



SDCPhA Voice

Newsletter of the San Diego County Pharmacists Association
www.sdcpha.com

California Pharmacists Insurance Services

November 2001

Editor: Gene Tunick, R.Ph.

Volume IV, Issue 6

San Diegans Attend CPhA Western Education Faire

With the theme "Bet^{ting} on Pharmacy's Future," CPhA's Education Faire was held October 5 to 7 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Reno, Nevada. The fun-filled weekend included exhibit halls, school of pharmacy receptions, academy meetings, networking opportunities, job fair, and an evening with singer Gordon Lightfoot. Local people sighted included Joe Jacob, Don Scales, Leslie Smith, Ron Zeichick, John Johnson, Helen Park, Shaun Young, Terry McCarthy, Chris Woo, John Cronin, and Roy Long.

Eighteen hours of Continuing Education included certification

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Questions and Answers for Pharmacists about the treatment of Anthrax

Q: What is anthrax and how is it transmitted?

A: Anthrax is a disease caused by an infection from the spore-forming bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. It most commonly occurs in animals (sheep, goats, cattle), but can occur in humans

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SDCPhA CHEERS ON PADRES, SEES 3 FUTURE HALL-OF-FAMERS

by Chris Woo

Amidst seemingly endless numbers of American flags, standing ovations for attending military, and "God Bless America" taking the place of the 7th inning stretch mainstay "Take me out to the Ballgame", the San Diego County Pharmacists Association came together for the **Sixth Annual Day at the Ballpark** event. One-hundred and fifty pharmacists, pharmacy students, friends and family gathered on the sunny Sunday of September 23 to enjoy a tailgate lunch and each other's company, and to pick up game tickets. Because of the national tragedies of September 11 and postponement of many events during the following days, the final career game of baseball legend Tony Gwynn no longer was 9/23, but would instead be 10/7 (and which some SDCPhA members will be able to attend). Nevertheless, people came from all over Southern California to share in this SDCPhA tradition.

While the Padres ended up on the short end of scoring against the San Francisco Giants, those present had the opportunity to see the play of 3 future first-ballot members of

the baseball Hall of Fame, Padres **Gwynn** and **Ricky Henderson** and S.F. Giant **Barry Bonds**. While the dingers he hit ended up sending the Padres to defeat, we were witness to possible history by seeing Bonds hit home runs number 65 and 66 (the major league record is 70 home runs in a season, by Mark McGwire). Those who stayed until after the game ended, got to see a standing

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Calendar of Activities

November 18, 2001
PTCB Examination

January 19, 2002
Installation Dinner
Tom Ham's Lighthouse
2150 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego
(619) 291-9110

February 8-10, 2002
CPhA Annual Meeting
San Francisco Airport Marriott

June 7-9, 2002
Family Getaway Weekend
Monterey Hilton
Monterey, CA

September 27-29, 2002
Western Pharmacy Education Faire,
Sheraton Grand Sacramento,
Sacramento, Calif

PacAdvantage

Medical & Dental Insurance Plans

The California Pharmacists Association is pleased to sponsor medical and dental programs for members and their employees!

Through PacAdvantage Member pharmacists with 2- 50 employees, enjoy choice and flexibility when it comes to selecting their group medical and dental programs.

Enrollment in the program is guaranteed as long as your group meets the eligibility requirements. No one can be turned down for health reasons.

Many Medical Plans Are Available To Choose From

Each employee can choose from among these plans:

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- Blue Shield
- Health Net
- Kaiser
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**Watch your mail
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Highlights of the program include:

- Employees can each select a different medical plan
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- Rates do not change because of health history
- 12 month rate guarantee
- Choose from over 11 medical companies and six dental companies.

...And Dental Plans!

