CG Egberts (The Netherlands)

15:30 ■ Current Treatment for Chronic Heart Failure in General Practice. Is an Intervention To Improve Prescribing Really Necessary? [300]
   Willeke N Kasje, Petra Denig, Flora M Haaijer-Ruskamp (The Netherlands)

[C] SCANNING FOR SIGNALS (Lecture 4)

Moderator:
   Wanju Dai

14:30 ■ Practical Use of Automated Databases for Signal Clarification [394]
   Rhonda L Bohn, Drew G Levy, Juhaeri Juhaeri, Wanju Dai

14:45 ■ Descriptive Case-Series Analysis of Bell’s Palsy Cases in the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) [398]
   Weigong Zhou, Vitali Pool, Robert P Pless, Robert T Chen

15:00 ■ Prevalence and Determinants of Pharyngeal Colonization with Antibiotic Resistant Haemophilus Parainfluenzae among Unselected Patients of General Practitioners in Germany [212]
   Til Stürmer, Andrea Erb, Susanne Lietzau, Marina Hoewner, Reinhard Marre, Hermann Brenner (Germany)

15:15 ■ Health Outcomes among Patients Receiving Tamiflu [293]
   Cheryl Enger, Beth Nordstrom, Bharat Thakrar, Susan Sacks, Ken Rothman

15:30 ■ The Effect of Zanamivir Treatment on Influenza Complications [97]

15:45 ■ Low-Level Detectable HIV on Antiretroviral Therapy-Treatment Modifications and Outcomes [241]
   Leanne Beers, Vincent Lo Re, Jay Kostman, Debra Leonard, Robert Gross

14:30 ■ Determinants of Colonization with Antibiotic Resistant Escherichia Coli in Unselected Patients Attending General Practitioners in Germany [208]
   Til Stürmer, Andrea Erb, Cüneyt Güngogan, Reinhard Marre, Hans-Peter Zeitler, Hermann Brenner (Germany)

14:45 ■ Incidence and Determinants of CK and Liverfunction Measurements in Patients Using Statins [165]
   Jeroen J Derijks, Toine CG Egberts (The Netherlands)
15:45  ■ Trends in the Prescribing for Heart Failure in General Practice from 1996 to 2000: Do Changes in Prescribing Reflect the Current Evidence? [217]
Lisa G Pont, Miriam JCM Sturkenboom, Wiek H van Gilst, Flora M Haaijer-Ruskamp (The Netherlands)

[E] THE HIGHS & LOWS IN CNS DRUG UTILIZATION (James Watt)

Moderators:
Thomas Einarson & Flora Haaijer-Ruskamp

14:30  ■ Are Organizational Characteristics Associated with Decreased Use of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) for the Management of Depression in US Nursing Homes? [76]
Kate L Lapane, Carmel M Hughes

14:45  ■ Early Discontinuation and Long-Term Therapy in New SSRI Users [331]
Welmoed EE Meijer, Eibert R Heerdink, Willem A Nolen, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)

15:00  ■ Methods To Identify Treatment-Resistant Depression in a Canadian Claims Database [381]
John S Hopkins, Alicia W Gilsenan, Beth H Sherrill, Patricia K Corey-Lisle, Christopher J Longo, Joel Raskin

15:15  ■ Antidepressant Use in People with Diabetes [130]
Ross A Lawrenson, John Williams (United Kingdom)

15:30  ■ Selective Prescribing of Zyban: Comparison of Baseline Risks for Subsequent Adverse Events between Zyban Users and All GP Patients in the UK Mediplus Data [157]
Leo J Russo, William C Maier

15:45  ■ Pharmacological Treatment for Attention-Deficit Disorder with/without Hyperactivity among Children Aged 18 Years and Younger in the United States, 1996-1999 [391]
Tongtong Wang, Boji Huang, Kenneth A Bachmann, Donald B White

16:00-16:30  ■ Refreshment Break/Viewing of Posters & Exhibits (Hall)

16:30  ■ Validity of Hospital Discharge ICD-Codes for Identifying Patients with Hyponatraemia [58]
Kris LL Movig, Hubert GM Leufkens, Albert W Lenderink, Antoine CG Egberts (The Netherlands)

16:45  ■ Use of the Case-Crossover Design To Study Prolonged Drug Exposures and Insidious Outcomes [85]
Philip S Wang, Sebastian Schneeweiss, Robert J Glynn, Helen Mogun, Jerry Avorn

