

Hospital pharmacy



News from our section

- WPRO Feature - Newsletter 76 - January 2019 -

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

Dear colleagues and friends,

Please let me start by wishing you all a very happy new year. I hope it will be an inspirational year with wonderful moments, both personally and professionally.

Amongst the goals for the Hospital Pharmacy Section are promoting the exchange of views on professional subjects relating to the duties and responsibilities of hospital pharmacists and promoting pharmaceutical care for patients in hospital-related facilities. We very much want you to make use of your HPS membership to interact with and learn from each other. Join the interesting Webinars, meet colleagues at the FIP Congress. Another way throughout the year is the possibility to interact via the [Hospital Pharmacy Section discussions](#). We hope this too will inspire you to advance your daily practice.

The current newsletter might serve as a start for inspiration with news from colleagues in the Western Pacific region. In Taiwan, as always, exciting meetings have taken place. And outstanding articles from Australia, Fuji and Korea should provide a good read just after the holiday season.

Let me end by congratulating Latif Sheik on receiving the ASHP Donald E. Francke Award. Latif stepped down from the HPS-ExCo this year after having served his two terms as the EMRO Vice-President of our section. Latif has contributed so much to our section having experience in hospital pharmacy in the US, Pakistan, the EMRO region, in Africa, and as a standards advisory panel member of Joint Commission International. Always a wise gentleman. Wonderful to see the ASHP acknowledge his leadership.

Again, my best wishes for a wonderful 2019,

Kind regards,
Rob Moss



Rob Moss, FIP HPS President

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TSHP Annual Meeting News

The 2018 Annual Meeting for Taiwan Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) was held on November 4th at Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital in southern Taiwan. The theme of the meeting is “Promoting the Realization of the Value of Pharmaceutical Care.” More than 800 abstracts were submitted to this meeting, which attracted nearly 900 participants. The TSHP president, Dr. Fe-Lin Lin, welcomed all participants during the opening ceremony by introducing the efforts that the TSHP has made in the past year regarding reasonable human resource allocations in health care institutes, reform of post graduate year training, and reimbursement for clinical pharmacist services. TSHP invited the Vice President of Japanese Society of Hospital Pharmacists (JSHP), Dr. Kazuo Matsubara, as the keynote speaker to introduce the history of clinical pharmaceutical services in relation to medical fee payment in Japan. Another invited speaker is the Director General of Taiwan’s National Health Insurance Administration, Dr. Po-Chang Lee, who introduced how to utilize the medical resources wisely and reasonably. Finally, the faculty of University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dr. Michelle Chui, presented how to conduct clinical research and publish papers as a busy pharmacist in a special seminar session. She shared the tips and experiences by introducing how to form a multidisciplinary team to implement clinical research in hospital setting.

The most basic tasks of a pharmacist in a Korean hospital are dispensing and preparations. In addition, the pharmacists can perform the relational function of dispensing that understands the patient's condition and reviews whether the prescription has been issued accordingly.

We are also involved in all aspects of medication management including selection and purchase (supply and distribution of medication), safe storage, information provision, and monitoring of side effects.

Some pharmacists recommend medical staff about prescription issues through patient consultation before prescribing. These include searching for medications that the patient had taken before visiting the hospital as well as patient compliance, which can also be verified to facilitate new prescribing or drug dosage adjustments.

Pharmacists monitor the patient for side effects, participate in rounds for the medical treatment of patients, and continue to work together to maintain care using the team approach in the hospital.

I am confident that the clinical service level of pharmacists practicing team care is comparable to that of the PharmD. in the United States.

Since the late 1990s, multi-disciplinary team rounds have been conducted at the NST, NICU, organ transplant unit, and hematology and medical oncology department. At SNUH (Seoul National University Hospital), pharmacists go on rounds with doctors in the ICU since 2010.

Some hospital pharmacies have expanded to cover neurology, cardiology, internal medicine, emergency centers, and other sites.

