



Volume 1, Issue 10, November 23, 2001, From the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy

OUPharmacy.com

From the Dean

Dear Friends:

The National Advisory Board for the College of Pharmacy and the Alumni Affairs Board for the OU College of Pharmacy Alumni Association met recently to review activities ongoing in the college. These boards consist of numerous distinguished representatives from all major areas of pharmacy as well as alumni and friends who meet on a regular basis, usually on OU campuses in Norman, Oklahoma City, or Tulsa. It is indeed a pleasure for me to meet with the boards as the comments and suggestions provided are always objective, positive, and forward-thinking. Given these characteristics, it is easy to understand why these individuals are highly successful.

The National Advisory Board provides input, guidance, and evaluation of college programs as they relate to local, state, and national policies and priorities. Members of the National Advisory Board represent corporate leaders and the lay public as well as individuals with a wide range of experiences in the pharmacy profession. The list of current National Advisory Board members can be found at <http://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu/information/boards/nab/>.

The Alumni Affairs Board is made up of the current Executive Committee (President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer, see <http://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu/alumni/office/>) of the Alumni Association, past Presidents, the Dean of the College of Pharmacy, current and past Student Executive Council Presidents, the Director of the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy Office of Pharmacy Student Services, a College Liaison, and alumni appointed on an annual basis by the current President of the Association. The immediate past President of the Alumni Association serves as chair of the Alumni Affairs Board.

The Alumni Affairs Board serves as a clearinghouse where all input from alumni is considered and then acted upon. The board also functions as a distribution hub for information flow to individual members and gives advice to the Executive Committee and Dean as to appropriate programs and activities to be undertaken. The annual meeting or other meetings that may be called of the Alumni Association provide venues for further discussion and action on recommendations of the Alumni Affairs Board. The list of current Alumni Affairs Board members can be found at <http://pharmacy.ouhsc.edu/information/boards/aab/>.

I am extremely grateful to the members of these boards for the superb support they provide to the college and to our alumni. Their contributions are truly outstanding, supplying enormous energy for our continuous improvement processes and for our outreach communications efforts.

The College of Pharmacy extends best wishes to everyone during this Thanksgiving holiday period. We hope you have a safe and happy holiday.

Sincerely,

College News

▪ TCC-OU Pharmacy Education Articulation Agreement

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy is pleased to announce that [Tulsa Community College](#) (TCC) will provide students with the educational opportunity to complete an Associate of Science Degree after the first two years of the pre-pharmacy curriculum from which they may accepted into our four year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, to be



available at The Schusterman Center in Tulsa beginning in Fall, 2002. The program can, therefore, lead directly from TCC to the doctorate.

▪ **Carl & Joyce Lyons Scholarship Fund Established**

The College of Pharmacy is pleased to announce that Carl ('60) and his wife Joyce have generously established an endowed fund in the OU Foundation that will provide scholarships to be awarded annually to students in the pharmacy program at The Schusterman Center in Tulsa. Carl and Joyce have long supported the College of Pharmacy in a variety of ways, including service on the college's National Advisory Board. Recently, Carl has joined the college as Interim Assistant Dean for Outreach Communications and Clinical Associate Professor in Tulsa. The college expresses sincere appreciation to Carl and Joyce for their exceptional support and friendship.

Important Healthcare Information

▪ **Free Bioterrorism Information Videos Available On-Line**

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center has developed videos containing bioterrorism information and made them available for immediate on-line viewing. They are:

1. [Bioterrorism - An Overview](#)

Dr. Mike Crutcher, Oklahoma State Department of Health

Running Time: 1 hour 5 minutes

Available at <http://www.ouhsc.edu/info/bioterrorism/Crutcher/EVENT.HTM#archive>

2. [Anthrax 2001](#)

Dr. Ronald Greenfield, OU College of Medicine

Running Time: 57 minutes

Available at <http://www.ouhsc.edu/info/bioterrorism/Greenfield/EVENT.HTM#archive>

The videos can be viewed without charge, but require the use of Microsoft Internet Explorer.

▪ **JAMA Offers Free Access**

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) is offering free access at <http://pubs.ama-assn.org/bioterr.html> to a large number of previously published articles related to bioterrorism. Articles available include a few developed by the Working Group on Civilian Biodefense, focused on Anthrax, Smallpox, Plague, Botulinum Toxin, and Tularemia.