17:00  ■ Selection Bias in Observational Studies of Lipid Lowering Drugs [396]
Robert J Glynn, Sebastian Schneeweiss, Philip S Wang, Raia Levin, Jerry Avorn

17:15  ■ The Design and Conduct of Cancer Registries (Cohorts) for New Drugs [120]
Gerald A Faich

17:30  ■ Linking Registry Data on Severe Skin Reactions with Patient Data from Computerized Medical Practices: Experience of a Pilot Study [220]
Maja Mockenhaupt, Juergen Schlingmann, Detlef Schroeder-Bernhardi, Erwin Schoepf (Germany)

17:45  ■ Outpatient Prescriptions in the Emergency Department: Concordance between Patients’ Charts and Medication Scripts [84]
Anick Bérard, Polly E Bijur, E John Gallagher

[B] IT IS NOT JUST IN YOUR MIND (Lecture 1)

Moderator:
Corrine de Vries

16:30  ■ The Association between Acute Pancreatitis and Psychotropic Medication [347]
Ingo A Eldard, Anders S Sundström, Miriam CJM Sturkenboom, Bruno HCh Stricker, Michael JS Langman, Bengt-Erik Wilholm (The Netherlands)

16:45  ■ Less Switching after Initial Start with Atypical Antipsychotics [211]
Gerard WK Hugenholtz, Eibert R Heerdink, Willem A Nolen, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)

17:00  ■ Risk of Sudden Cardiac Death among Users of Antipsychotic Medication [308]
Sabine MJM Straus, Gysele S Bleumink, Jeanne P Dieleman, Geert WJ Jong, Bruno HCh Stricker, Miriam CJM Sturkenboom (The Netherlands)
AGENDA - 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY

TUESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2002 (Continued)

17:15  ■ Total Mortality of Nerve/Sleeping Drug Users in a General Middle-Aged Population [453]
       Svetlana Skurtveit, Aage Tverdal (Norway)

17:30  ■ Urinary Incontinence Induced by Serotonergic Antidepressants [56]
       Kris LL Movig, Hubert GM Leufkens, Svedlana V Belltser, Bertil W Lenderink, Antoine CG Egberts
       (The Netherlands)

17:45  ■ Risk of Diabetes and Hyperlipidemia among Atypical Antipsychotics Ambulatory Users [72]
       Jocelyne Moisan, Jean-Pierre Grégoire, Michel Gaudet, Dan Cooper (Canada)

16:30  ■ Are Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) Users “Healthier” Than Non-Users? Results from the Canadian Multicentre Osteoporosis Study (CaMos) [426]
       Anick Bérard, Claudie Berger, David Hanley, Susan A Kirkland, Timothy Murray, Jerilynn C Prior, the CaMos Research Group

       Janet R Hardy, Theodore R Holford, Gillian C Hall, Michael B Bracken

17:00  ■ Venous Thromboembolism in Women with Androgenic Skin Conditions or PCOS Using Cyproterone Acetate + Ethinyloestradiol: A Nested Case-Control Study [291]
       Helen E Seaman, Corinne S de Vries, Richard DT Farmer (United Kingdom)

[C] WOMEN’S HEALTH (Lecture 3)

Moderators:
   Elizabeth Andrews & Lolkje T.W. de Jong van den Berg

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Please visit us at our booth for more information.
17:15  
Incidence Rates of Colonic Ischemia, Serious Complications of Constipation, and Bowel Surgery in Relation to Lotronex Use [316]
David P Miller, Suzanne F Cooke, Bruce Sands, Tanya Alfredson, Anuli Ajene, Alexander M Walker

17:30  
The Risk of Liver Disease Associated with Cyproterone Acetate + Ethinyloestradiol: A Nested Case-Control Study in Women with Androgenic Skin Conditions or PCOS [292]
Helen E Seaman, Corinne S de Vries, Richard DT Farmer (United Kingdom)

17:45  
Women with Ischaemic Heart Disease Receive Less Secondary Preventive Therapy but More Anxiolytics Than Men [128]
David Williams, Kathleen Bennett, John Feely (Ireland)

[D] THE RISK OF DRUG USE (Lecture 4)
Moderator: Jacques LeLorier

16:30  
Conversion from Intravenous to Oral Medications: Assessment of a Computerized Intervention [425]
Michael A Fischer, Daniel H Solomon, Jerry Avorn