Automatic dispensing is necessary in the age of AI (artificial intelligence). There are now 2 hospitals with chemotherapy-dispensing robots and many hospital pharmacies are considering bringing in the robot dispensing system.

Since many tasks in the field of health care have been replaced by AI or have been automated in the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution, there is also a prospect that there will be fewer places for health care manpower, including hospital pharmacists. However, it is considered that the automation of drug preparation tasks will be an opportunity of fulfilling a new role for hospital pharmacists, who would be freed from spending most of their team preparing drugs, and contribute to the improvement of medical service through the expansion of clinical services and patient safety activities.

~ submitted by: Cho, YoonSook

Director of Pharmacy, Seoul National University Hospital

Chair, Standards Committee of KSHP (Korean Society of Health-System Pharmacists)

Management 2018 (MM2018) saw the unveiling of [Reducing opioid-related harm: A hospital pharmacy landscape paper](#), which shines a light on the link between the prescribing and supply of opioids to patients after surgery in public and private hospitals nationally, and heightened risk of long-term misuse and dependence, highlighting the urgent need for a coordinated, multidisciplinary response.

Among the conference accolades, SHPA's three prestigious annual awards were given to [Associate Professor Ian Coombes](#) (Fred J Boyd award), [Dr Lisa Pont](#) (SHPA Medal of Merit) and [Dr Rohan Elliott](#) (Australian Clinical Pharmacy Award), recognised for their excellence in leadership and commitment to advancing Australian pharmacy practice and improving patient care.

In the closing session, Professor Michael Dooley declared 'it has been my great honour to lead SHPA through a truly transformative phase' in announcing he was [stepping down as SHPA President](#) after a four-year term.

'All of our achievements and each of our innovations has been made possible by the expertise and dedication of SHPA members, and their willingness to embrace new ideas and novel approaches to practice, which is essential to keep the profession moving forward,' said Professor Dooley, who also announced the election of Peter Fowler as President, Dr Jacinta Johnson as Vice President and David Brennan as Treasurer.

Chair of the Scientific Organising Committee, Associate Professor Michael Barras, revealed final conference attendance of 1,303, smashing the previous record set at MM2015, as Gold Coast was announced as the host city for Medicines Management 2019, 14-16 November next year.

Medication Shortages in Fiji



In 2016 two research students in their final year of the BPharm from the University of Sydney went to Suva Fiji to work alongside colleagues from the Fiji National University (FNU) to research medication shortages. Work culminating from this first project were published in [PLOS ONE Journal](#)

In 2018 another 2 students went to Fiji to continue this important work. One student conducted qualitative interviews with consumers on the direct impact that medicine shortages have had on themselves and their families. The other student evaluated the availability, affordability and pricing of essential paediatric medicines across 4 sites. Medicine shortages are a world-wide issue however they are very apparent in the Fijian setting due to its small population and remote location.

Consumers outlined significant consequences of medicines going short including decreased health, turning to alternative medicines and interruption in work and family life. Stock levels of essential medicines on the shelves across 4 outlets were fair with availability calculated to be roughly 50%. Availability was higher in the public hospital sector, compared to the private sector. Private sector pricing was higher, however affordability remained appropriate in this setting, revealing that Fijian government policies are aiming to assist consumers. Despite these governmental policies, shortages were still impacting patients and further work in this setting is needed. The skills of a pharmacist to assist in medicine procurement are essential as outlined in the FIP's Basel Statements and future roles in this setting could assist with the current situation.

Apart from achieving this significant and important work, these students have had an amazing experience being immersed in another culture, and loved their time working away from home.

For more information about this work, please contact Rebekah Moles (rebekah.moles@sydney.edu.au).



