

AAiPS

Newsletter



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF INDIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENTISTS

P.O. Box 7244
Colonia, NJ 07067

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Newsletter Editor: Rashmi Pai-Thakur

Editorial Committee: Krip Borah; Uday Doshi; Mike Yelvigi

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

On behalf of AAiPS, I wish our readers a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. Our 2010 annual AAiPS meeting in New Orleans was grand success and thank you all for your tremendous response in attendance. During the past years, our membership has become broad based and expanding from AAPS to many universities in India.

We have the same dynamic team for the this year with broader scope of EC membership including Laura Yelvigi (secretary), Anthony Hickey, Sanjiv Gupta, Rajesh Krishnan (members at large), Rupa Doshi (Program), Chuck Bass (Advertisement) just to name few. We have taken advantage of the Web and are completely green. As you will see in the near future, the AAiPS Web site will be completely revamped offering enhanced scope. Please take a moment to register for our April 1st regional meeting and update your contact information on the web (www.aaips.org) and our Regional meeting at Washington D.C. We will update the membership directory and will also continue to notify you of upcoming meetings through the e-mail system. You can register and pay online through the pay pal system.

I would like to expand our life membership base as well as our current membership. The vision committee (Rupa Doshi, Rajesh

Krishna and Anthony Hickey), has been busy and has recommended that the theme for 2011 to be “impact of emerging markets on the pharmaceutical industry”. So, all our regional meeting presentations will be focused on this “Vision” theme. Our DC chapter (Praveen Hiremath) has also been busy and has scheduled a meeting on April 22, 2011 in Rockville, MD. Announcement soon to be posted on web.

Our sponsorship committee (Barry Fox) will continue to perform outstanding job, recruiting additional new sponsors for 2011 as well as our dedicated past sponsors. Without sponsor support, AAiPS would not be very successful. Also we hope to continue to expand ties with other organizations, such as the NJPHAST with a joint meeting tentatively scheduled in June. Once again we would like to continue to expand our chapters to other parts of the country.

Please write to us on how to improve the organization and serve you even better. Take active role and network at our regional and national meetings. Most importantly, come join us and have fun. Together, we can make AAiPS even better.

Best wishes.
Mohan Kabadi

FAMOUS QUOTES

“The path from dreams to success does exist. May you have the vision to find it, the courage to get onto it and the perseverance to follow it.” -Kalpana Chawla – Astronaut in her message to school students at her alma mater in Chandigarh, India

*“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”
- Eleanor Roosevelt*

PLAN ON ATTENDING OUR NEXT REGIONAL MEETING**PLEASE NOTE OUR LOCATION**

The sponsors for this event are

*Shaffer products and
MG America.*

TOPIC: Changing CMC Landscape - Opportunities for the Pharmaceutical Scientist

SPEAKERS:

Doug Mendenhall, Ph.D.,

AGENDA:

SOCIAL HOUR

5:30 PM

SEMINAR

6:30 PM

DINNER

7.30 PM

VENUE:

Crown of India Restaurant,
Princeton Meadow Shopping Center
660 Plainsboro Road,
Plainsboro, NJ 08536-3002
Tel: (609) 275-5707
www.crown-of-India.com

Save the Date: April 1st, 2011

REGISTRATION:

Before March 28th - Special rates for those registering and paying online: at
register@aaips.org

Members - \$30 and Nonmembers - \$35

After March 28th and walk-ins: Members- \$40 and Nonmembers- \$45 Students: \$20

For more information, call: Uday Doshi (973)-385-2057 (udaydoshi@aol.com)



REGIONAL MEETING AT WASHINGTON D.C.

Dear Friends,

I wish our readers and members a very Happy and Successful New Year. The year 2010 was very exciting and productive for AAiPS. We had a very successful Washington DC Chapter meeting in 2010, the talk was well received and the response was rewarding. I would like to thank our team, audience and sponsors for making 2010 DC Chapter meeting a grand success.

It is my immense pleasure to announce that we are organizing our 2011 regional meeting of AAiPS-Washington DC Chapter on April 22 2011. This time we are expecting that the event would be much more interesting and informative as there will be two renowned speakers from US FDA (US Food & Drug Administration). Dr. Lawrence Yu, Deputy Director for Science and Chemistry - Office of Generic Drugs, US FDA would be speaking on "Understanding pharmaceutical quality by design (QbD)". Dr. Rakhi Shah, Pharmacologist - Division of Product Quality Research, US FDA will be delivering a talk on "Scientific Advances and Challenges of Nanopharmaceuticals: An FDA Perspective." We are inviting professionals from pharmaceutical/biotech industries, FDA, NIH and similar organizations around to be part of this exciting event. Knowing the significance and applicability of these fields, QbD and nanopharmaceuticals in pharmaceutical product development, we are expecting a large number of audiences for this exciting event.