Choose from among these plans:

- Delta Dental
- Pacific Life & Annuity
- PacifiCare Dental
- Safeguard
- DentiCare
- Universal Care Dental
- Humana

To find out more about these plans, call a California Pharmacists Insurance Services Client Service Representative at:

1-888-926-CPhA

San Diego County Pharmacists Association Presents

PHARMACY GALA & EXPO 2002

Cocktails

Banquet

Dancing

TOM HAM'S LIGHTHOUSE,
2150 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 291-9110

Saturday January 19th, 2002

6:00 pm Registration

7:30 pm Dinner & Dancing

\$25 per member
\$35 per non-member

Directions:

From southbound Pacific Highway, turn right on West Laurel Street. Turn slightly right onto North Harbor Drive, and turn left onto Harbor Island Drive. Continue west to the end.



RSVP by Monday, January 7th

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Number of Attendees _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Mail this form with your payment to: San Diego County Pharmacists Association, PMB 101, 6549 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120

Come Join Us!!

We hold our board meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the San Diego VA Hospital. Members are encouraged to attend. Meetings start at 7p.m. and are held in the pharmacy conference room located in the basement. For more information, please call us at (619) 464-8298. Our next meeting is September 5th.

***Be an active Pharmacist
Support your Profession
Join the San Diego County
Pharmacists Association***

Membership includes:

Continuing Education
Political Action
Fun Activities
Career Opportunities
Membership in the California
Pharmacists Association (CPhA)

***Join now and register to win FREE
registration to a CPhA Annual Meeting or
CPhA's Western Ed Faire***

Name: _____

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City & Zip: _____

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E-mail address: _____

Practice setting: _____

Method of payment: _____

**Please complete and fax to: (619)464-8298
Or mail to: SDCPhA 6549 Mission Gorge Rd.,
PMB #101, San Diego, CA 92120**

NEW DRUG SPOTLIGHT

By Randy Moore, Pharm.D.

NAME

Reminyl (galantamine)

MOA

Increases cholinergic function through competitive and reversible acetylcholinesterase inhibition

INDICATION

Treatment of mild to moderate dementia of the Alzheimer's type

DOSE

Initially, 4mg twice a day with upward titration in four week intervals to 16-32mg/day as tolerated

COMMON SIDE EFFECTS

Nausea, vomiting, weight loss, fatigue, dizziness, headache, diarrhea

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Caution in patients with known hypersensitivity to galantamine or patients with moderate hepatic or renal impairment. Dose should not exceed 16mg/day in these patients.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Drugs metabolized by CYP3A4 or CYP2D6 enzymes including cimetidine, ranitidine, erythromycin, ketoconazole, and paroxetine

PATIENT INFORMATION

Reminyl should be dosed twice a day with morning and evening meals. If abrupt withdrawal of the drug occurs for several days, the patient should be restarted on the lowest possible dose and gradually titrated back up to the tolerated maintenance dose.

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SDCPhA Cheers on Padres

ovation for Gwynn (who will be coaching the SDSU baseball team after this year), as well as his acknowledgment of the crowd.

SDCPhA officers in attendance included Past-President and current Secretary Poonam Patel, Treasurer David Mitchell, Vice-President Shaun Young and Board Member Randy Moore. CPhA Board of Trustee members in attendance included Region 8 Trustee Terry McCarthy, Immediate Past-President Mike Pavlovich and House Speaker Debby Johnson. Many thanks to Denise and Johnathan Woo, Lee Shuck, Robert Quon, Randy Moore, Shaun Young and David Mitchell for helping with set-up and cooking. Hope to see you next year at the Seventh Annual SDCPhA Day at the Ballpark!

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Questions and Answers for Pharmacists about the treatment of Anthrax

if exposed to infected animals or the spores of the bacteria. This has been considered one of the agents or weapons for a bioterrorist attack. Direct contact to the spores through contaminated powders in mail has become the main concern for human infections since the terrorist attacks on the United States. The inhaled form of Anthrax is the most deadly and initial symptoms are similar to having a common cold. Anthrax can also cause a less serious skin infection if abraded or cut skin is exposed to the spores. Fortunately, it takes a dose of at least 8,000 spores to infect a human with inhalation, the disease is not contagious (it is not transmitted from person to person), and is treatable if antibiotics given early after exposure. Therefore, the people at greatest risk are those who directly handle and inhale contaminated powders.

Q: What is the approved treatment for Anthrax?