16:45  
Quality Indicators on Prescription Data for Evaluating Appropriateness of Drug Use [436]
Alberto Vaccheri, Elisabetta Poluzzi, Davide Resi, Chiara Silvani, Domenico Motola, Nicola Montanaro (Italy)

17:00  
Investigation into Causes of Preventable Drug-Related Admissions to a Medical Admissions Unit [145]
Rachel L Howard, Anthony J Avery, Paul D Howard, Malcolm Partridge (United Kingdom)

17:15  
Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug Use: Impact of Risk Factors for Gastropathy on Prescribing Practices [274]
Yola Moride, Thierry Ducruet, Matthew W Reynolds, Sean Z Zhao (Canada)

17:30  
Prescribing for Heart Failure in General Practice: The Relationship between Knowledge and Prescribing Quality [257]
Lisa G Pont, Wiek H van Gilst, Dirk JA Lok, Hans Kragten, Flora M Haaijer-Ruskamp (The Netherlands)

17:45  
Patterns of Topical Glaucoma Drug Utilization [356]
Michelle Houde, Anne-Marie Castilloux, Jacques LeLorier (Canada)

[E] WHEEZLES & SNEEZLES: DRUG USE IN ASTHMA & INFECTIONS (James Watt)
Moderator: Debra Rowett

16:30  
Use of Inhaled Corticosteroids Following an Emergency Department Visit for Asthma: Determinants of Use among Children and Adolescents [312]
Lucie Blais, Sylvie Lèvesque, Marie-France Beauchesne (Canada)

16:45  
Persistence on Asthma Anti-Inflammatory Agents in Quebec Adult Patients [295]
Marc Dorais, Lucie Blais, Jacques LeLorier (Canada)

17:00  
Guideline Adherence for the Treatment of Asthma in General Practice Is Associated with a Higher Quality of Life [175]
Lisa G Pont, Thys van der Molen, Ger T vander Werf, Flora M Haaijer-Ruskamp (The Netherlands)

17:15  
Affecting the Use of Antibiotics in General Practice through Outreach Visits [135]
Keld Vaegter, Jens P Kampmann, Jens Kirkegaard, Kim Kristensen, Kurt Svaersdøtt (Denmark)

17:30  
Evaluation of Sepsis Management and Intravenous to Oral Antibiotic Switch Protocols [132]
Ronald A Seaton, Catherine M McLaughlin, Neena Bodasing, Carl Fenelon, Jonathan Fox (United Kingdom)

17:45  
Use of Antibiotics at Hospitals in Stockholm - A Benchmarking Project Using Internet: www.janusinfo.org [370]
Ulf Bergman, Helena Risinggård (Sweden)

6:30-20:30  
SOCIAL EVENTS (Optional**)

[A] MILITARY TATTOO

OR

[B] EVENING AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

**Separate registration required- includes dinner, admission & transportation. Dinner will be served in the Dining Room. Buses will depart Heriot-Watt at 19:15.
# Agenda - 18th International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology

