

Teaching Materials and Services; News and Notes

Drug Information, Bibliographic Resources, *Essential Drugs Monitor*

In developing countries it can often be very difficult to learn about available bibliographic resources relating to pharmaceuticals and their appropriate use. Even when resources are known, funds for their purchase may represent an insuperable problem. We are therefore listing below selected newsletters, bulletins, organizations and services which provide information free of charge or at low cost to developing countries, or with whom a swap arrangement may sometimes be made. We hope that this information will be a useful resource for all our readers. Please *do not* contact the Action Programme to obtain any of these publications but write direct to the addresses provided.

International Publications

WHO Publications

WHO Model Prescribing Information

Drugs used in anaesthesia, 1989. Eng, Fre. Provides up-to-date and objective information on the correct and safe prescribing of essential drugs used in anaesthesia. The information has general applicability but is particularly relevant to developing countries, where limited availability of equipment, training and skills must be considered when recommending safe practice. The publication, which was prepared by WHO in collaboration with the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists, includes model information sheets for 31 drugs.

Drugs used in parasitic diseases, 1990. (2nd ed. in press). Eng, Fre, Spa. Covers drugs used for the prevention and treatment of protozoal and helminthic infections. These include filarial infections, the leishmaniases, malaria, schistosomiasis and the trypanosomiases.

Drugs used in mycobacterial diseases, 1991. Eng, Fre, Spa. Gives model prescribing information for 13 essential drugs used for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis, for the treatment of leprosy and for the treatment of diseases caused by non tuberculosis mycobacteria. These include localised cutaneous lesions, pulmonary disease, lymphadenitis and disseminated disease.

Additions to the Model Prescribing Information series: Drugs used in sexually transmitted diseases and HIV infection (in press). Drugs used in skin diseases (in preparation).

The use of essential drugs (including the 8th Model List of Essential Drugs), 1995. Technical Report Series No. 850. This booklet also contains a general section with information on the criteria for the selection of essential drugs and various uses of the model list. Updated every two years.

Drugs for children, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 1987. In two parts: the first covering prescribing principles and therapeutic approaches, the second covering specific drug groups and clinical problems.

Drugs for the elderly, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 1989. Describes the principles of drug treatment in old age and the best therapeutic practice for the elderly.

Acute respiratory infection in children: case management in small hospitals in developing countries, 1990. Provides guidance on the clinical management of acute respiratory infections in children.

Management and prevention of diarrhoea: practical guidelines, 1993. Describes the principles and practices of treatment of diarrhoea in all ages, with special emphasis on the use of ORT in children. It also outlines child care practices that are vital for the prevention of diarrhoea.

The rational use of drugs in the management of acute diarrhoea in children, 1990. Reviews the documented pharmacology, mechanism of action, efficacy, adverse effects and drug interactions of oral formulations of antidiarrhoeal preparations. Presents conclusions and makes recommendations on the role and use of these in the treatment of acute diarrhoea in children.

New emergency health kit, 1990. Standard drugs, renewable supplies and equipment for 10 000 people for 3 months, with treatment guidelines. Available in Eng. Fre and Spa.

Management of severe and complicated malaria: a practical handbook, 1991. Provides general management principles, clinical features and complications. Separate sections cover management of severe malaria in children during pregnancy.

WHO Ethical criteria for medicinal drug promotion. The text of a WHO statement adopted by the World Health Assembly of 1988, setting out general principles which could be adapted by governments to national circumstances. Reprinted in *Essential Drugs Monitor* No. 17 (1994).

The priced publications listed above are available from: World Health Organization, Distribution and Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Selected annotated bibliography on essential drugs, 1994.* Provides an entry point to literature on drug related issues, including policy and regulation, selection, quality assurance, use, supply and finance.

Selected references on essential drugs, 1994.* A regularly updated list of documents which are available from the Documentation Centre of the Action Programme on Essential Drugs.

National, regional and international essential drugs lists, formularies and treatment guides, 1994.* A global index of these publications.

*These publications are available, free of charge, from The Action Programme on Essential Drugs, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Management of bloody diarrhoea in young children, 1994. Simple and effective guidelines, and their rationale, for the management of bloody diarrhoea in children under 5 years of age. *Available free of charge, from WHO, Programme for Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.*

Other UN and specialised agencies

Handbook for emergencies, UNHCR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), 1982. UNHCR, Case Postale 2500, CH-1211 Geneva 2 Depot, Switzerland. Chapter on health, including essential drug needs.

Liste standard de médicaments, Comité international de la Croix Rouge, 1986. CICR, ave de la Paix 19, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland. Essential drugs list divided into therapeutic categories.

Manual for essential drugs use, published by UNICEF (Emergency Operations in Former Yugoslavia), 1995. UNICEF, 3 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA. Essential drugs and vaccines used by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), listed alphabetically by generic name in English. Generic and proprietary names given in Russian.

Essential drugs policy, UNHCR, 1989. UNHCR, Case Postale 2500, CH-1211 Geneva 2 Depot, Switzerland. Chapter on health, including essential drug needs. A technical manual which provides essential information for those managing and supervising drug supplies in refugee health services.

Drug formulary, UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East), 1991. UNRWA. Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 700, A-1400. Vienna, Austria. Drugs grouped by therapeutic category, with indications, dosage, and precautions.

Model formulary of psychotropic medicines for Africa, UN International Drug Control Programme 1992. UNDCP, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 700, A-1400, Vienna, Austria. Presents general information on prescribing practices and then covers the four main groups of psychotropic medicines: anxiolytics, antidepressants, antipsychotics and antiepileptics.