6th International Conference of Asian Health Literacy Association (AHLA) in Taiwan

While medication use and health literacy among the general public is an important issue in pharmacy practice, a group of social administrative pharmacy researchers in Taiwan worked together to organize a section in 6th International Conference of Asian Health Literacy Association, which was hosted during 25-27 October 2018 in Taichung, Taiwan. President Mary Wang, on behalf of Taiwan International Pharmacy Advancement Association (TIPAA) and Associate Dean, Hsiang-Wen (Margaret) Lin, on behalf of College of Pharmacy, China Medical University, began to initiate this activity and looked for funding to support the section, entitled “Health literacy and medication safety, misuse.”

The section was organized as two parts: keynote speeches and oral presentation. Dr. Olayinka O. Shiyabola from the University of Wisconsin-Madison gave the first talk about “The importance of health literacy in designing medication adherence interventions.” She emphasized that “Health literacy, an important psychosocial factor to consider in the successful outcome of any medical treatment or procedure, enables patients to communicate with providers, understand treatment procedures, and initiate or maintain medication regimens”. The goal of her talk was to help participants understand the need to address health literacy in improving medication adherence as well as the strategies useful in addressing inadequate health literacy. Her presentation focused on the inconsistent relationship between health literacy and medication adherence and set the stage for the need for health literacy

medicines and illnesses and medication adherence among patients with type 2 diabetes differs by health literacy levels. Her talk was very informative and gave some good examples for health literacy related researches.

Then, the other three speakers from Taiwan focused on their health literacy related researches conducted in Taiwan. Dr. Hsiang-Wen (Margaret) Lin presented her developed Chinese medication health literacy measure (ChMLM) and its validation process. Of four main sections in ChMLM, the items' percentage of correct responses ranged widely and the reliability of whole measure was quite good (i.e., 0.72). Her research demonstrated the higher ChMLM total score were associated with age, education levels, income, living area, daily speaking language and or so to verify its construct validity. Dr. Elizabeth H. Chang changed to topic to cultural competence related issue and her talk was trying to raise the awareness of cultural issues that may occur during patient-pharmacist communications and discuss strategies to improve cultural competence of pharmacists and pharmacy students. She also shared her recent study surveying the cultural competence of community pharmacists to describe the relationship between cultural competence and health literacy, as well as identify strategies to improve cultural competence of healthcare providers. Dr. Huang-tz Ou shared with the audiences her research to facilitate the implementation of new regulations on the inserts and labeling of non-prescription medications with improved legibility in Taiwan. Her research demonstrated that the new regulations to update the inserts and labeling of non-prescription medications received much appreciations by the general population and practicing pharmacists, although some pharmaceutical companies were reluctant to make the changes. The improved reading and understanding abilities perceived by the public are expected to ensure the safety of use of non-prescription medications.

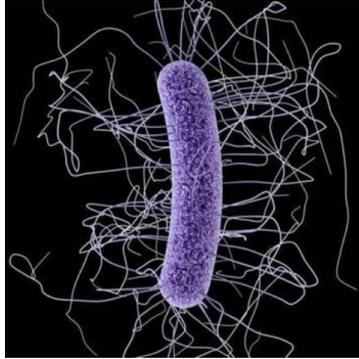
As for the oral presentations, five presenters from either Taiwan or Thailand, all did very good jobs to present their research works related to health literacy and medication use. Their topics:

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| Factors associated with the extend of medication health literacy in Taiwan with higher education sufficient Yu-Shan Wang*, Hsiang-Wen Lin, Ya-Hui Chang, Yen-Ming Huang, Yu-Chieh Chen, Chun-Yu Wang, Yu Ko |
| Pharmacist Counseling with Low Health Literacy Patients Yu-Hui Hung*, Elizabeth H. Chang |
| Drug information exchange to health literacy promoting in health care professional Sunisa Sadjaviso*, Aekarat Napanya, Siritree Suttajit Nantawarn Kitikannakorn*, Kridsada Yamthai, Narawit Kamyuang, Ratanaporn Awiphan |
| Assessment of pharmaceutical care outcomes on the patients with Asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) Namuen Hospital, Nan Thananya Boonin* |
| Health literacy on antibiotics in Thai population: a national household survey in 2017 Hathairat Kosiyaporn*, Sunicha Chanvatik, Angkana Sommanustweechai, Vuthiphan Vongmongkol, Rapeepong Suphanchaimat, Viroj Tangcharoensathien |

