



BPCTODAY



GOVERNMENT PLEDGES FUNDING TO SUPPORT NEW REGULATOR

A contribution of £3million from the Government to help support the transition to the General Pharmaceutical Council was the headline announcement made in the speech by Ben Bradshaw, Minister of State for Health Services, to delegates on day one of BPC 2007.

Mr Bradshaw – whose responsibilities include professional regulation issues – said: “As the minister overseeing the programme of change to professional regulations across all the health professions I am already aware of the concerns that many of you have about the establishment of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). I am pleased to be able to tell you the Government will be contributing three million pounds to help support the transition to a new regulator, costs

which otherwise may have fallen on the profession itself.”

In his speech the minister acknowledged the profession’s success in breaking into new areas of healthcare and helping reduce health inequalities in deprived areas. “We are keen to promote what the pharmacy profession at large can contribute,” he said, “as well as drawing on the specialist skills of pharmacist prescribers, pharmacists with special interests and consultant pharmacists in redesigning services to best meet people’s needs.”

Speaking about the new professional body the Minister made it clear that regulation is not the whole story, saying: “To carry out its functions the General Pharmaceutical Council will need support from leadership in the pharmacy profession. The White Paper on professional regulation suggested that a body akin to a royal college of



Hemant Patel (right) with Health Minister Ben Bradshaw

pharmacy should be formed to provide clinical leadership for pharmacy. It is clearly a matter for the profession to do this if it so wishes.

“But my experience as a politician tells me that whatever path you choose to take, good, strong leadership often comes from collaboration across a

Continued overleaf...

DON'T MISS TODAY...

**9.15 – 10.00
Auditorium**

Keynote address: The community pharmacy contract: reflections from the national evaluation Professor Alison Blenkinsopp, Keele University followed by retiring Secretary & Registrar Ann Lewis).

**10.45 – 12.45
Charter suite 4**

Balancing risk and regulation: the increasing role of patients and pharmacists – various speakers.

**14.00 – 14.45
Auditorium**

Keynote address Cox-2 inhibitors: blood, guts, fashion and politics, Professor Clive Wilson, Science Chairman, BPC 2007.

**14.00 – 14.45
Charter 3**

Keynote address by Professor Theo Raynor, Practice Chairman.

**17.45 – 18.45
Exhibition Hall**

Pharmacists’ Defence Association drinks reception (followed by ‘Supervision and the responsible pharmacists’ session from 18.45 – 19.45 Auditorium).

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range of interests. Those interests don't have to agree all the time, but when it comes to the important matters unity prevails. My advice to you is to take a deep breath, build on the past foundations of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and for the sake of the future, come together as a pharmacy profession under the leadership of something like a Royal College of Pharmacy."

Responding to the £3m announcement the Society's Treasurer Andrew Gush said: "The Society has made strong representations to Government about the costs relating to the establishment of both the regulatory and future professional bodies. While we welcome the £3m in funding announced today by the Minister Ben Bradshaw towards the transition to GPhC we see this as a first step and will continue engaging with the Department of Health on funding to support the establishment of a professional body for pharmacy."

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR A 'COMMUNITY OF PHARMACISTS'

The President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Mr Hemant Patel used his presidential address on the first day of BPC 2007 to call for a 'Community of Pharmacists' who will shape the future of the profession, make Britain the safest place in the world to take medicines and make British people healthier.

He said: "I see the profession, not just the Society, but all the organisations within it, as a Community of Pharmacists, involving all parts of our profession: community pharmacy, primary care, hospital, academic and industrial pharmacy and pharmacists with special interests.

"A community that supports one another; a community that helps

everyone to maximise their potential; a community that has strong values; a community in which everyone is heard; a community with a sense of pride; a community with a common purpose; a community to which people want to belong. More than that, not an insular community or a community of self interest...but a force for social good."

The President also thanked members for their commitment and dedication to the profession and pledged that the Society will continue to work on behalf of all its members, despite the challenging times ahead. He said: "My vision is of a self-confident profession practising in the best possible way to serve patients and the public. Medicines focused, patient centred and community spirited."

NOTES FROM THE SCIENCE CHAIR

Professor Clive G. Wilson is JP Todd Professor of Pharmaceutics at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. Here he explains what BPC 2007 means to him.