Nongovernmental organizations

Liste de médicaments destinées aux postes de santé villageois, pharmacies ou dépôts villageois avec infirmier, CREDES (Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes pour le Développement de la Santé) Research and Study Centre for Health Development), 1987. CREDES, 53 rue de Turbigo, 75003 Paris, France. Gives comparative prices for drugs (Medeor/IDA) for village health posts, depots/village pharmacies.

Clinical guidelines: diagnostic and treatment manual, Médecins sans Frontières, 1990. Médecins sans Frontières, 8 rue Saint-Sabin, 7544 Paris Cedex 11, France. Description of clinical features, proposed and alternative treatment regimes: separate section on wounds and minor surgical procedures. Available in English (2nd ed.). French (3rd ed., 1992) and Spanish (1st ed., 1988).

Essential drugs: practical guidelines, Médecins sans Frontières, 1993. Médecins sans Frontières, 8 rue Saint-Sabin, 7544 Paris Cedex 11, France. Practical guide to the use of essential drugs which are classified under generic name. Also contains text of WHO publications 'New emergency health kit' and WHO Model list of essential drugs. Available in English, French (2nd ed., 1993) and Spanish.

Essential drug information sheets, IDA (International Dispensary Association), 1989. International Dispensary Association, P.O. Box 37098, 1030 AB Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Free of charge. Drugs listed by generic name with indications for use, dosage, and precautions.

Manual for rural health workers diagnosis and treatment with essential drugs. Fondation Heymans, in collaboration with WHO, 1989. World Health Organization, Distribution and Sales, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Available in English and French.

Medeor manual, Action Medeor (German Medical Relief Organization), 1989. Action Medeor, St Toniser Strasse 21 D-4154. Tonisvorst 2, Germany. Updated and expanded summary of the Medeor pharmacopoeia. Available in English and French.

Guidelines for donors and recipients of pharmaceutical donations (2nd ed.), Christian Medical Commission, 1990. Christian Medical Commission, World Council of Churches, 150 rte de Ferney, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland. Describes common problems with pharmaceutical donations and provides practical advice for potential donors and recipients. Available in English, French, Spanish and German.

Other

Standard treatment for primary health care, University of Uppsala, 1986. International Child Health Unit, Department of Paediatrics, University of Uppsala, Sweden, 1986. Listed by medical problems.

Les 120 médicaments de l'hôpital secondaire—Manuel des Prescripteurs (2nd ed.), Institut Universitaire d'Etudes de Développement, 1991. IUED, 24 rue Rothschild, Case postale 136, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Drugs listed alphabetically (generic name) with indications, dosage, precautions.

Les 40 médicaments du district (3rd ed.), Institut Universitaire d'Etudes du Développement, Geneva, Switzerland, 1989. IUED, 24 rue Rothschild, Case postale 136, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Drugs listed alphabetically (generic name) with indications, dosage, precautions. Available in French and Portuguese.

Essential drugs handbook for paediatric out-patient practice, Instituto Superiore di Sanità, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, 1990. Instituto Superiore di Sanità, Viale Regina Elena 299, Rome 00161, Italy. Drugs grouped by therapeutic category, with indications, dosage, precautions.

Buscando remedio, Ara A, Marchand B. Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios de la Salud, 1994. CIES, Atención Primaria y Medicamentos Esenciales, Apartado 72728, Managua, Nicaragua. Learning and action guide for local health workers. Provides general information on medicines, with details of the drugs used most regularly in primary health care. Also covers treatment of commonly occurring health problems. In Spanish.

WHO/PHC and Drug-Related Newsletters

WHO newsletters

These newsletters are free of charge. If you wish to obtain copies, please write directly to the relevant Programme at the address given.

AIDS Action. WHO Global Programme on AIDS/Appropriate Health Resources and Technologies Action Group, Farringdon Point, 29–35 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB, UK.
Eng, Fre, Spa, Por. Quarterly.

Practical information on a wide range of international AIDS care and prevention issues. Targeted at workers at district and community levels.

AIDS Health Promotion Exchange. WHO Global Programme on AIDS, Information, Library and Documentation Department, Royal Tropical Institute, Maruitskade 63, NL-1092 AD Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Eng, Fre, Spa. Quarterly.

Reports on worldwide AIDS education and prevention activities. Intended for health-educators, community workers, administrators and teachers.

Bridge. WHO Health Systems Research and Development Unit, Bridge, Foundation for Health Services Research, 1350 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington DC 20036, USA.
Eng. Twice a year.

A newsletter which links producers and users of health research for development.

Changing Medical Education and Medical Practice. World Health Organization, Division of Development of Human Resources for Health, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.
Eng. (some articles in Fre). Twice a year.

A forum for exchanging views and initiatives world-wide, to make medical education and practice more responsive to people's health needs.

CVI Forum. World Health Organization, Global Programme for Vaccines and Immunization, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland.
Eng. Three times a year.

News on all aspects of the Children's Vaccine Initiative.

EPI Newsletter. Expanded Programme on Immunization in the Americas, Pan American Health Organization, 525, 23rd St. N.W. Washington DC 20037, USA.

Eng, Spa. Bimonthly.

News and reports for health workers on immunization programmes in the Americas.

Eastern Mediterranean Region Drugs Digest. World Health Organization, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, P.O. Box 1517, Alexandria 21511, Egypt.

Ara, Eng. Twice a year.

Reproduces selected articles on drugs and therapeutics, of interest to doctors, pharmacists and other health workers in the Region.

Essential Drugs Monitor. World Health Organization, Action Programme on Essential Drugs, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Russ. Twice a year.