## Wednesday, 21 August 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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</table>
| 07:00-08:00 |  - Poster Set-up (Session C) (Hall)  
                        - Exhibits Open (Hall)                                                  |
| 07:00-16:00 |  - Registration (James Watt Foyer)  
                        - Speaker Ready Room (James Watt Centre II Office)                     |
| 07:30-09:00 |  - Breakfast (Dining Room)                                                                                              |
| 08:00-09:30 |  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**  
                        (15 minute oral abstract presentations)                                 |
| 08:00   |  **A** HEARTBREAKERS (Lecture 4)  
                        Moderator: Hubert GM Leufkens                                           |
| 08:00   |  - Therapeutic Delay and Reduced Functional Status 6 Months after Thrombolysis for Myocardial Infarction [306]  
                                Jerry Avorn, Sebastian Schneeweiss, Eric Knight, David A Ganz             |
| 08:15   |  - Hospital Mortality and Long Term Mortality in Young Patients with a First Acute Myocardial Infarction: Relation to Statin Adherence [321]  
                                Li Wei, Jixian Wang, Suzanne Y Wong, Thomas M MacDonald (United Kingdom)  |
| 08:30   |  - A Propensity-Score Matched Cohort Study of the Effect of Statins on Myocardial Infarction [395]  
                                John D Seeger, Alexander M Walker, Paige L Williams, Frank M Sacks, Gordon M Saperia |
| 08:45   |  - QTc-Prolonging Drugs and Hospitalization for Cardiac Arrhythmias, a Population Based Case-Control Study [195]  
                                Marie L De Bruin, Arno W Hoes, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands)     |
| 09:00   |  - Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitors Are Associated with an Increased Risk of Acute Pancreatitis [346]  
                                Ingo A Eland, Anders S Sundström, Miriam CJM Sturkenboom, Bruno HCh Stricker, Michael JS Langman, Bengt-Erik Wiholm (The Netherlands) |
| 09:15   |  - Long Term Statins Use and Psychological Well-Being [359]  
                                Yinong Young-Xu, K Arnold Chan, James K Liao, Shmuel Ravid, Thomas B Graboys, Charles M Blatt |
| 08:00-09:30 |  **B** NSAIDS-Selecting Your Pain (James Watt)  
                        Moderators: Anick Berard and Ineke Neutel                                |
| 08:00   |  - Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug Exposure and the Relative Risk of Colorectal Cancer, Gastrointestinal and Renal Adverse Events [10]  
                                Timothy E Niecko, Jeffrey A Kotzan, Joseph T DiPiro, Bradley C Martin    |
| 08:15   |  - GI Risk Factors in Patients Prescribed COX-2 Agents and NSAIDs [317]  
                                Daniel H Solomon, Raisa Levin, Jerry Avorn                                 |
| 08:30   |  - 18 Stay on Therapy during Three Months of Follow Up of Patients on Selective COX-2 Inhibitors and Other Nonselective Statins in an Elderly Population [187]  
                                Elham Rahme, Michael A Marentette, Youssef Touboult, Sheldon X Kong, Jacques LeLorier (Canada) |
| 08:45   |  - Start of NSAIDs Increases the Risk of Renal Dysfunction in Users of ACE Inhibitors [263]  
                                Marcel L Bouvy, Eibert R Heerdink, Arno W Hoes, Hubert GM Leufkens (The Netherlands) |
| 09:00   |  - Comparison of Gastrointestinal Events Reported for Rofecoxib and Meloxicam Using Prescription-Event Monitoring (PEM) Data in England [281]  
                                Deborah Layton, Emma Heeley, Kerry Hughes, Saad AW Shakir (United Kingdom) |
| 09:15   |  - Gastrointestinal Complications Associated with Rofecoxib/Celecoxib and Other Nonselective NSAIDs: Analysis of the Government Claims Database in Quebec, Canada [188]  
                                Elham Rahme, Michael A Marentette, Youssef Touboult, Sheldon X Kong, Jacques LeLorier (Canada) |
| 08:00-09:30 |  **C** SCOTCH BLEND (Lecture 2)  
                        Moderator: Keith Beard                                                      |
| 08:00   |  - Discontinuation/Persistency of Drug Therapy Using Administrative Databases: A Systematic Review of the Literature [160]  
                                Thy P Do, Eric S Johnson, Essy Mozaffari                                       |
| 08:15   |  - Meta-Analysis of Placebo Rates in a Defined Population of Patients with Major Depressive Disorder [101]  
                                Pieter Stolk, Maarten J ten Berg, Michiel E Hemels, Thomas R Einarson (The Netherlands & Canada) |
08:30 ■ Quantifying the Interaction between Aspirin and Angiotensin-Converting-Enzyme Inhibitors: Resolving Discrepancies Using a Meta-Analysis [1]
   Bahi Takkouche, Mahyar Etminan, Paco Camano, Paula Rochon (Canada)

08:45 ■ Celecoxib and Cardiovascular Thromboses: Methodological Issues in Pooling Trial Data [95]
   A Faich, Robert W Makuch, William White

09:00 ■ Evaluation of the Impact of a Varicella Vaccination Program on Incidence of Varicella Disease in an HMO Population [47]
   John P Mullooly, Julie E Maher, Lois Drew

09:15 ■ The Detection of Preventable Adverse Drug Events among Ambulatory Geriatric Patients [129]
   Jerry H Gurwitz, Terry Field, Leslie Harrold, Jeffrey Rothschild, Kristin Debellis, Andrew Seger, Cynthia Cadoret, Leslie Fish, Lawrence Garber, Jackie Cernieux, David Bates

