

Editorial Board

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Letters to the editor should bear the name of the writer. While anonymous letters will not be accepted, pseudonym may be used for publication, except when the writer comments on previous letters or articles which the authors have used the real name for publication.

“Plasticise” your mind

We are now in the midst of another butterfly effect: from flavouring syrup for Taiwanese drinks found tainted with plasticisers to the recall of Augmentin Syrup here in Hong Kong. I assume now you may have a better idea of what plasticisers are, and what they are meant to do. Or else I bet you can “google” or “wiki” it: “Plasticisers are additives that increases plasticity (flexibility) or fluidity (viscosity) to materials to which they are added...” They are in fact so commonly used in our daily life and we are so vulnerable to exposure to these chemicals. If they should be seen as a “clear-and-present-danger” to public health, what we pharmacists should have understood about plasticisers? I wish you could find out the answer from Cindy’s article in this issue of SHPHK Connection.

Talking about “clear-and-present-danger”, knowledge gap always underpins medication errors and at times we may not have effectively addressed this culprit. In this issue, Fanny will share how she deals with incidents due to knowledge gap with a thorough review of the root cause.

By tradition, every June issue of SHPHK Connection takes the privilege of introducing to you the new General Council (GC) members of our Society. New friends joined, old friends reunited.... May I invite you to join me to give our warmest welcome to Amy CHU, Candy TONG and our prestigious Michael LING as the newly elected GC members of SHPHK 2011? You will definitely get to know more about Amy and Candy after reading their self-introductions in this issue. Coincidentally, Storyman will share with us his wisdom in cultivating people and dealing with the inevitable comings-and-goings of people around us in our work place.

Sometimes people’s mind could be really hardened and needs to be “plasticised”. Ting-Fung will show us how societal phenomenon could lead to a twisted perception of health benefit. Likewise,

we could be blinded by our daily routine that we are unable to see the potential of having “pharmacy without walls”. I hope the sharing of Daisy and Ritchie could “plasticise” your mind and refresh your view on how pharmacists’ contribution could extend its reach to the community.

At this juncture, I would also like to express my gratitude to our Editorial Board. We are delighted to see there are many young pharmacists willing to contribute their time and effort in professional activities in spite of their busy working life. With their participation we have converged this historically largest Editorial Board of SHPHK Connection. We pledged to offer a platform for promotion of good hospital pharmacy practice and sharing of ideas and feelings among fellow hospital pharmacists. We are not only looking forward to loyal readership but your sharing with us the perspective and wisdom in hospital pharmacy practice. Please feel free to jot a few lines to us at newsletter@shphk.org.hk and help us to improve our publication and also our profession. I wish you would enjoy reading the SHPHK Connection and please stay connected!

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Also in this Issue...

- P.1..... Editorial
- P.2..... Clinical Pearls
- P.3..... Clinical Pharmacy
- P.4..... Medication Safety
- P.6..... Inspiring Story
- P.7..... Society News
- P.10..... Drug News and Alert
- P.12..... Young Pharmacists’ Sharings