Covers national drug policy and essential drugs programmes worldwide. Regular features include operational research, supply and rational use of drugs.

Global AIDS News. World Health Organization, Global Programmes on AIDS, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng. Quarterly.

News, interviews, activities, treatment updates and new publication about AIDS.

LEP News. World Health Organization, Leprosy Unit, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre. Twice a year.

A newsletter to assist leprosy programmes in exchange ideas and maintain a flow of information from the field.

ONCHO Information. World Health Organization, Onchocerciasis Control Programme, P.O. Box 549, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Eng, Fre. Quarterly.

A summary of meetings, activities and events in the Programme area.

Safe Motherhood Newsletter. World Health Organization, Division of Family Health, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Ara. Three times a year.

Discusses recent developments in maternal health services, medical care and working at the community level. Includes a resource list.

TDR News (Tropical Diseases Research). (UNDP/World Bank/WHO, World Health Organization, TDR Communications, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng. Quarterly.

Reports on the product research and development, applied field research and strategic research on tropical diseases promoted by this WHO Programme.

Technet News: Logistics for Health. World Health Organization, Expanded Programme on Immunization, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre. Irregular.

Aimed at everyone involved in immunization. Includes news about developments in the cold chain.

Update. World Health Organization, Division of Diarrhoeal and Acute Respiratory Disease Control, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre. Irregular.

Information about the main developments and resources available in the Division.

Update: Global Programme for Vaccines. World Health Organization, Global Programme for Vaccines and Immunization, Expanded Programme on Immunization, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre. Three times a year.

Technical updates covering a wide range of topical issues. The latest global data for various aspects of EPI are also included.

**WHO Drug Information.* World Health Organization. Distribution and Sales, CH-1211, Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Spa. Quarterly.

Provides an overview of topics relating to drug development and regulation. The objective is to bring issues that are of primary concern to drug regulators and manufacturers to the attention of a wide range of health professionals concerned with rational drug use.

**World Health.* World Health Organization, Distribution and Sales, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Ger, Por, Rus, Ara, Farsi. Bimonthly.

Focuses on primary health care and provides information on experiences and programmes throughout the world.

**World Health Forum.* World Health Organization, Distribution and Sales, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Rus, Ara, Chin. Quarterly.

Contains a wide range of articles, particularly on health promotion, community health issues and primary health care in developing countries.

**Only available on paid subscription.*

Non-WHO primary health care newsletters

Selected primary health care newsletters, mainly available free of charge to developing countries.

AMREF News. African Medical and Research Foundation, 11 Waterloo St, Clifton, Bristol, BS4 B2, UK.

Eng. Irregular.

Reports on AMREF projects and developments.

ARI News. Appropriate Health Resources and Technology Action Group, Farringdon Point, 29–35 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB, UK.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Chinese, Bangla, Nepali. Three times a year.

Information about the causes of acute respiratory infections and approaches to prevention, treatment and control. Particularly useful for senior health workers.

CHETNA News. Centre for Health Education, Training and Nutrition Awareness, Lilavatiben, Lalbhai's Bungalow, Civil Camp Road, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad–380 04, Gujarat, India.

Eng. Quarterly.

Provides news about CHETNA's projects and the work of other organizations involved in community health care with a focus on India. Aimed at all health workers.

Child-to-Child. Child-to-Child Trust, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL, UK.

Eng. Once a year.

A newsletter which provides information on Child-to-Child activities worldwide and an update on materials produced.

Children in Focus. UNICEF Caribbean Area Office, 2nd Floor, Building 2, Chelston Park, Culloden Road, Bridgetown, Barbados.

Eng. Quarterly.

A channel for the exchange of information on issues related to child development in the Caribbean.

Cobasheca Newsletter. African Medical and Research Foundation, Community-Based Health Care Support Unit, P.O. Box 30125, Nairobi, Kenya.

Eng. Quarterly.

Provides an exchange of ideas between community-based health programmes in East Africa. Articles on the philosophy and approach of community-based health care and current practice at local level.

Contact. Christian Medical Commission. World Council of Churches, 150 route de Ferney, 1211-Geneva 2, Switzerland.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Por. Bimonthly.

Covers various aspects of the community's involvement in health and reports approaches to the promotion of health and integrated development.

Defender. African Medical and Research Foundation, Community-Based Health Care Support Unit, P.O. Box 30125, Nairobi, Kenya.

Eng. Quarterly.

Information on local, regional and national health issues directed to the general public.

Dialogue on Diarrhoea. Appropriate Health Resources and Technologies Action Group, Farringdon Point, 29–35 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB, UK.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Por, Chinese, Bangla, Nepali, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu. Quarterly.

Information on the prevention and treatment of diarrhoeal diseases and related health education.

Echo Round the World. Equipment for Charity Hospitals Overseas, 2 Joint Mission Hospital Equipment Board, Ullswater Crescent, Coulsden, Surrey CR3 2HR, UK.

Eng. Three times a year.

Provides health workers with news on essential drugs, medical equipment and the projects and activities of the Joint Mission Hospital Equipment Board.

Health Action. Appropriate Health Resources and Technologies Action Group, Farringdon Point, 29–35 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB, UK.

Eng. Quarterly.

Provides health information to help strengthen district health management teams and increase awareness of issues in primary health care implementation.

Health Alert. Health Action International Network, 9 Cabantuan Road, Philam Homes, Quezon City, Philippines.

Eng. Bimonthly.

News on health related issues and the economic and political developments that shape the health care situation.