[D] WATERFALL (Lecture 3)
Moderator: JW van der Velden

08:00 ■ A Study of the Incidence of Fractures in Men Receiving Medical Therapy for Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS) [360]
   Richard DT Farmer, John W Logie, Nicola Christie (United Kingdom)

08:15 ■ Too Short Course of Trimethoprim or Nitrofurantoin May Lead to an Increased Number of Treatment Failures of Urinary Tract Infections [107]
   Wim G Goettsch, Ron MC Herings (The Netherlands)

08:30 ■ An Analysis of Cardiac Dysrhythmia in Overactive Bladder Patients Using Tolterodine and Other Overactive Bladder (OAB) Medications [82]
   Matthew W Reynolds, Sean Z Zhao, John-Kenneth Billingsley, Scott C Henderson

08:45 ■ Burden of Illness of Urinary Incontinence for the Italian NHS: An Exploratory Approach Using Administrative Data [469]
   Salvatore Mannino, Silvio Cavuto, Lorenzo Colonna, Nicola Groth, Marco Salmoiraghi, Andrea Belloli (Italy)

09:00 ■ Utilization of Macrolides and the Development of Streptococcus Pyogenes Resistance to Erythromycin [92]
   Karel Urbanek, Milan Kolar (Czech Republic)

09:15 ■ The Use of β-Blockers and 5-Reductase Inhibitors Decreases the Risk of Prostate Surgery for Patients Diagnosed with Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms Suggestive of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia [233]
   Katia MC Verhamme, Jeanne P Dieleman, Gysele S Bleumink, Johan van der Lei, Bruno HCh Stricker, Miriam CJM Sturkenboom (The Netherlands)

[E] MONEY CHANGES EVERYTHING (Lecture 1)
Moderators: Hugh Tilson & Peter Davey

08:00 ■ Incidence, Treatment and Outcomes of Complicated Intra-Abdominal Infections [361]
   Miriam C Sturkenboom, Wim Goettsch, Bas In’t Veld, Gino Picelli, Ron MC Herings (Italy)

08:15 ■ Health Care Resource Utilization during One-Year Treatment with Long-Acting Risperidone [213]
   Adriane R Leal, Devos Emmanuel, Bernard Bernard, Duchesne Inge, Mehnert Angelika (Belgium)

08:30 ■ Net Health Care Savings from Reference Drug Pricing for Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors [307]
   Sebastian Schneeweiss, Colin Dormuth, Paul Grootendorst, Malcolm Maclure

08:45 ■ The Impact of Low Dose Aspirin Prescribing on Upper Gastrointestinal Toxicity, Renal Toxicity and Healthcare Resource Utilisation [389]
   Thomas M MacDonald, Steve V Morant, Alex D McMahon, John GF Cleland, Peter G Davey (United Kingdom)

09:00 ■ Is It Cost-Effective To Improve Compliance with Lipid-Lowering Therapy? [268]
   Joshua S Benner, David A Ganz, Milton C Weinstein, Peter J Neumann, Robert J Glynn, Jerry Avorn

09:15 ■ Noncompliance with Statin Therapy: Lost Clinical Benefits and Implications for Cost-Effectiveness [267]
   Joshua S Benner, David A Ganz, Milton C Weinstein, Peter J Neumann, Robert J Glynn, Jerry Avorn

09:30-10:00 ■ Refreshment Break/Viewing of Posters & Exhibits (Hall)

10:00-11:30 ■ CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Symposium - (James Watt)

[A] Drug Related Problems in the Elderly-Epidemiology, Interventions, and Biostatistical Considerations [27]
   Joseph T Hanlon, Michael D Murray, Duncan R PETTY, Carl F Pieper
WORKSHOPS [B] – [F]

William L Holden, Juhaeri Juhaeri, Wanju Dai

[C] Pharmacoepidemiology: Can It Help Evidence-Based Practice? [339] (Wardlaw B)
Junius Gonzales, Paul Stang

[D] Measuring the Appropriateness of Drug Use [236] (Physics 113)
Lynn M Weekes, Flora M Haaijer, Ingrid S Sketris (Australia)

[E] Risk Management: What Are We Driving, Where Are We Going, and How Will We Know When We Get There? [384] (Physics 114)
Elizabeth B Andrews, Allen A Mitchell, Peter Honig, Suzanne F Cook, Alicia Gilsenan

