



EuroPharmaFaculties News

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20th Annual EAFP Conference

Ljubljana, Slovenia, May 22 – 24, 2014

The deadline for advance registration is April 8th, 2014.

See at www.eafponline.eu

<http://eafponline.eu/conferences/ljubljana2014/>

Science-based pharmacy education: Towards better medicines and patient care

The conference programme focuses on the intimate interlace between professional aspects and science in the wide field of pharmacists' activities. The conference topics are:

- Pharmacy Education Triangle: Linking education, science and stakeholders
- Wider Horizons for Pharmacists
- Embracing New Drugs, Technologies, Delivery Systems into Curricula
- Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Care: Education and Research
- Pharmaceutical Networking

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PHAR_QA DLVB 4.2 DISS press release. V2 March 2014, by Jeffrey Atkinson

The PHAR-QA (*Quality assurance in European pharmacy education and training*) is funded by the EU ERASMUS Lifelong Learning Programme. The PHAR-QA project will focus on competences and quality assurance in the education and training of European pharmacists extending the study initiated by PHARMINE (*Pharmacy Education in Europe*).

The adoption of a European QA system in pharmacy education is necessary to face up to the specific challenge of ensuring that the formation produces a qualified professional who is capable of working efficiently in a profession within a regulatory framework independently of the institution in which you study. In addition, competences should be redefined according with the current trends such as:

- University re-organisation and movement towards the European Higher Education Area with emphasis on the Bologna principles and – amongst others – considerations of the bachelor/master organisation of courses;
- The economics and organisation of healthcare systems with community and hospital pharmacists playing an increasingly important role in European healthcare systems that are becoming more and more streamlined;
- Advances in the pharmaceutical – biotechnology industry with a move from small molecule medicines to therapy of biomedical origin produced by SMEs.

The bottom line to all of the above is patient safety. This is the primordial preoccupation of the pharmacist be it in everyday practice in community or hospital pharmacies, or in an industrial setting ensuring the research, development and production of efficient and safe medicines. The ultimate stakeholder of the PHAR-QA project is, therefore, the European population.

PHAR-QA is run jointly by a consortium of universities at the forefront of educational research and development in pharmacy. Led by the Pharmacy Faculty of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the Pharmacolor Consultants, Nancy in France and the participation of:

- University of Granada, Spain
- National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- University of Tartu, Estonia
- University of Helsinki, Finland
- University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Jagiellonian University of Cracow, Poland
- Medical and Pharmaceutical University Carol Davila of Bucharest, Romania

PHAR-QA will also work in close collaboration with the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy and other European organisations, as well as with MEDINE (*Medical Education in*

Europe). It has an international advisory board with experts in QA in pharmacy education from the USA, UK, Spain and elsewhere, as well as a representative from TUNING.

PHAR-QA will run a survey on the evaluation by the pharmacy community of a proposal for a framework of competences for pharmacy practice.

The project outcomes will be used by 200 HEIs in Europe; education and healthcare sectors of national governments; EU DGs and the professional organizations of pharmacists. PHAR-QA outcomes will also be disseminated to:

- Students and staff in the faculties;
- EU pharmacists (community, hospital, industrial and others);
- National and European healthcare specialist groups;
- Members of the European pharmaceutical, biotechnological, chemical, agricultural (especially pharmaceutical food science) industries.

Information will also be provided to non-European countries wishing to follow the work of the consortium and possibly to implement the PHARMINE and PHAR-QA paradigms.

PHAR-IN : competences for industrial pharmacy practice in biotechnology

PHAR-IN is a project funded by the EU from November 2013 through November 2015, with Kriestien De Paepe (VUB, Brussels), as Coordinator, and Jeffrey Atkinson, (Université de Lorraine), as Executive director.

The objective of PHAR-IN is to propose, with the collaboration of industrial pharmacists, a list of competences for biotechnologists and to check the courses needed. The results will be published, and reported to EU funding agency.

**The Italian Pharmacy of
Services :
Concerning the new law**

**by Dr. Claudio Distefano,
President of FENAGIFAR (*)**



The *Pharmacy services*, according to the Italian law 69/2009 and the Italian legislative decree 153/2009 approved by the Italian National Health Service (S.S.N.) can provide, with new functions, the following services:

1. launch of integrated home care services through dispensing and delivering treatments and medical devices;
2. preparation and dispensing of artificial nutrition mixtures and painkillers;
3. provision of health and social workers, nurses and physical therapists in order to perform specific professional tasks at home;
4. collaboration initiatives to control and monitor chronic therapies;
5. implementation of health educational programs and prevention of major diseases with a strong social impact;
6. inclusion of defibrillators in their structures;
7. carrying out analytical performance of first instance (ie self-analysis of parameters such as blood glucose and cholesterol);
8. reservation of specialist care performance and withdrawal of related reports.

This set of laws came from the reduction of public resources allocated in the healthcare system and, in particular, in the pharmaceutical industry.