▪ **National Agricultural Library on Bioterrorism and Agriculture**

The National Agricultural Library (NAL) has posted a page at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/ref/biosecurity/> to provide information about bioterrorism and agriculture. The page contains pointers to resources spanning a range of issues related to agriculture and terrorism, including conference proceedings, articles from government branches, government alerts, and contact information.

▪ **Adverse Events During Anti-Infective Prophylaxis of Anthrax**

Widespread use of anti-infectives, even when in accord with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), can lead to adverse events. Information published in "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report"

(<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5044a1.htm>) revealed that 19 percent of the people receiving anti-infective prophylaxis after exposure to *Bacillus anthracis* spores in Florida have had at least one adverse event from the therapy.

▪ **Smallpox Information**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed a series of documents to provide information pertaining to smallpox that will help private and public healthcare providers develop plans to prepare for and respond to acts of bioterrorism. This information includes details about the disease, recommended treatment, and specific issues relating to recognizing smallpox in emergency departments and can be found at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/Agent/Smallpox/Smallpox.asp>.



▪ **Johns Hopkins Information Site**

The Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies has established a website (<http://www.hopkins-biodefense.org>) that contains information about anthrax as well as the general subject of bioterrorism, including many useful and interesting links.

▪ **Anthrax Information from CDC**

A Fact Sheet for Clinicians regarding children and anthrax is available from the CDC at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/DocumentsApp/Anthrax/11072001/clinician.asp>. Information about anthrax and bioterrorism can also be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/indexbt.html>.

▪ **CDC Updates Anthrax Prophylaxis Plan for Pregnant Women**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is now describing ciprofloxacin as the initial "antimicrobial of choice" for asymptomatic pregnant women who require prophylaxis after exposure to *Bacillus anthracis*. For pregnant women with no symptoms of anthrax, the recommended prophylactic dosage of ciprofloxacin is 500 mg taken orally twice a day for 60 days. Information is available at ASHP <http://www.ashp.org/public/news/breaking/ShowArticle.cfm?id=2662> and CDC <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5042.pdf> sites.

Alumni News

▪ **Don Swalander ('65) Update**

Don reports that his work address is the same as his home address and we are wondering if all he does is work or if retirement has caught up to him. Congratulations and best of luck Don. Classmates and friends can reach Don at donswal@lookingglass.net.

▪ **Linda Shelton ('74) Recognized for Business Achievements**

The Medicine Shoppe International, Inc. has recently recognized Linda for outstanding business achievements by providing the OU College of Pharmacy with \$2,000 to be awarded as scholarship support to deserving students with career goals in community pharmacy. Congratulations to Linda for her accomplishments and thanks are extended to her for designating her *alma mater* to receive these scholarship funds. We are very proud of Linda and especially grateful to her for this outstanding support.

▪ **Marcus Baker ('87)**

Marcus reports that his current work address is at the Coffeyville Regional Medical Center in Coffeyville, Kansas. Classmates and friends can reach him at pharmdir@crmcinc.com.

▪ **In Memoriam – Byron W. Berry ('31)**

We are saddened by the death of Byron Berry, a Shawnee native and resident, who died on Wednesday, October 31, at 91 years of age. Byron received the Ph.C. degree from the OU College of Pharmacy in 1931 and was a pharmacist at Baxter Hospital as well as owner of several pharmacies in the area, including a partnership with Richards Brothers.

▪ **New Baby Lane**

Dr. Lenee Lane ('98), Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Pharmacy, has recently given birth to Lauren Ruth at Norman Regional Hospital. Lauren Ruth weighs 7 lbs., 3 oz., and is 19 ¾ in. long. Congratulations to Lenee and husband Joel, both from the OU Pharmacy Class of 1998.