IBFAN Africa Newsletter. IBFAN/Africa, Centrepoint, Dhlanubeka House, Ground Floor, PO Box 781 Mbabane, Swaziland. Address for the French edition, *Courier de l'IBFAN*, is: MAPBIN/CHAN, 2nd Floor, Hansrod Building, CNR Jummah Mosque and Sir Virgil Naz Streets, Port-Louis, Mauritius.

Eng, Fre. Quarterly.

Information on AIDS, infant feeding, drugs, nutrition, safe motherhood and women's health in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Learning for Health. Education Resource Group, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Pembroke Place, Liverpool L3 5QA, UK.

Eng. Twice a year.

For all involved in health education and health training. Covers methodology, communication strategy, curriculum and resource development.

Outlook. Program for Appropriate Technology in Health, 4 Nickerson Street, Seattle, Washington 98109-1699, USA.

Eng, Fre, Spa, Por, Chinese. Three times a year.

Articles on reproductive health products, related drug regulatory decisions and safety issues of special interest to developing countries.

Remedios Newsletter. Remedios AIDS Foundation, 1066 Remedios Street, Malate 1004, Manila, Philippines.

Eng. Monthly.

Serves as a forum for NGOs involved in HIV/AIDS prevention work. Among the topics covered are community health care, drugs, health education and research.

Drug bulletins and drug-related newsletters

This listing contains classic-type drug bulletins and also consumer organization bulletins relating to drug matters.

These are mainly priced publications, but in some cases special arrangements can be made for developing countries or agreements may be made to swap publications. Please contact the publishers at the addresses provided, not the Action Programme on Essential Drugs.

ALGERIA

Bulletin d'Information Pharmacotherapeutique. Institut National de la Santé Publique, 4 Chemin El-Bakr-El-Biar 15030, Alger. *Fre. Quarterly.*

AUSTRALIA

Australian Adverse Drug Reactions Bulletin. Adverse Drug Reactions Advisory Committee, P.O. Box 100, Woden ACT 2606. *Eng. Quarterly.*

Australian Prescriber. PO Box 100, Woden ACT 2606. *Eng. Quarterly.*

QUM Newsletter (Quality Use of Medicines). Pharmaceutical Benefits Branch, Department of Human Services and Health, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601. *Eng. Quarterly.*

AUSTRIA

Pharmainformation. Pharmakologisches Institut, University of Innsbruck, Peter Mayr Strasse 1A, A-6020 Innsbruck. *Ger. Quarterly.*

BELGIUM

Folia Pharmacotherapeutica. Heymans Institut, University of Ghent Medical School, De Pintelaan 185, B-9000 Ghent. *Fre. Monthly.*

BOLIVIA

Boletín Informativo de Medicamentos. Facultad de Ciencias Farmacéuticas y Bioquímicas, Avenida Saavedra 2224 (3er Piso), Miraflores, La Paz, *Spa. Quarterly.*

Carta Medica. Accion Internacional por la Salud. R.S. 207651—Casilla de Correos 568, La Paz. *Spa. Twice a year.*

Medicamentos y Terapeutica. Casillas 9790 y 2504, La Paz. *Spa. Three times a year.*

BRAZIL

Sobravime. Sociedade Brasileira de Vigilancia de Medicamentos, Rua Nova Bareo, Edificio Barao IV sala 402, 01042-010 Sao Paulo SP.

Por. Quarterly.

CAMEROON

The Prescriber's Bulletin. Prescriber's Bulletin Association, P.O. Box 281 Buea. *Eng, Fre*. Quarterly.

CANADA

The Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy. Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists, 1145 Hunt Club Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1V0Y3. *Eng, Fre*. Bimonthly.

The Drug Report. Ontario Medical Association's Committee on Drugs and Pharmacotherapy, Suite 300-525, University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K7. *Eng*. Quarterly.

CHILE

Boletín Informativo sobre Medicamentos. Instituto de Salud Publica de Chile, Ministerio de Salud, Ayda. Marathon 1000, Casilla 48, Santiago. *Spa*. Quarterly.

CROATIA

Bilten O Lijekovima and Pharmaca Croatia. University Hospital Rebro, Kispaticeva 14, 41000 Zagreb. *Croatian*. Quarterly.

CYPRUS

Ad-Dawa. Arab Resource Collective, P.O. Box 7380, Nicosia. *Ara*. Quarterly.

DENMARK

Europharm Forum Newsletter. European Forum of Pharmaceutical Associations, c/o Pharmaceuticals Unit, WHO Regional Office for Europe, Scherfigsvej 8, Copenhagen DK-2100. *Eng*. Twice a year.

Practical Drug Information. Medicinsk Afd.P., Bispebjerg Hospital, Bispebjerg Bakke 23, 2300 Copenhagen NV, *Eng*. Ten times a year.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Centro de Informacion de Drogas y de Intoxicaciones Boletín. Universidad Nacional Oedro Henriquez Urena, Escuela de Farmacia, Santo Domingo. *Spa*. Quarterly.

ECUADOR

Boletín Informativo. A.I.S. International Por la Salud, Casilla 94-41 Suo.7, Quito. *Spa*. Twice a year.

ERITREA

Pharma Focus. Eritrean Pharmacists' Association, P.O. Box 5145, Asmara Eritrea. *Eng*. Quarterly.

ESTONIA

Drug Information Bulletin. State Agency of Medicines, Kalevi str. 4, P.O. Box 150, EE2400 Tartu. Estonian. Bimonthly.

FRANCE

Dossier. Centre National d'information sur le Médicament Hospitalier, 7 rue du Fer à Moulin, 75005 Paris. *Fre*. Bimonthly.

