

Contents

	Page
Editorial	
Another step forward Imti Choonara, Anthony J Nunn and Gregory Kearns	133
Ethics	
Ethical issues in research with children in the UK Neil Morton	134
Neurology	
Guidelines for rectal administration of anticonvulsant medication in children Sarah Smith, Ian Sharkey and David Campbell.....	140
Licensing	
Information for paediatric use of medicines in a product information compendium Geert 't Jong, Ingo A. Eland, Bruno H. Ch. Stricker and John N. van den Anker..	148
Prospective surveillance of extemporaneous dispensing of medicines for children Francesca Rocchi, Maria Pia Raffaelli, Gabriele Marelli, Gian Carlo Taddei, Maurizio Bonati and the Paediatrician Work Group of the Ospedali Riuniti Bergamo.....	152
Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group	
NPPG – 7 th Annual Conference Report Peter Mulholland.....	156
Poisonings	
Accidental Ingestion: the Role of the Grandparent Carol Bertenshaw and J. Morgan	158
Community	
Over the counter medicines in childhood: issues and concerns. A narrative review of the literature Nicola Birchley and Sharon Conroy	161
Short Communication	
Treatment of Meningococcal Disease, Is Longer Better? Imti Choonara and David Bullock	168
Book Review	
Review of Pocket MFC Stuart Parkes.....	169
Reviewers	171
Abstracts from 7th ESDP Congress	172
Index	181

EDITORIAL

Another Step Forward

We are delighted to announce that Paediatric and Perinatal Drug Therapy is now the official journal of the European Society for Developmental, Perinatal and Paediatric Pharmacology (ESDP). The ESDP is a scientific society whose aim is to promote the scientific study of medicines in the developing fetus, infant and child¹. The Society held its first Congress in 1988 in Switzerland and its most recent Congress in Cyprus in November 2001. The Society has been active in both research and appropriate political action on behalf of children in relation to medicines. The European Network for Drug Investigation in Children^{2,3} was established by the ESDP and has been active with others in raising issues in the European parliament.

We are delighted to be the official journal of both the ESDP and the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG) as both societies and the journal have the shared aim of improving the use of medicines in paediatric patients of all ages.

Our strong association with Europe does not, however, mean that we will ignore developments in other areas. In future issues we wish to highlight the problems of medicines for children in the developing

world. We also welcome the initiatives that have taken place in North America in relation to introducing legislative changes to encourage the appropriate studies of medicines in children⁴. We also recognize the issue in relation to medicines for children in Australia⁵. Our aim remains to ensure that the Journal belongs to paediatric health professionals throughout the world who wish to improve the use of medicines in paediatric patients.

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Editors

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