In the last years, the Italian Pharmacy System has developed its main vocation to protect the medical care, because the pharmacist is the first health care contact with the citizen. The pharmaceutical service, in each territorial area, is guaranteed by the number of pharmacies established by the National System through the relationship between inhabitants and pharmacies, as determined by law.

The rules concerning the *Pharmacy Services* require that the pharmacy must be the first access to the National Health Service for the health management and let the activities related to acute or more complex pathologies to the public hospitals.

The Document of Financial Economics published in 2013 says: "we need to enhance the role of affiliated pharmacies and, in particular, the pharmacy services, concentrating in them the delivery of new services and social care value. This new role of pharmacies may result in positive effects in terms of financial savings where it will limit access to hospitals".

However, the legislative decree 159/09 has not been able to develop its potential because services and activities have not been funded.

Until the legislation is applicable only some of the services were activated and only in limited territories. Since a single unit may not have the executive and financial strength in order to be suitable to the law, some kind of associations or chains among pharmacies have been structured thanks also to the economies of scale which have arisen. This phase was important in order to test and select the most

useful activities required by the users, but today, these services can be supplied by the citizen only in the private sphere upon payment.

Today, the difficulties arising from the financial crisis do not allow to find new economic resources to invest in this sector. But the implementation of the same law enables, with the transfer of the above activities to the pharmacy departments, to quantify the savings that could be achieved.

We can so identify:

1. direct forms of savings , thanks to:
 - less involving in hospitals
 - fewer emergency room visits .
2. Indirect forms of savings through:
 - health education programs, screening of the most common chronic diseases,
 - improved adherence and effectiveness of medical care;
 - lower social costs resulting from a more widespread access to benefits and health services.

The application of the legislation, could improve the networking among pharmacies and health professionals. Through the development of inter-professional collaboration, efficiency and results we could achieve a substantial cost savings in the Italian national health system.

(*) FENAGIFAR, the association of young pharmacy holder

**New Doctorate in Pharmacy
Programme in Europe**

The University of Malta
(Professor Lilian M. Azzopardi)
The University of Illinois in Chicago
(Professor Alan Lau)

The University of Malta in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Chicago is launching a new postgraduate Doctorate of Pharmacy programme, PharmD. The programme is offered by the Department of Pharmacy of the University of Malta, Malta in collaboration with the College of Pharmacy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois, USA (UIC). The course is expected to start in October 2014 and is intended to attract European and International pharmacists who would like to develop their clinical pharmacy and research skills to a doctorate degree.

The Department of Pharmacy at the University of Malta enjoys a longstanding history of experience in clinical pharmacy education and research and the College of Pharmacy at the University of Illinois in Chicago ranks among the top colleges of pharmacy in the US.

This PharmD course which is being launched is unique in that it combines the development and application of advanced clinical pharmacy skills with contextual research. All study-units are delivered jointly by the University of Malta and the UIC College of Pharmacy. The course is targeted at pharmacists who would like to

advance their careers by enhancing professional clinical practice with a research perspective. It offers a professional doctorate in clinical pharmacy and is suitable for pharmacists working in hospitals, primary-care or community pharmacy and pharmacy administration and regulatory settings. The course will empower pharmacists to assume leadership roles that will drive policies and developments in clinical practice and service that draws on scientific, evidence-based and innovative research.

The Pharm D course is spread over three years of study and spanning a total of 6 semesters. The first year of study is mainly composed of taught units with the second and third years being based primarily on research and clinical experience. The programme is delivered using a blended learning model that includes lectures, distance learning and practice-based learning. Candidates who complete successfully 90 ECTS are awarded a Master in Advanced Clinical Pharmacy if they do not wish to proceed further.

The taught programme covers aspects of Pharmacotherapeutics, Drug information and statistics, Principles of pharmacoconomics and Health systems in Europe and the USA. The **Clinical Experience** will be provided through clinical rotations based in different pharmacy settings including hospital, ambulatory care and community pharmacy. The **Research** modules will lead the candidate to develop critical analysis and literature evaluation within the context of translational and applied research in pharmacy.

The PharmD course presents a unique opportunity for pharmacists in all areas to acquire a doctorate degree reflecting present and future international developments in pharmacy education, practice and research.

Further information may be obtained from Professor Lilian M. Azzopardi of the Department of Pharmacy at the University of Malta on lilian.m.azzopardi@um.edu.mt or Professor Alan Lau from the College of Pharmacy University of Illinois at Chicago on alanlau@uic.edu.