La Lettre Médicale. BP 179-75523 Paris Cedex 11. *Fr*. Monthly.

La revue Prescrire. BP 459-75527 Paris Cedex 11. *Fre*. Monthly.

P.H.C. Informations. Service d'Information Médico-Pharmaceutique, 7 Rue du Fer à Moulin, BP 09-75221 Paris Cedex 05. *Fre*. Quarterly.

Prescrire International. BP 459-75527, Paris Cedex 11. *Eng*. Bimonthly.

ReMeD. Réseau Médicaments et Développement, 7 rue du Fer à Moulin, 75005 Paris. *Fre*. Quarterly.

GERMANY

Arzneimittelbrief. Am Nordgraben 2, 1000 Berlin 27. *Ger. Monthly*

Arznei-telegramm. Petzowerstrasse 7, 1000 Berlin 27. *Ger. Monthly*.

Arzneiverordnung in der Praxis. Herbert Lewin Strasse 5, 5000 Koln 41. *Ger. Monthly*.

Pharma Brief. BUKO Pharma-Kampagne, August-Bebel Strasse 62, D-33602 Bielefeld. *Ger. Monthly*.

GHANA

DURG-AFRO Newsletter. African Drug Utilisation Research Group, Centre for Tropical Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Ghana Medical School, P.O. Box 4236, Accra. *Eng. Irregular*.

Pharmaceutical Spectrum. Pharma Info Consult, 1st Floor, Trinity House, P.O. Box 01446, Osu-Accra, *Eng. Quarterly*.

GEORGIA

Drugs Today. The Pharmacological Committee, Ministry of Health, Gamsakhurdia Avenue, 380060 Tbilisi. *Georgian. Quarterly*.

GREECE

Farmako. EOF National Drug Organization, 284 Messogion Avenue, 15562 Athens. *Greek. Bimonthly*.

HUNGARY

Gyogyszereink. National Institute of Pharmacy, Zrinyi u.3, P.O. Box 450,1051 Budapest. *Hungarian. Quarterly*.

INDIA

BODHI (Bulletin on Drug and Health Information). Foundation for Health Action, 254 Lake Town, Calcutta 700 089. *Eng. Quarterly*.

Drug Disease Doctor. DD 35 Seba, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Calcutta 700 064. *Eng. Quarterly*.

Drugs Bulletin. Department of Pharmacology, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education Chandigarh 160 012, *Eng. Quarterly*.

Drugs Today. Christian Medical Association of India, Plot No. 2, A-3 Local Shopping Centre, Janakpuri, New Delhi 110058. *Eng. Twice a year*.

Rational Drug Bulletin. Community Development Medicinal Unit, 86-C Dr. Suresh Sarkar Road Entally, Calcutta-700 014, West Bengal. *Eng. Quarterly*.

INDONESIA

Farmakon. Jl. Bungur Besar Raya 85, Blok A 1 Fl.3, Jakarta. *Eng. Quarterly*.

Informasi Obat. Direktorat Pengawasan Obat, Direktorat Jenderal Pengawasan, Obat dan Makanan. Jl. Percetakan Negara No. 23, Jakarta 10560. *Indonesian. Quarterly*.

Lembran Obat dan Pengobatan. Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. *Indonesian. Monthly*.

ITALY

Informazione sui Farmaci. Via Doberdo 9, 42100—Reggio Emilia. *Italian Quarterly*.

Ricerca & Practica. Istituto Mario Negri, Via Eritrea 62, 20157 Milan. *Italian. Bimonthly*.

JAPAN

ICADIS News. Information Centre Against Drug Induced Suffering, c/o Yakugai Joho Centre, Sun Heights Minato 1F, Minato-cho, 4 chome, Hyogoku, Kobe 652. *Eng. Quarterly*.

The Informed Prescriber. Room 404, 1-43-8-8 Nishi-Koigakubo, Kokubunji-shi, Tokyo 185, 355-03. *Japanese (abstracts in English). Bimonthly*.

KENYA

Meds Update. Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies, P.O. Box 14059, Nairobi. *Eng. Quarterly*.

LATVIA

Cito! MIC, R. Vagnera iela 15, Riga, LV-1050. *Latvian. Monthly*.

LEBANON

The Lebanese Pharmaceutical Journal. Lebanese Order of Pharmacists, B.P. 2807 Beirut. Reproduces articles from other sources in original language. (*Fre, Eng, Ara*). *Three times a year*.

MALAWI

Malawi Drug Bulletin. Ministry of Health, P.O. Box 30377, Lilongwe 3. *Eng. Quarterly*.

MALAYSIA

Berita Ubat-Ubatan. National Drug Information Centre, National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau, Ministry of Health. *Eng. Quarterly*.

HAI News. International Organization of Consumers Unions, P.O. Box 1045, Penang. *Eng. Bimonthly*.

MEXICO

Alerta Farmacéutica. HAI-Mexico, Apdo Postal 62A, Patzcuaro 61600. *Spa. Quarterly*.

NAMIBIA

Drug News. Ministry of Health and Social Services, Private Bag 13366, Windhoek. *Eng. Quarterly*.

NEPAL

Drug and Therapeutics Letter. Drug Information Unit, Department of Clinical Pharmacology, TU Teaching Hospital, Institute of Medicine, PO Box 3578, Maharajgunj. Kathmandu. *Eng. Bimonthly*.

Drug Bulletin of Nepal. Ministry of Health, Department of Drug Administration, Thapathali, Kathmandu. *Eng. Biannual*.

NETHERLANDS

Geneesmiddelenbulletin. Lomanlaan 85, 3526XC Utrecht, *Dutch. Fortnightly*.