"Medicines have transformed the quality of life, extended our life expectancy and are indispensable to all cultures. Making drugs involves an investment in personnel and machinery to supply medicines of the highest purity in safe doses which the public finds acceptable. When everything goes as planned, the patient gets better and the investors get an acceptable yield on their investment.

"But there is another side of the coin. The patient may not get better and instead suffer unexpected side effects.

The new drug may not be as effective as first thought or the risk to benefit ratio unacceptable and industry fails. The cost of a mistake at this level is huge, in terms of reputation, finance and public confidence. Moreover, the drug may be counterfeit and pose a real risk to the individual.

"If drugs are potent medicines, then we must inform the public appropriately. Patients may be so wary of side-effects reported in the media they may turn to alternative therapy in the belief that CEnatural is better. In certain conditions, they may come to no harm but in others, the outlook is worrying.

"This conference is about all the facets in the medicine maze from producing a good medicine, through its use and informing the patient appropriately. The breadth of the coverage is reflected in the diversity of the science and practice debates from holistic medicine to



Professor Clive G. Wilson

nanotechnology, from counterfeit drugs to new paradigms in treating arthritis, blindness, respiratory disease and from treating the individual to the conduct of the industry and the regulatory bodies. It is about balancing risks and benefits, seen from all angles."

A QUICK CHAT WITH...

Professor Theo Raynor, BPC 2007 Practice Chair



Professor Theo Raynor

What's new about BPC this year on the practice front?

"We've got at least four patients contributing to sessions at BPC this year. Pharmacists exist because of patients so it is important that we get them involved in our annual conference. We can learn vital lessons from them and it is essential we engage with them to allow them to help inform future practice. The other thing that's completely new is that there's a wine reception at the practice poster session on Tuesday afternoon (17.15-18.15) which is well worth attending!"

What should pharmacists particularly look out for this year?

"On Tuesday morning (9.15-10.00) Alison Blenkinsopp will be talking about the evaluation of the community pharmacy contract and that should be of interest to all community

pharmacists. It's also worth noting that one of the practice research sessions (15.15-17.15, Tuesday) has a number of abstracts of specific pieces of research on the new contract, which will also be very useful. The other thing they might want to look out for is the session on Wednesday on pharmacists with a special interest (14.30-16.30) - I don't know much about this myself so I'll certainly be there."

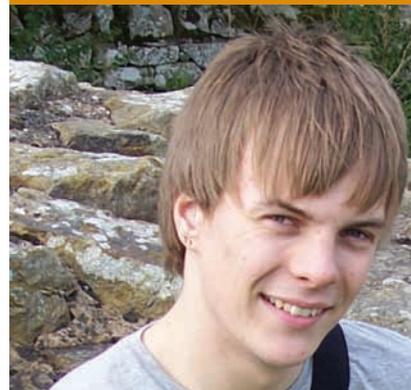
What are you most looking forward to at BPC this year?

"I'm most looking forward to a keynote session involving a patient called Gill Dorer (14.00-14.45, Tuesday). Her session is called, 'I've run out of the white ones' and is all about how patients perceive and identify their medicines. We have worked with Gill before in our research and she is what we call a patient consultant. There are also some specific sessions that relate to my research and I am really looking forward to all of those."

What is your main aim as practice chair?

"I'm hoping to engage some of the science delegates in the practice programme. It is important that we understand that when scientists do their job really well and develop these drugs, if they are not prescribed properly, we don't handle them properly and patients don't take them properly then all the initial hard work is wasted. We all need to work together to ensure the end outcome is as effective as possible."

SOUNDBITES: What I'm most looking forward to at BPC this year...



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Ryan Hamilton First time BPC delegate

"As a first time delegate at this year's BPC I am really looking forward to the talks and presentations, especially some of the science talks that have been scheduled. As a current Pharmacy student BPC is a great opportunity to experience what is going on in the world of pharmacy on a first hand basis. As well as this the careers forum and the exhibitions will hopefully be very helpful for the upcoming years of my degree."

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WHAT'S ON THE SOCIETY'S STAND TODAY?

Each day on the RPSGB stand at BPC we'll be showing how the Society is working for you with a different theme each day.