▪ **Rick Carr ('84) Moving to Hong Kong**

Rick has informed us that he and his wife Donna are in the process of moving to Hong Kong, where Rick will assume the role of Regional Oncology Marketing Manager for Eli Lilly and Company's Asian Operations. Upon graduation in 1984, Rick joined Eli Lilly as a Sales Representative in Tulsa. In 1990, he moved to corporate headquarters in Indianapolis to work in the International Sales Training, Pricing and the Global Oncology Business Unit. Rick was transferred to Los Angeles in 1995 as the Lilly Oncology Regional Sales Manager responsible for the West Coast and back to Indianapolis in 1999 as Brand Manager in the company's Oncology Division. Classmates and friends can communicate with Rick and



Donna at carr_rick_l@lilly.com. Best wishes are extended to Rick and Donna with hopes of seeing them back in Oklahoma in the future.

Pharmacy News

▪ Judge Allows CMS To Proceed With Drug Card Rulemaking

Judge Paul Friedman has agreed to allow the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to proceed at their request with proper rulemaking for a new proposed Medicare-endorsed prescription drug discount card. CMS says the new program will not be similar to the one that was enjoined to prevent irreparable harm, especially to small pharmacies. This process allows pharmacy organizations and pharmacists the opportunity to express opposition or suggest alterations to the proposal before it becomes final.

In September, Judge Friedman issued an injunction halting implementation of the unauthorized plan at the behest of the [National Community Pharmacists Association](#) (NCPA) and the [National Association of Chain Drug Stores](#) (NACDS). Meanwhile, the judge's injunction against the original program remains in place.

▪ New North Carolina School of Pharmacy

To help meet the state- and nation-wide need for pharmacists, Wingate University in Wingate, North Carolina, has announced plans to enroll its first pharmacy class in Fall of 2003. The targeted initial class size is 60 students. Wingate University will host the third pharmacy school in North Carolina, along with the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and Campbell University in Buies Creek.

Continuing Pharmaceutical Education News

▪ NCPA and CECity Offer Free On-Line CE Programs

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) has recently announced a partnership with CECity to offer three 2.5-hour complimentary continuing education (CE) programs. The programs are underwritten by an unrestricted educational grant from Roche Laboratories. The CE programs are "Comorbidities of Obesity," "Obesity Treatments: A Pharmacological Update," and "Redefining Obesity as a Disease." Additional information can be found at: <http://www.cecocity.com/ncpa/obesity/>.

▪ "Know Your Score" Brochures Available

Patient education brochures on the diseases for which men are most at risk are now available from the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA). Ten disease states, including diabetes, high blood pressure, prostate cancer, and erectile dysfunction, are covered in the brochure, which carries the sports theme "Know Your Score."

The brochure is just one component of a larger Men's Health Initiative underwritten through an unrestricted educational grant from Pfizer. The initiative also includes a unique men's health risk assessment tool, a NIPCO-accredited Men's Health Certificate Program, and an outcomes study conducted by The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy.

For more information or to order brochures: <http://www.ncpanet.org/knowyourscore/pharmacists.html> or call 800-544-7447.



Oklahoma Poison Control Center News

■ Carbon Monoxide - An Invisible Poison

As winter approaches, the Oklahoma Poison Control Center reminds state residents to take extra precautions to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. In addition, the center suggests that everyone learn the symptoms of CO poisoning as well as the proper first-aid steps to follow in the event of an exposure.

CO is odorless and tasteless, which may be why it is the leading cause of poisoning death in the United States. Between the first of October and the middle of November 2001, the Oklahoma Poison Control Center handled 35 carbon monoxide exposures, including a family of three that had to be treated in a hospital.

Carbon monoxide is a gas produced by the incomplete burning of carbon-containing fuels. Common sources of CO in homes include oil, wood or gas furnaces; space heaters that use kerosene; gas and oil water heaters; and gas stoves and dryers. Problems can occur whenever there is a leak in the vent that carries CO out of the home or when one of these appliances or pieces of equipment malfunctions or is poorly ventilated. Other sources of CO include cars, trucks, motorcycles and mopeds; charcoal grills, candles and gas lanterns; and gasoline-powered lawn mowers, snow blowers, chain saws and weed-eaters.

Although anyone can be poisoned by CO, pregnant women, young children, the elderly and those with respiratory illnesses, heart disease or anemia are at greater risk.