HAI Alert: Information for Drug Regulators. Health Action International, Joseph van Lennepkade 334 T, 1053 NJ, Amsterdam. *Eng. Quarterly*.

HAI Europe Update. Health Action International, Joseph van Lennepkade 334 T, 1053 NJ, Amsterdam. *Eng. Twice a year*.

IDA News. International Dispensary Association, P.O. Box 37098, 1030 AB Amsterdam. *Eng. Twice a year*.

International Pharmacy Journal. International Pharmaceutical Federation, FIP Publications Department, Alexandersraat 11, 2514 JL. The Hague. *Eng. Fre. Bimonthly*.

News Bulletin. International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation, FIP Secretariat, Andries Bickerweg 5, 2517 JP The Hague. *Eng. Three times a year*.

Pharma Selecta. C/O Kombuis 173, 9732 GK Groningen. *Dutch. Fortnightly*.

NEW ZEALAND

Drugs and Therapy Perspectives for Rational Drug Selection and Use. Adis International Ltd., 41 Centorian Drive. PB 65901, Mairangi Bay, Auckland 10. *Eng. Fortnightly*.

Prescriber Update. Ministry of Health, P.O. Box 5013, Wellington. *Eng. Quarterly*.

NIGERIA

Pharmacy Bulletin. P.O. Box 644, Zaria. *Eng. Irregular*.

NORWAY

Nytt fra Statens legemiddelkontroll. News from the State Medicines Control Authority, Norwegian Medicines Control Authority, Sven Oftedals vei 6, N 0950 Oslo 9. *Norwegian. Monthly*.

OMAN

Pharmaceutical Newsletter. Directorate General of Pharmaceutical Affairs and Drug Control, P.O. Box 393, Code 113, Muscat. *Eng. Quarterly*.

PAKISTAN

The Network's Newsletter. Association for Rational Use of Medication in Pakistan, The Network, House #57, G-8/2, Islamabad. *Eng. Quarterly*.

Pakistan Drug Information. Feroz Centre, 14-D West Blue Area, Islamabad. *Eng. Irregular*.

PANAMA

Medicamentos y Terapéutica. Comision de Medicamentos, Caja de Seguro Social, Apartado 1393, Panama 1. *Spa. Quarterly*.

PERU

Accion Para La Salud Boletín. Pasaje Enrique Palacios 49-D, Aptdo, 126, Chimbote. *Spa. Monthly*.

CMA Boletí. Jr. Ricardo Palma N5, Santa Monica, Cusco. *Spa. Bimonthly*.

Correo de A.I.S. Accion Internacional por la Salud, Avda. Palermo 531. Of. 104, Lima 13. *Spa. Bimonthly*.

Medicamentos y Salud Popular. Servicio de Medicinas PRO-VIDA, Apartado Postal 17-0187, Lima 17. *Spa. Three times a year*.

PHILIPPINES

RDU Update. The National Drug Information Centre, Department of Pharmacology, College of Medicine, University of The Philippines, Manila, #547 Pedro Gil Street, Ermita, Manila. *Eng. Quarterly*.

The Drug Monitor. Health Action International Network, 9 Cabantuan Road, Philam Homes, Quezon City. *Eng. Bimonthly*.

POLAND

Biuletyn Lekow. The Drug Institute, 30/34 Chelmska St, 00-725 Warsaw. *Polish. Quarterly*.

SINGAPORE

Drug Information Newsletter. Department of Pharmacology, National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge Crescent, 0511 Singapore. *Eng. Quarterly*.

SLOVAKIA

Liekovy Bulletin. State Institute for the Control of Drugs, Kvetna 11, 825 05 Bratislava, *Slovakian. Monthly*.

SPAIN

Boletín Terapéutico Andaluz. Consejería de Salud, Avda del Sur 7, 18014 Granada. *Spa. Monthly*.

Boletín Terapéutico Valenciano. Conselleria de Sanitat I Consum, C/Rodriguez Formos 4, 46010 Valencia. *Catalan. Bimonthly*.

Bulleti d'Informacio Terapéutica. 587 Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 08007 Barcelona. *Catalan. Monthly*.

Bulleti Terapéutic & Butlleti Groc. Institut Catala de Farmacologia, CS Val d'Hebron, 08035 Barcelona. *Spa. Quarterly*.

Información Terapéutica. Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo, Paseo del Prado 18-20 28014 Madrid. *Spa. Twice a year*.

SOUTH AFRICA

INFOR-MED. Medicines Information Centre, Department of Pharmacology, University of Cape Town, Observatory 7925, Cape Town. *Eng. Monthly*.

Medifile. TPS Drug Information Centre, 50 Stiemens Street, P.O. Box 31238, Braamfontein 2017. *Eng. Monthly*.

SRI LANKA

NIRODHA (New Initiatives for Rationalization of Drugs and Health Actions). 16/5 Elliot Place, Colombo 8. *Eng. Quarterly*.

The Sri Lanka Prescriber. Faculty of Medicine, P.O. Box 271, Kynsey Road, Colombo 8. *Eng. Twice a year*.

SWEDEN

SADRAC Bulletin. Swedish Adverse Drug Reactions Advisory Committee, Box 607, S-75125 Uppsala. *Eng. Irregular*.

SWITZERLAND

Health Horizons. International Federation of Manufacturers Associations, 67 rue de Saint Jean, CH-1201 Geneva 27. *Eng, Fre, Spa. Three times a year*.

Med in Switzerland. Declaration de Berne, case 80, 1000 Lausanne 9. *Fre. Irregular*.