A: Anthrax can be treated by any of three types of antibiotics. These include fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin-Cipro®), tetracyclines, and penicillins. Patients who have inhaled the spores must be treated before they have symptoms of the disease for the best prognosis.

Ciprofloxacin has been widely publicized for the prevention of pulmonary disease, due in part to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations. Consequently, significant public demand for ciprofloxacin has created the potential for depleting pharmacy stocks.

Q: Should patients ask their physicians to write a prescription for ciprofloxacin or other antibiotics to treat Anthrax?

A: No. The widespread prescribing of these antibiotics could lead to the development of drug-resistant bacteria and reduce the effectiveness of these antibiotics to treat other serious infections. Considering that the recommended duration of Anthrax prophylaxis is 60 days, this potential for development of resistance is great. In addition, the antibiotics used to treat Anthrax may be associated with serious side effects and significant drug interactions.

Q: If we have a major attack with Anthrax, how can we obtain enough antibiotics to respond?

A: The government has created the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile Program. They can ship large stockpiles of antibiotics to

any area of the country within 12 hours following notification of an attack.

Q: Where can I get more information on Bioterrorism?

A: There are several local, state and federal governmental agencies and other private groups that provide updated information on the internet. Two useful links for pharmacists include: www.bt.cdc.gov (The CDC Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program-includes links to the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile Program and the Health Alert Network that serves as an early warning system and share guidelines on how to respond to a threat-eg, receiving a suspicious package or unknown powder) and www.hopkins-biodefense.org (The Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies – includes link to the JAMA Consensus Statements on Medical Management of bioterrorism agents).

This information was provided courtesy of School of Pharmacy, University of California San Francisco, Mary Anne Koda-Kimble Pharm.D., Dean, California Poison Control System, UCSF School of Pharmacy, Stuart E. Heard, Pharm.D., Executive Director

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Education Faire

Programs on Diabetes or Emergency Contraception, or individual C.E.'s on new drugs, CPR, pharmacy law, future trends in pharmacy, HIPAA, ERT/HRT, poisoning, dietary supplements, and a Medi-Cal update. SDCPhA Vice-President Shaun Young, as a board member for the CPhA Academy of Employee Pharmacists, organized and moderated the program on "How to Successfully Implement Disease State Management Clinics."

Former State assembly member Kent Stacey received the Educational Foundation Award. Glenn Yokoyama received recognition for serving as President of the Educational Foundation, and Don Floriddia and Chris Woo were appointed as board members of the Educational Foundation. SDCPhA President-Elect Helen Park and CPhA Region 8 Trustee Terry McCarthy were among the leaders who participated in the student reception program "Strongest Link." A great time was had by all.

The next Western Pharmacy Education Faire will be September 27-29, 2002 at the Sheraton Grand/Sacramento Convention Center. Hope to see you there!

SDCPhA Officers For 2001

President:	Aaron Swann
President Elect:	Helen Park
Vice President:	Shaun Young
Secretary:	Poonam Patel
Co-Treasurers:	John Ahearn, Jr. Alis Fago
Past President:	John Ahearn, Jr.
Board Of Directors:	S. John Johnson Eric Gupta Randy Moore
Executive Vice President	Gene Tunick

San Diego County Pharmacists Association

Website: www.sdcpha.com

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San Diego, CA 92120

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Newsletter Editor: Gene Tunick

Thanks to **Seabury & Smith, Inc.** for production of our newsletter. **Seabury & Smith, Inc.** is the exclusive administrator of the California Pharmacists Association sponsored insurance programs. Call **(888) 926-CPhA** for information about the programs available or e-mail them at CPhA.Insurance@marshmc.com.

Have You Moved?

Please update your information for our records

Name: _____

Former Address: _____

Former City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____

New City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

New Phone: (_____) _____

New Fax: (_____) _____

Do We Have Your email Address?

*Please send us your current
email address so we can
update our records.*

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Send correspondence to:

**San Diego County
Pharmacists Association**

6549 Mission Gorge Rd. #101

San Diego, CA 92120

Website: www.sdcpha.com