CO poisoning usually occurs slowly over a period of several hours, but at very high concentrations, CO can kill within minutes. Early symptoms of CO poisoning including headache, nausea, vomiting and dizziness can mimic the flu or other illnesses. More significant poisoning symptoms can include a throbbing headache, drowsiness, confusion, and heart irregularities. Severe poisonings can cause convulsions, unconsciousness, brain damage and even death. If someone is suspected of having been exposed to carbon monoxide, fresh air is the most important first-aid treatment. Open the windows wide and help the victim outside. Once the person is away from the source of exposure, call for emergency assistance if he or she is unconscious or convulsing. For less serious symptoms, call the Oklahoma Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

Others who can advise about the need for medical care following CO exposure include physicians, pharmacists and nurses. In addition, a phone call to the local gas company or fire department can elicit helpful information.

Prevention is the key to ensuring that CO will not be a problem. The most important way to prevent CO poisoning is to install a CO detector in your home. They function like smoke detectors, warning you before CO concentrations reach dangerous levels. CO detectors should meet Underwriter Laboratories standards, have a long-term warranty, and be easy to self-test and reset to ensure proper functioning. The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that CO detectors be placed on each floor of a home, especially in sleeping areas and near any major gas-burning appliances. CO detectors that sound an alarm and can wake sleeping people are preferred over those that only show a change of color. If your CO detector alarm has not gone off but you suspect CO gas may be present, have your home checked by a professional.

Additional tips to keep your family safe from possible CO exposure:

- Do not place detectors within five feet of gas-burning appliances or near cooking or bathing areas.
- Always follow the manufacturer's directions for placement, operation and maintenance.
- Before cold weather arrives, have all fuel-burning appliances, furnaces, vents and fireplaces inspected by a professional technician.
- Make sure appliances and chimneys have proper airflow.
- Do not use an oven or gas range for heating your home.
- Do not operate space heaters or leave the stove or fireplace burning while sleeping.
- Use charcoal and gas grills only in well-ventilated areas. Never use them inside a building or tent.



- Have vehicle exhaust systems inspected for possible leaks.
- Never run car engines in the garage, even if the garage door is open.
- Do not sleep in a parked car or let anyone travel or sleep in the covered bed of a pick-up truck while the engine is running.

▪ Tips To Prevent Medicine Overdosing

Cough and cold season means more medicine in the home and possibly more opportunities for accidental poisonings. Many cough and cold medicines look pretty, usually like a child's favorite drink, and taste good, which makes them attractive to children. All medicines should be locked up and out of the reach of children, even if they have child resistant caps. And remember that children can easily remove medicines from diaper bags and purses. "Child-resistant" does not mean a medicine container is child-proof. Some children can open child-resistant caps and child-resistant packaging often only slows children down. It is advisable to always read labels to find out what ingredients are in the over-the-counter medicine and to determine the recommended dose.

Overdoses also can result when multiple caretakers give multiple doses of medicine. It is recommended that caretakers write down the time that each medicine is given so that the next caretaker knows exactly when to administer the next dose.

Using the right dosing device also is important. Some medicines come with their own dosing devices. Household teaspoons come in all different shapes and sizes and are not always the same as a standard measuring device. Dosing devices that are easy to use and have easy-to-read numbers are available at pharmacies. It is important to check with a pharmacist or physician if unsure about the type of measuring device to use or exactly how much medicine to give.

Keep the Oklahoma Poison Control Center number next to the telephone and call immediately if a poisoning occurs.

OUPharmTECH News

▪ Microsoft Producer - A Tool for Creating Digital Media

Microsoft Producer is an add-on for Microsoft PowerPoint® version 2002 (part of Office XP suite). The software makes it easy to capture, synchronize, and publish audio, video, slides, and images on the Web. Best of all, Producer can be downloaded without charge at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/technologies/producer/>.

OUPharmTECH will soon be using Producer to create online training resources, broadcast lectures, and to publish archives of live presentations. [Click here](#) to view the College of Pharmacy's current digital media archives.

For additional information, visit: <http://www.microsoft.com/office/powerpoint/producer/overview.htm>

Job Openings

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy

- Research Technician
- Research Assistant II
- Senior Pharmacy Technician
- Assistant Director of Student Services
- Clinical Pharmacist
- Assistant/Associate Professor

Eckerd Drug Company

- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

- Staff Pharmacist