Pharma-Flash. Clinical Pharmacology Unit, University Hospital, CH-1211 Geneva 4, *Fre. Ten per year*.

Pharma-kritik. Bergliweg 17, CH-9500 Wil. *German. Fortnightly*.

The Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics. French translation of the American publication. Case Postale 456, CH-1211 Geneva 4. *Fre. Bi-monthly*.

TANZANIA

Drug Information Bulletin. TADATIS, 4th Floor, Central Pathology Laboratory, Muhimbili Medical Centre, Dar es-Salaam. *Eng. Quarterly*.

Zanzibar Drug Information Bulletin. Drug Committee, Ministry of Health, P.O. Box 236. Zanzibar. *Eng. Quarterly*.

UNITED KINGDOM

CMR News. Centre for Medicines Research, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4DS. *Eng. Quarterly. Three times a year*.

Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association Newsletter. 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN, *Eng. Three times a year*.

Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin. Consumers' Association, 2 Marylebone Road, London NW1 4DF. *Eng. Fortnightly*.

International Society of Drug Bulletins Newsletter. International Society of Drug Bulletins, 103 Hertford Road, London N2 9BX. *Eng. Quarterly*.

MaLAM International News. Medical Lobby for Appropriate Marketing—UK, 13 Springhead Road, Thornton, Bradford BD13 DA. *Eng. Monthly*.

MeReC Bulletin. Medicines Resource Centre, Hamilton House, 24 Pall Mall, Liverpool, L3 6AL. *Eng. Monthly*.

Pharmaceutical Technology Europe. Advanstar House, Park West, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4RN. *Eng. 11 issues a year*.

Prescribers' Journal. Department of Health, Hannibal House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY. *Eng. Bimonthly*.

SCRIP, World Pharmaceutical News. 18–20 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6UA. *Eng. Twice a week*.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APUA Newsletter. The Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics, P.O. Box 1372, Boston MA 02117. *Eng. Quarterly*.

CEPOR Newsletter. University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy, Center for Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research, CB7360 Beard Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7360. *Eng. Quarterly*.

CSDD Newsletter. Tufts University, Center for the Study of Drug Development, 192 South Street, Suite 550, Boston MA 02111. *Eng. Three times a year.*

FDA Consumer. United States Food and Drug Administration. Rockville MD 20857. *Eng. Monthly.*

FDA Medical Bulletin. Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration (HF1-42), Rockville MD 20857. *Eng. Twice a year.*

INRUD News. International Network for Rational Use of Drugs, 116 Allandale Road, Boston, MA 02130. *Eng. Twice a year.*

The Medical Letter. The Medical Letter Inc. 56 Harrison Street, New Rochelle, NY 1081. *Eng. Fortnightly.*

The Prescriber. The Essential Drugs Unit, H-10 F, UNICEF, 3 United Nations Plaza, New York N.Y. 10017. *Eng, Fre, Spa, Por, Ara. Quarterly.*

VENEZUELA

Boletín Informativo Medicamentos. Facultad de Farmacia, UCV Universidad de Caracas, Caracas. *Spa. Quarterly.*

ZIMBABWE

Bulletin DATIS. Department of Pharmacy, University of Zimbabwe, Avondale P.O. Box A178, Harare. *Eng. Bimonthly.*

Drug and Toxicology Information Service Bulletin. Department of Pharmacy, University of Zimbabwe Medical School, P.O. Box A, 178 Avondale, Harare. *Eng. Quarterly.*

Zimbabwe Pharma News. P.O. Box ST 23, Southerton, Harare. *Eng. Bimonthly.*

Further information about drug bulletins can be obtained from: The International Society of Drug Bulletins, 103 Hertford Road, London N2 9BX, UK. The Society also arranges training courses and other relevant activities.

Resource Organizational/Services

Action Programme on Essential Drugs. World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Since 1981 WHO's Action Programme on Essential Drugs has provided operational support to countries in the development and implementation of national drug policies based on the essential drugs concept, and the rational use of drugs.

Action for Rational Drug Use in Asia (ARDA), P.O. Box 1045, 10830 Penang, Malaysia. ARDA is an informal regional network which focuses on promoting the concept of essential drugs. The group also campaigns for the removal of harmful drugs, the recognition of patients' rights and the provision of independent, authoritative drug information for doctors and consumers.

Drug Utilization Research Group. WHO Regional Office for Europe, 8 Scherfigsvej, 2100 Copenhagen 0, Denmark. Since it began over 20 years ago, this group of individuals and institutes has developed and tested the instruments and methods essential to ensure the standardization and reliability of drug utilization studies. Its work has now progressed beyond methodology into interpretation and action.

The Appropriate Health Resources and Technologies Action Group (AHRTAG). Farringdon Point, 29-35 Farringdon Road, London EC1M 3JB, UK. A nongovernmental organization which promotes primary health care in developing countries. Among its activities it publishes practical manuals, international newsletters, bibliographies and resource lists. It also provides a consultancy service to international and nongovernmental organizations on information systems and resource centre development.

The Child-to-Child Trust. Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL, UK. Child-to-Child is an approach to health education and primary health care which involves children

in improving the health of their communities. Based at London University, the Child-to-Child Trust designs and distributes health education materials, assists in the implementation of projects using the Child-to-Child approach and coordinates a world-wide information network on these projects.

HAI-Europe. J. van Lennepkade 334-T, 1053 NJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Health Action International (HAI) is a global network of consumer, development and health organizations which aims to promote a more rational use of medicines and health and drug policies which aim to put consumers' interests first. It also monitors unethical marketing practices.

