



Baxter

Corporate Sponsor



Seasons Greetings to all ACA members. We have had a busy year in 2006 both with ACA and ADMA (Australian Disease Management Association) activities.

We ran or were involved in several successful seminars including the "HITH Nurses Seminar" in Melbourne in April and the "CAPAC and HITH Seminar - The Multidisciplinary Team Approach" in Sydney in October as well as a forum on "The WorkSafe Victoria Occupational Violence Project" and a 2 day conference on "Evidence-based Disease Management in the 21st Century" which was held in Melbourne in September. Other educational activities have included breakfast seminars on "Health and Workplace Productivity" for ADMA. For those interested in further information on disease management activities please check our website at www.adma.org.au.

Please note the seminar presentations from the Baxter sponsored HITH and CAPAC Seminar at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney on the 30th of October are available from the ACA website.

In 2006 we received queries from several overseas organisations interested in implementing HITH initiatives and have continued to have members from several international groups.

We would very much appreciate contributions to the Newsletter from ACA members. This may include information on new indications for HITH, use of novel therapies, any changes that your program may have implemented or any problems you have experienced that other programs may be interested in reading about.

All the best for 2007.

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Relevant International and Local News & Information

Adrenaline Shelf-life

The PBAC is aware of the short expiry date of Epi Pen. However, the sponsor, CSL Limited, has advised recently that the most recent data from the manufacturer's stability program do not support an extension of shelf-life.

CSL Limited is currently implementing a number of changes to the distribution process. These aim to improve the shelf-life in Australia of Epi Pen which is produced with a 20-month shelf-life by the US supplier, Dey Laboratories. The company advises that the following changes have been introduced to minimise the time lost between manufacture and patient in the distribution chain:

- Epi Pen will now be produced with Australian packaging by Dey Laboratories to save on repacking time in Australia
- CSL will work with wholesalers and pharmacies to minimise the time stock spends on shelves
- CSL will not release Epi Pen with a shelf-life of less than 13 months and in most cases it will be considerably more. Stock released since September 2005 will not expire for 17 months.

Letters explaining these changes were sent by CSL to doctors, pharmacies and wholesalers.

Aust Prescr 2006;29:52-3

Publications

The 1997 US Handbook of Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy has been revised and updated and can be ordered from the OPAT website at www.opat.com/handbook.html.

Information on the Web

Downloads of the presentations from the 2006 Healthcare Without Walls: delivering the best care in the best place conference can be accessed from www.changechampions.com.au/

Recent requests from the HITH Chat Line

- Insurance to cover patients being cared for in HITH.
- VAC therapy system on HITH
- Reporting of non-admitted patients occasions of service
- Policies or guidelines for self injection
- Management of problems in patients with acute conditions eg DVT and pneumonia after hours



ACA HITH Resources

ACA has several resources for HITH including the HITH Minimum Dataset, Program Standards and Guidelines, Anaphylaxis Guidelines and Staff Safety guidelines as well as over 7,000 copies of published articles on HITH or disease management. As the HITH Resource and Service Directory is out of date we will be producing a new edition in 2007. Please contact Marion on m.osborn@alfred.org.au if you would like your program listed or know of any other programs or services that we should include.

Upcoming Conferences

National Home Infusion Association (NHIA) 16th Annual Conference

26 February – 1 March 2007,
Savannah International Trade and Convention Centre,
Savannah, Georgia, USA
W: www.nhianet.org/conference06/nhia/postconf.html

3rd Australasian Redesigning Healthcare Summit: Making patient journeys work

27-28 February 2006
Sofitel Wentworth, Sydney, NSW
W: www.changechampions.com.au/

Improving the Delivery of Palliative Care for Older People

15 - 16 March 2007
Grand Lodge, Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney, NSW
W: www.changechampions.com.au/

Clinical Decisions, Ethical Challenges

22-23 March 2007
Pacific International Hotel, Cairns, QLD
W: www.changechampions.com.au/

INS Annual Meeting and Industrial Exhibition

June 2-7, 2007
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida, USA
W: www.ins1.org/

Innovations Clinical Pathways: sharing the lessons learnt

28 - 29 June 2007
Eden on the Park, Melbourne, VIC
W: www.changechampions.com.au/

2nd Healthcare Without Walls: delivering the best care in the best place

2-3 August 2007
Carlton Crest, Brisbane QLD
W: www.changechampions.com.au

5th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care - The Power of Us

6 - 8 August 2007
Brisbane Convention Centre
W: www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/sqhc2007/index.html

12th World Congress on Health (Medical) Informatics

20-24 August, 2007
Brisbane Convention Centre, QLD
W: www.medinfo2007.org

Skill Mix and Workforce Development: sharing the lessons learnt

22 -23 November 2007
Hilton on the Park, Melbourne, VIC
W: www.changechampions.com.au/