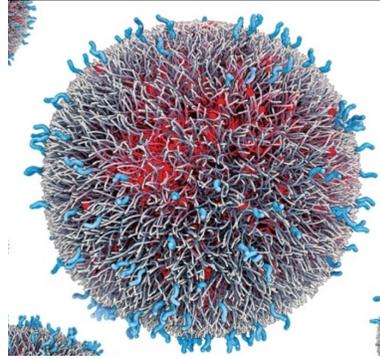
Comparing to other sections, our S4 section seemed more academic and more interactive between presenters and audiences in the 6thAHLA International Conference. We believe, at the end of this section, participants are able to describe the relationship between cultural

research.

From the HPS Webinar Library ...



From Nov 2018:
[*Clostridium difficile* infection management and outcomes: considerations in a resource-limited setting](#)



From Jun 2018:
[*Challenges of nanomedicine follow-on products: from regulatory to formulary selection*](#)



From Jun 2018:
[*Do it right for your patient: advantages and considerations associated with nanomedicines*](#)

HPS Announces Africa VP

It is our great pleasure to introduce Mr Mujahidhussein Valji, the newly elected Afro Vice President of the Hospital Pharmacy Section.

Mujahidhussein is from Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. He completed his Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree from Muhimbili University Health and Allied Health Sciences (MUHAS) in Tanzania in 2007 and completed his master's post-graduate degree in Clinical Pharmacy (Msc, Clin Pharm) from Queens University, Belfast (Ireland) in 2014. He is the Chief Pharmacist at Aga Khan Hospital, Dar Es Salaam, the largest 174 bed private hospital in Tanzania.



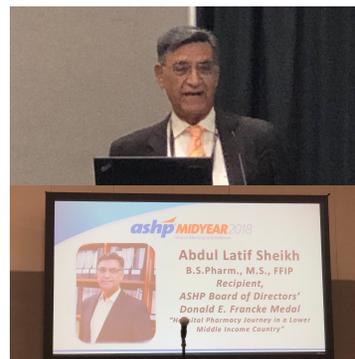
We welcome Mujahidhussein to our ExCo.
His contact email is: vp-africa@fip-hps.org

Former HPS Eastern Mediterranean VP Latif Sheikh receives Francke Medal

Medal. Sheikh received his award and presented his lecture on 3 December 2018, at ASHP's 53rd Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition in Anaheim.

ASHP established the Francke Medal to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to international pharmacy practice. A strong advocate for patient safety and quality of care internationally, Sheikh has been instrumental in advancing state-of-the-art hospital pharmacy services and pharmaceutical supply chain systems in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Oman, East Africa, and Saudi Arabia.

Sheikh was the founding Director of Pharmacy Services at the Aga Khan University Hospital, a private, philanthropic hospital in Karachi, Pakistan. During his 23 years of service, he conceptualized, planned, and implemented an in-house-designed computerized physician order entry system, the first of its kind in Pakistan and the region. He also implemented decentralized medication management services, established 24 inpatient and outpatient satellite services, and developed a post-Pharm.D. PGY1 pharmacy training program modeled on ASHP residency programs.



Sheikh is an active leader in numerous national and international pharmacy organizations. He is a Fellow of the FIP and a member of the Joint Commission International Standards Advisory Panel. He served as Vice President of the Eastern Mediterranean Forum of the FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section and as an expert member of the Policy Board of Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan.



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The HPS is very grateful to these sponsors for their support of section activities. In addition to corporate sponsors, many national and regional pharmacy organizations have provided financial and in-kind support of the activities of the FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section. We gratefully recognize these contributors:

The Japanese Society of Hospital Pharmacists



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About the Hospital Pharmacy Section

Founded in 1957, the FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section focuses on education, communication, and improving the practice of pharmacy in hospitals around the world.



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