I am thankful to our executive committee, especially Mr. Vijai Kumar, for their constant guidance, support and inspiration. As always, I welcome your suggestions and ideas to improve our organization, and which help me serve AAiPS Washington DC Chapter to my best capacity.

I am cordially inviting you all to attend our DC Chapter meeting on April 22 2011. I request our sponsors to help this significant event by extending their support. I would also like to inform our out-station audience that they could explore the "Cherry Blossom" scenic beauty (post-Cherry Blossom festival) of Washington DC.

Sincerely,
Praveen S. Hiremath, PhD
Chair – AAiPS Washington DC Chapter



THE CHANGING FOCUS OF DRUG DEVELOPMENT

Krip Borah – contributing editor

A few years ago, I attended the Indian Pharmaceutical Congress in New Delhi. In one of the seminars at the congress, a speaker from the United Kingdom spoke on Adverse Drug Reactions. He stated that in Great Britain, nearly 50000 people die every year due to adverse drug reactions. Here in the United States, that number is over 100000 people. The American Medical Association reported a few years ago that the incidence of adverse reactions in the USA is over 2 million and that too for drugs approved by the FDA.

In this connection, it will be interesting to look into a specific health condition that more than 75 million people have in the USA, namely high blood pressure or hypertension. At times, high blood pressure may lead to serious cardiovascular ailments and in many cases, lead to untimely death. People dying from complications of high blood pressure are nearly a 100000 per year. Presently there are basically three categories of drugs to treat hypertension. They are the calcium channel blockers, the alpha and beta blockers and the ACE inhibitors. There are many drugs in all three categories marketed by the Pharmaceutical companies which are in turn prescribed by the physicians to control hypertension.

Several years ago, I happened to be associated with an organization in the development and marketing nutraceutical products. During the course of my stay in that organization, a product was developed which resulted in an US patent to maintain healthy blood pressure level. Majority of the market for this product comprised of elderly people, both men and women. Since I was also handling marketing, I used to take

the calls from this segment of interested patients. Most of them were seeking an alternative to their current prescribed therapy due to the side effects. Most of them took one or a combination of the above three categories of antihypertensive drugs. Most of them complained of uncomfortable itching all over their body and sometimes their skin would break leading to bleeding, particularly in those parts of the body where the skin was very soft. After further investigating the issue from a scientific perspective, (I checked the PDR to find out the chemical structure of these drugs), I noticed that those drugs with a heterocyclic nitrogen atom in the ring mostly caused the adverse reaction. API's with no nitrogen atom in the ring but in a straight chain caused no adverse reaction. It was interesting to note that all the ACE inhibitors had either one or more of the nitrogen atom in the ring. In the case of alpha and beta blockers with no nitrogen atom in the ring, there were no adverse effects.

The above mentioned finding questions the early development process of drug discovery where such issues should be normally dealt with. In contrast, one finds all the emphasis is placed on the latter stages of drug development and subsequent manufacturing. All the cGMP's and QbD's which the FDA is pursuing have not helped any of the complaints of people mentioned above. Presently many new drugs are of biotech origin. The side effects from these API's are severe including possible brain infection, tuberculosis, urogenital bleeding and many more. A while ago, an issue of the journal chemical and engineering news exclusively dealt with Pharm R&D. In that issue, one of the contributors stated I quote ' The phenotypic cell- and organism-based approach and reductionist target- and mechanism-based strategy each has its

advantages and disadvantages, but the shift to reductionism may have reduced the thoughtful characteristics of earlier generations of drug discovery, where biologists and chemists worked together very closely at the target and lead stages and also were often well informed on clinical aspects of disease.' The author further states - Something important may have been lost in the change to modern ways of doing drug discovery. This reiterates the need for a change in focus in the drug development process.

JOB OPENINGS

If you are looking for a job or want to advertise a job, send the editor an email at thakurrashmi@gmail.com and we will post your requirements/credentials in the career section we intend to create on our website.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

This forum is a great platform for informing every one of recent changes in your professional life. If you have moved to a new job or need to update contact information, email us and we will post it.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

The rates of advertisement for the AAiPS newsletter are as follows:

One year (four issues): \$1000 full page, \$500 half a page, \$250 quarter page

One time (one issue): \$400 full page, \$200 half a page, \$100 quarter page.

Contact: Ramesh Raikar
rraikar5@yahoo.com

No advertisements under a quarter page

Opinions expressed in this newsletter belong solely to the authors, and do not represent the views of AAiPS or its members.

AAIPS Office Bearers for 2010-2012

President: Mohan Kabadi (908.578.3037)
Vice President: Uday Doshi (973.385.2057)
DC Chapter Chair: Praveen Hiremath (301 796-1573)
Secretary: Laura Yelvigi (908.507.5295)
Treasurer :Ramesh Raikar (908.757.8462)
Immediate past president: Vijai Kumar (973.722.3670)
Past President: Mukund (Mike) Yelvigi (845.602.5213)
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