



South African Society for Basic and Clinical Pharmacology

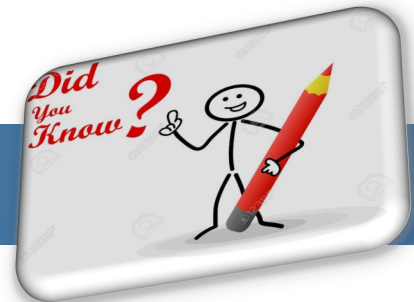


UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The Drug Safety Africa Conference will be held from November 20-22, 2018 at the North-West University, Potchefstroom. The conference will cover issues on Safety Pharmacology, Toxicology, Clinical Drug Safety and Precision Medicine.

Registration and more information available at www.drugsafetyafrica.com

DID YOU KNOW?



Omega 3 fatty acids do not protect against cardiovascular diseases. Cochrane review: <http://cochranelibrary-wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD003177.pub3/full>

FDA announces voluntary recall of several medicines containing valsartan following detection of an impurity. More information:

<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm613532.htm>



ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Congratulations to Dr. Werner Cordier who just completed his Sub-Saharan Africa-FAIMER Regional Institute Health Professions Education Fellowship in June.

Congratulations to Ms. Innocensia Mangoato (M.Med.Sc. Research Scholar, Department of Pharmacology University of the Free State) who is selected as a finalist in the 2018 South African Women in Science Awards.



Congratulations to Dr. Makhotso Lekhoaa who has been nominated by the SASCBP as a young pharmacologist to serve on the IUPHAR executive committee.

Congratulations to Prof. Helen Kwanashie, a member of the SASCBP from Nigeria, who was elected to serve on the IUPHAR executive committee. She will also represent the interest of the African continent at IUPHAR.



Congratulations to Prof. Brian Herbert Harvey of the Faculty of Health Sciences, who is the NWU's finalist in the National science and technology forum (NSTF) Lifetime Award category for academics who have made contributions over a period of 15 years or more. Brian is the programme leader for the Centre of Excellence for Pharmaceutical Sciences in the School of Pharmacy and also the programme leader for the South African Medical Research Council's Unit on Risk and Resilience.

MEMBERS IN PRESS



IUPHAR's 18th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2018) was held in Kyoto, Japan from 1-6 July 2018, being the first congress following WCP2014 presented by our Society in Cape Town, South Africa. This meeting was well attended by more than 4,000 delegates, of which about 1,700 was from outside of Japan. Africa, including South Africa, was well represented, and several lectures, symposia and strategic meetings addressed matters in pharmacology of special interest to developing countries (See photographs below).



Congratulations to the following members who have recently published:

1. **Awortwe C**, Makiwane M, **Reuter H**, Muller C, Louw J, **Rosenkranz B**. Critical evaluation of causality assessment of herb-drug interactions in patients. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2018 Apr; 84(4):679-693.
2. **Abulfathi AA**, Chirehwa M, **Rosenkranz B**, **Decloedt EH**. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Dose Individualization to Achieve Therapeutic Vancomycin Concentrations. *J Clin Pharmacol* 2018 May 10.
3. Schultheiß M, Kling S, Lenker U, von Bibra M, **Rosenkranz B**, Klinker H. Lopinavir serum concentrations of critically ill infants: a pharmacokinetic investigation in South Africa. *Med Microbiol Immunol*. 2018 Jul 4.
4. Koopmans LR, Finlayson H, Whitelaw A, **Decloedt EH**, Dramowski A. Paediatric antimicrobial use at a South African hospital. *Int J Infect Dis*. 2018 Jun 20. pii: S1201-9712(18)34430-8.
5. Van Hoving DJ, Hunter LD, Gerber R, Lategan HJ, **Marks CJ**. The burden of intentional self-poisoning on a district-level public Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa. *African Journal of Emergency Medicine*. March 2018.
6. Flepisi BT, Bouic P, Sissolak G, **Rosenkranz B**. B and T-cell activation in South African HIV-1-positive non-Hodgkin's lymphoma patients. *Southern African Journal of HIV Medicine* 2018, accepted for publication
7. **Van Rensburg L**, JM van Zyl, Smith J. Deposition and transport of linezolid mediated by synthetic surfactant Synsurf® within a pressurized metered dose inhale: a Calu-3 model. *Drug Design, Development and therapy* 2018 12: 1107-1118.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The University of the Free State , Department of Pharmacology, Indigenous Knowledge System (IKS) Research Program have the following Post-doctoral positions available.

All the successful candidate are expected to start ASAP in 2018.

1. Plant tissue culture, Plant growing and Agronomy

Aim: To evaluate traditional medicines for potential activity against Alzheimer's disease.

Responsibilities:

- Setting up and validating various techniques in plant cell culture and biomass plant production
- Using the afore mentioned techniques to domesticate and grown medicinal plants under development in our Pharmacology research
- Maintain our green houses and plant research from cell culture to nursery research and plantation management
- Assist in our community plant growing projects

2. Pain research

Aim: To evaluate traditional medicines for potential remedies for pain research and pain management.

Responsibilities:

- Setting up and validating methodologies in pain research *in vitro* and in *in vivo*
- Using the afore mentioned techniques and animal models to screen traditional medicines for potential pain research management activity
- Characterization of the respective extracts using appropriate chromatographic and other techniques, etc.

3. Analytical research

Aim: To evaluate traditional medicines for drug development and develop analytical methods for chemical fingerprinting using a variety of techniques.

Responsibilities:

- Setting up and validating analytical research methodologies for plant extracts and NCE
- Characterization of the respective extracts using appropriate chromatographic and other techniques, etc.
- Setting up laboratory protocols and SOP for the analytical instruments



SOUTH AFRICAN GUIDELINES EXCELLENCE PROJECT

Dr Tamara Kreda, member of the SASCBP, attended the South African Guidelines Excellence project (SAGE) which presented its final results at a public session in April. SAGE is a collaborative research effort involving Cochrane South Africa and the Health Systems Research Unit of the South African Medical Research Council; the Centre for Evidence-Based Health Care and Division of Physiotherapy of Stellenbosch University; and, the International Centre for Allied Health Evidence (iCAHE), University of South Australia, and was funded by the SAMRC's Flagships Awards Funding (SAMRC-RFA-IFSP-01-2013/ SAGE)



The aim was to consolidate methods and training for better clinical practice guidelines (CPG) development, implementation and use. The project published a comprehensive report which is available in a full-length and summary versions at:

<http://www.samrc.ac.za/sites/default/files/attachments/2018-04-17/SAGEfinalReport.pdf>

<http://www.samrc.ac.za/sites/default/files/attachments/2018-04-17/SAGESummaryReport.pdf>



Tamara Kreda (right) and Quinette Louw presenting the results of the SAGE project.

PHARMACOLOGY CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome any news from our society members. If you have anything interesting you wish to add to our next issue, please contact Dr. Makhotsa Lekhooa:

makhotsa.lekhooa@nmw.ac.za