[F] What’s New in GPRD and What Impact Will This Have for Researchers? [379] (Physics 115)
Susan Eaton, Carlos Martinez, Tim Williams, Lisa McQuay

11:30-13:30
- Lunch (Dining Room)
- Posters/Exhibits (Hall)
- ISPE Board of Directors Luncheon (Carnegie)

13:30-15:00
- CONCURRENT SESSIONS
  - Symposium (James Watt)

[A] Approaches to Postmarketing Surveillance for Teratogens in the US: Challenges and Progress [276]
Stanley A Edlavitch, Dianne L Kennedy, Elizabeth B Andrews, Allen A Mitchell, Janet D Cragan, Jose F Cordero

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AGENDA - 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY

13:30-15:00 WORKSHOPS [B]-[G]

[B] Turning Risks into Opportunities [3] (Warland A)
  JW van der Velden, Ross L. Lawrenson, Annette
  Stemhagen (The Netherlands, UK, USA)

  Miles Braun, Begaud Bernard

[D] Pitfalls in the Disproportionality Approach for the
  Identification of Alerts from Spontaneous
  Reporting Systems [452] (Physics 113)
  Nicholas D Moore, Gillian Hall, Ron Mann, Miriam
  Stirkenboom, Rajaa Lagnaoui (France)

[E] Application of Epidemiology in Pre-Approval Drug
  Development [404] (Physics 114)
  Robert S Brody, Ken Rothman, Mary-Lou Skrovan,
  Stephen Evans, Paul Seligman

  Analysis [444] (Physics 115)
  Victor V Gogolak, Ralph Edwards

[G] Prescription-Event Monitoring: Review of the
  Methodology, Recent Developments and Adaptation
  to Different Countries [287] (School of Mgt G20)
  Saad AW Shakir, Lynda V Wilton, David M Coulter,
  Kiyoshi Kubota (United Kingdom)

15:00-16:00 INVITED PLENARY SESSION (James Watt)
  Moderator:
  Jacques LeLorier
  Plenary Speaker:
  Hershel Jick
  Principles & Methods in Pharmacoepidemiology
  Research

16:00-17:30 HOT TOPIC SESSION (James Watt)
  COX2-Selective Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory
  Drugs and Cardiovascular Disease [336]
  Moderator:
  Wayne A Ray
  Panelists:
  Thomas M MacDonald
  Daniel H Solomon
  David Graham
  Jerry Avorn

17:30-17:45 THE FINAL WORD (James Watt)
  Sean Hennessy, Chair, 2003 Scientific Program
  Committee

17:45 Adjournment of the 18th ICPE

The Department of Epidemiology resides within Merck Research Laboratories (MRL). The Department is structured around therapeutic categories with representatives from the department involved throughout product development to provide significant input to clinical trial programs and to Outcomes Research initiatives. Research involves several general areas: basic epidemiology and disease natural history to support new drug development; outcomes research; selection, development, validation, and psychometric evaluation of patient-reported outcome measures for use in clinical trials; training and standardization of rater scales and other outcome measures; epidemiologic support for health economic studies and model development; post-marketing safety surveillance of vaccines; secondary analysis of internal and external datasets; and pharmacoepidemiologic studies. Newer areas of interest include genetic epidemiology.

Research typically involves grant-funded collaboration with external investigators. In addition, the department conducts research using numerous internal and publicly available databases. Research also involves collaboration with other MRL departments in providing epidemiologic information to support trial design, sample size estimation, endpoint definition, and interpretation of clinical trial results. Additional collaborative research involves design of effectiveness studies and use of epidemiologic information in health economic models. Epidemiology also provides consultation to Marketing, Regulatory, and Public Affairs.

Professional staff members in the Epidemiology Department regularly publish in peer-reviewed journals and present at leading scientific conferences. Last year, members of the department published roughly 40 research articles or book chapters as well as 46 abstracts. In addition, members gave over 40 presentations at scientific meetings.

Interested candidates with strong qualifications in genetic epidemiology should send a resume along with a cover letter indicating salary requirements to HR Manager – Drew Lewis/Epidemiology, Merck & Co., Inc, BL1-1, P O Box 4, West Point, PA 19486-0004. An Equal Opportunity Employer – M/F/D/V (Resumes from recruiting agencies are not accepted.)