**University Days 2013
at Asfendiyarov Kazakh National
Medical University (Almaty,
Kazakhstan)**

by **Akbota Rustemova**

International Cooperation department

“University Days 2013: Contemporary trends in the world development of medical education and healthcare. Possibilities for international cooperation”

University Days 2013 were held on December 2-4, 2013 on the premises of Asfendiyarov Kazakh National Medical University (Almaty, Kazakhstan). First Day was full of bright welcome speeches from world-known professors representing UK, USA and South Korea. Burning discussions were heard during the two round tables one focusing on further cooperation with partner universities and another aimed to build fruitful relations with university employers. Day of Faculties was rich with 19 themed conferences, 6 round tables, 3 master-classes, a symposium in bioethics, First Eurasian congress of patho-physiologists. Guests and visiting professors from USA,

Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Turkey, Georgia and CIS countries participated in the conference. In this three-day event University was a center of student events as well. One of the most memorable was «MedTalks 2013. Experience Abroad: When? Where? Why?» (December 2, 2013). MedTalks became a platform to unite 33 students from 15 Universities, 6 countries. Expert opinion was shared by 3 expert group members (O. Voblikova – American Councils, Z. Abilova – Turkish Ethno-Cultural Center, I. Chubarova – Alliance Française).

As any story, everything should have a beginning and an ending; University Days are no exception and to conclude this year's event several cooperation agreements with foreign universities were signed. To further develop and increase the efficiency of partner relations Asfendiyarov KazNMU Partner Universities' Association was newly established. The employers, showing a great interest in our students, hurried to sign the agreements with University and the best Alumni were awarded with some outstanding gifts from their Alma-Mater. Future plan of actions and cooperation course were defined to strengthen the existing relations. It is a huge honour to emphasize University Days are turning into an event to gather new old friends and begin new projects.

We cordially invite those wishing to join us for University Days 2014 which will traditionally be held on December 2-4.

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Conferences to come :

See : www.pharmweb.net
www.pharmacy.org/conf.html

April 2014

Designing an Efficient Pharmacovigilance System : Integrating electronic system to achieve an Effective Safety System - 2nd April 2014 – Munich

4th Annual Pharmaceutical Logistics and Cold Chain Forum - 2nd - 4th April 2014 - Vienna, Wien, Austria

GHP/UKCPA Joint National Conference, Dignity, Care and Compassion – 4th April 2014 - 6th April 2014 - Manchester, UK.

Physicochemical Characterization, Solubilization and Solid Form Screening for Drug Candidate Selection - 7th - 10th April 2014 - Madison, WI, USA

11th Annual World Health Care Congress (WHCC) – The intersection of strategy, Innovation and execution – 7 April-9 April 2014 – National Harbour DC, United States

SCT-SFNano Joint Meeting : When Medicinal Chemistry meets Nanomedicines: Molecular Aspects of Targeting, Activation and Delivery of Drugs - 8th April 2014 - Paris, France.

Regulatory challenges & opportunities in antibiotic drug development & registration - 8th April 2014 - London, United Kingdom

5th FIP Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress – 13-16 April 2014 - Melbourne, Australia

13th European Symposium on Controlled Drug Delivery - 16th April 2014 - 18th April 2014 - Egmond aan Zee, The Netherlands.

The clinical pharmacy congress – April 25th-26th 2014 – London

The ISPE Europe Annual Conference 2014 - Driving Effectiveness in Pharmaceutical Operations within the New Quality Culture - 28-30 April 2014, Frankfurt, Germany

May 2014

Annual International Conference on Pharmaceutical Sciences
5th - 8th May 2014 - Athens

23rd Annual EU Pharmaceutical Law Forum Europes Leading Pharma Law Conference - 14th - 15th May 2014 – Brussels, Belgium

Impurities in Pharmaceuticals - 14th - 15th May 2014 - Istanbul, Turkey

Combating counterfeit medicines : a major and growing challenge to patient safety – 15th May 2014 - London

5th Annual Discovery Partnerships 2014 - 19th - 20th May 2014 – Berlin, Germany

4th International Regulatory Workshop on A to Z Bioequivalence, Bioanalysis, Dissolution and Biosimilarity - May 19-21, 2014 - Budapest, Hungary.

GCP and Quality in Clinical Trials - 20th - 21st May 2014 - Koeln, Germany

Biosimilars - 21st - 22nd May 2014 - Berlin, Germany

June

4th World Congress On Cell Science & Stem Cell Research - 24th - 26th June 2014 - Valencia, Spain

9th annual ADMET Conference - 30th June - 1st July 2014 - Central London.

July

50th International Conference on Medicinal Chemistry
50èmes Rencontres Internationales de Chimie Thérapeutique "Interfacing Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery"- July 2-4, 2014 - Rouen, Normandy, France

Lyophilisation 2014 - 7th - 8th July 2014 - London, United Kingdom

August

4th International Conference on Proteomics ad Bioinformatics - 4th - 6th August 2014 - Chicago, USA

National Pharmacy Preceptors Conference - August 20-22, 2014 - Washington D.C.

74th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2014 - Pharmacists – Ensuring access to health: Exploring our impact on providing medicines, care and information - 31 August-4 September 2014 - Bangkok, Thailand

September

5th EuPFI Conference : Formulating better medicines for children
September 18-19, 2013, Barcelona, Spain

5th World Congress on Bioavailability and Bioequivalence: Pharmaceutical R&D Summit - 29th September - 1st October 2014 - Baltimore, USA

October

3rd International Summit on Toxicology - 20th - 22nd October 2014 - Chicago, Illinois, USA