Tuesday:

The Work of the National Boards

Today BPC delegates have the opportunity to meet and talk to various members of the three national pharmacy boards for England, Scotland and Wales. Each of the boards has developed a series of key work priorities and specific strategies to take this work forward. In England this includes a focus on supporting pharmacy involvement in practice based commissioning, encouraging

pharmacy leadership and looking at workload and workforce issues. In Wales the focus is on the Chronic Conditions Management agenda. In Scotland the focus is on engaging with members, supporting Branches, and influencing the agenda of the new Scottish government.

Find out more at the RPSGB stand 76 in the exhibition hall.

**OUT AND ABOUT
IN MANCHESTER**

EATING AND DRINKING

If you're looking for somewhere convivial to go with BPC contacts old and new, Manchester city centre has it all. Here are three of BPC Today's favourites:

Lounge 10: *A magician, a fortune teller, a superb restaurant, live music and a bar all add up to three floors of sophistication, glamour and decadence reminiscent of 19th century Parisian nightclubs like the Moulin Rouge.* 10 Tib Lane, 0161 834 1331.

Cesare's San Rocco Ristorante: *Busy, vibrant atmosphere and renowned as one of Manchester's best Italian restaurants.* 8 South King Street, 0161 832 7669.

Pan Asia: *Regarded as one of the best Chinese restaurants in the North West.* 45-47 Faulkner Street, 0161 236 6868.



30-MINUTE SIGHTSEEING

The Manchester Museum

Explore the world at the Manchester Museum with its four floors of displays and exhibitions in 15 galleries featuring collections from all over the world. See the famous Egyptology galleries (the most important collection in the UK) and explore the world of nature, including live animals and the Museum's own collections of fossils and minerals. Based at The University of Manchester, Oxford Road.

EXHIBITORS' SHOWCASE

1 British Pharmacopoeia:

Stand 59 (MHRA)

www.pharmacopoeia.co.uk

The British Pharmacopoeia remains the only comprehensive collection of standards for medicinal substances in the UK. The BP 2008, published in August, this year includes new monographs for unlicensed medicines, traditional Chinese medicines, homeopathic mother tinctures and colour indicator charts, together with the monographs from supplements 5.6 - 5.8 of the European Pharmacopoeia.

2 Teva UK Ltd: Stand 31

www.tevauk.com

Teva is the world's largest generics company, with leadership in three UK marketplaces - Generics, Hospitals and Brands. The Branded division of Teva manages the respiratory portfolio, including innovative formulations and delivery devices such as Qvar™ and Easi-Breathe® and also promotes Mucodyne™, a mucolytic for COPD.

3 Servier Laboratories Ltd: Stand 38

www.servier.co.uk

Servier Laboratories is the UK subsidiary of Servier Research Group, a leading French organisation specialising in ethical pharmaceuticals. Our product portfolio in the UK focuses on Cardiovascular disease, Diabetes,

Osteoporosis and Depression. Working in partnership with leading professional organisations, we developed Servier Prescribing & Medicines Management awards that reward activities which improve patient care.

4 Tesco Stores Ltd: Stand 64

www.tesco-careers.com

We are the UK's leading retailing company; we have even bigger ambitions, do you? If the answer is YES then you are on the verge of being part of an innovative company with huge plans for Pharmacy expansion in some of our 2000 stores nationwide - so can you see the potential? Visit us at our stand to find out more about Regional Pharmacy Manager, Pharmacy Manager and Pharmacists job opportunities.

5 The National Pharmacy Association: Stand 65

www.npa.co.uk

The National Pharmacy Association (NPA) is the trade association of the UK's community pharmacy owners and has virtually all community pharmacies in voluntary membership. The Association provides its members with professional and commercial support as well as representing the interests of community pharmacy to Government both at national and European levels.

BPC CONFERENCE CLUB

Don't forget that this year's conference club is being held at the prestigious Beluga Bar which is situated at 2 Mount Street, a stone's throw away from the Town Hall in Albert Square and virtually opposite the Midland Hotel. As well as one of the city's most extensive selections of fine wines and cocktails, Beluga also offers free broadband wireless internet access for delegates who can't escape their emails! Open until 2am.

BPC TODAY

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