International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations. 30 Rue de Saint-Jean, CH 1211 Geneva 18, Switzerland. A nongovernmental organization which represents member associations of national pharmaceutical manufacturers of prescription medicines throughout the world. The Federation's objectives include assuring contact among members, coordinating their efforts and dealing with questions of common interest, such as health legislation, research and marketing practices.

International Society of Drug Bulletins. 103, Hertford Road, London N2 9BX, UK. Through its network of members ISDB promotes the international exchange of information of good quality on drugs and therapeutics and encourages and assists the development of professionally independent drug bulletins in all countries.

International Network for Rational Drug Use (INRUD). 165 Allendale Road, Boston MA 01230, USA. INRUD was established in 1989 to promote rational drug use. The group's emphasis is on increasing the understanding of behavioural aspects of drug use, the development of research tools and the promotion of well-designed research studies.

Medical Lobby for Appropriate Marketing (MaLAM). P.O. Box 172, Draw Park SA 5041, Australia. Established in 1982, MaLAM is a non-profit organization which provides dialogue between health professionals and pharmaceutical companies, support for quality scientific medical care and encouragement for reliable pharmaceutical promotion.

Market News Service (MNS). International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland. The Service includes a monthly listing which informs developing countries on purchasing prices of raw materials for the production of essential drugs.

Pour une Information Médicale Ethique et le Développement (PIMED). 28 Quai de la Loire, 75019 Paris, France. PIMED aims to provide reliable information on pharmaceuticals and to promote cooperation on health issues, particularly those affecting developing countries.

Teaching Aids at Low Cost (TALC). P.O. Box 49, St Albans, Herts AL1 4AX, UK. TALC supplies a wide range of PHC publications and training materials at very low cost.

United States Pharmacopeial Convention Inc. 12601 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville MD 20852, USA. Sets standards for the preparation of medicines used in the USA. It revises and publishes the US Pharmacopeia, the National Formulary and the USP DI (dispensing information) and other scientific information used as a basis for determining the strength, quality, purity, packaging and labelling of drugs.

World Federation of International Proprietary Medicine Manufacturers (WFPM). 15 Sydney House, Woodstock Road, London W4 1DP, UK. The Federation's objectives include the continuing improvement of standards of quality, efficacy and safety of proprietary medicines and the responsible use of these medicines.

Bibliography on Teaching and Learning Material: Leprosy Related Subjects—entries invited

INFOLEP, on behalf of TALMILEP, is preparing a new supplement copy of the *Bibliography on Teaching and Learning Material: Leprosy & Related Subjects* which will be finalized in the winter of 1995/96.

Through this bibliography TALMILEP propagates the use of the many materials which are available in different languages for the various categories of health workers. This publication may enable them to order certain publications and/or encourage the use of certain titles either directly or through translation and/or adaptation.

This new edition offers the possibility to have recorded the teaching and learning materials in leprosy which have been produced in whichever language in the course of the last three years. What we need, is just a sample copy of the publication(s) and a short description of the contents and target group in English of what has been published within the various leprosy control programmes and projects throughout the world.

A new section recording audiovisual materials on leprosy (videofilms and slide series) will be added to the bibliography. So, if you have any film and/or slide series produced within the last 5 years, please send your informatory details (title, producer, contents, target group, costs, supplier) to INFOLEP for registration.

Please send your materials as soon as possible to INFOLEP: INFOLEP Leprosy Information Services, Netherlands Leprosy Relief Association, Wibautstr, 135, 1097 DN Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Tel. +20-59 50 530; Fax: +20-66 80 823; E-mail: infolep@antenna.nl

Midwives who dispense MDT drugs, Myanmar

Myanmar is one of the major endemic countries for leprosy, and in 1994 it recorded 8303 new cases. Uniquely, the health workers who form the direct interface between the health services and the patients are midwives. These are young to middle-aged women fully trained in obstetrics, but they are also responsible for ensuring that leprosy patients receive—and swallow—the regular course of MDT drugs.

Equipped with bicycles so that they can get around the often difficult terrain, these women somehow manage to combine meeting the needs of women in the various stages of childbirth with dispensing the appropriate anti-leprosy drugs at the right time. To a certain degree, they are also involved in casefinding and in diagnosing whether a person with leprosy is a paucibacillary or a multibacillary case.

As in many endemic countries, a common problem is that, until the midwife reports a leprosy case, she is not sent the necessary MDT supply from the local or regional hospital. This means a long delay; weeks may elapse before a new case can start on the correct PB or MB course of medication. The Myanmar health authorities are at present working out a more elastic supply system which will ensure that the midwife's little community 'clinic' always has a basic stock of MDT drugs available to meet local needs. It is clearly preferable for several months' supplies of the drugs to be kept at the village level, rather than being held far away in a central warehouse.

Implementing Multiple Drug Therapy, OXFAM—withdrawal

The above title, currently in its 4th edition (1988), has been withdrawn from sale because it is felt to be out-of-date and overdue for revision. It is, therefore, recommended that existing stocks, including translations (French, Spanish, Portuguese, Bengali and Oriya) should either be discarded or run down as soon as conveniently possible. Similar, more up-to-date publications are produced by WHO and other agencies.

Erratum

A study on performance of two serological assays for diagnosis of leprosy patients by Om Parkash et al., published in *Lepr Rev* (1995) **66**, 26–30.

Please note that the corresponding author for this paper is: Dr Om Parkash, Central JALMA Institute for Leprosy, PO Box 31, Tajganj, Agra-282001, India.

p. 28, paragraph 2, line 4: for *Dhandaya Chapani* read *Dhandayu-Thapani*.