

# WHO Drug Information

## Contents

### General Policy Topics

- Countering the counterfeiters 195

### Points of View

- WHO and pharmaceuticals:  
a prospective view 197

### Reports on Individual Drugs

- Eflornithine in African trypanosomiasis 199

### General Information

- Original pack dispensing:  
problems for elderly patients 202
- IFPMA Code of Pharmaceutical  
Marketing Practices 202
- A computerized drug information  
system in France 202
- Compensation for vaccine-related injuries 202
- Regulatory aspects of radiopharmaceuticals 203
- International responses to drug abuse 203
- Alcohol and drug-related problems:  
programmes of assistance for workers 203
- Drug delivery system for IV infusions 204
- Acceptable levels of residues  
of veterinary drugs in foods 204
- 100th Orphan drug designated 205
- Harmful anti-diarrhoeal drugs 205
- New topical beta-blockers for glaucoma 205
- Qinghaosu: a new antimalarial  
from traditional medicine 205
- A review of medicinal plants used in Spain 206
- Anthrax: sporadic cases still reported  
throughout the world 206
- Revised measles vaccination strategy 207
- Routine use of beta-blockers following  
myocardial infarction 207
- Tamoxifen in early breast cancer 207
- Drug treatment of manic depressive illness 208
- Do we need benzodiazepines for  
treatment of anxiety and insomnia? 209
- Rubella vaccination policy 209
- Hepatitis B vaccine from Republic of Korea  
at US\$ 1 per dose? 209

- Does vaccination decrease incidence of  
*H. influenzae* type B infections? 210
- Accidental drug poisoning in children 210
- Will chloroquine resistance spread  
throughout the range of *P. falciparum*? 211
- Tetracycline prophylaxis for malaria 211
- Monitoring adverse effects of  
marketed drugs 212
- Spina bifida trial continues 212
- Antibiotic resistance worldwide 212
- Hypoglycaemia unawareness in diabetics  
transferred from animal to human insulin 213
- Cutaneous reactions to sulfadoxine  
+ pyrimethamine in travellers 213
- Penicillinase-producing  
*Neisseria gonorrhoeae* 214
- Maternal exposure to spermicides does  
not increase the risk of birth defects 214
- Safety requirements for steroidal  
contraceptive drugs 214
- Experimental vaccine against Lassa fever 215
- Genetically-engineered vaccines  
to be developed in India 215
- New developments in biotechnology 215
- Biotechnologically-derived TPA  
patent invalid? 216
- Pharmaceutical production in Algeria:  
current trends 216
- GMP training aids offered for loan 217
- Indonesia moves to push down drug prices 217
- Concern over expanding use and  
growing cost of laboratory tests 217
- Future of the world pharmaceuticals market 218
- Quality control of condoms 218
- Tenth anniversary of last smallpox case 218
- Control for anabolic steroids? 218
- Sudden infant death syndrome:  
unrelated to DPT/IPV immunization 219
- National drug policy in India: current trends 219
- Combined oral contraceptives protect  
against ovarian neoplasms and  
functional ovarian cysts 219
- Good handling practices for  
anticancer drugs 220

(continued)

**Contents** *(continued)*

"Antiaging" creams: cosmetics or drugs?	220	Applications for product licences in the United Kingdom: revised guidance notes	227
Product liability in the USA	220	Health messages on food labels: proposed regulation	227
Egypt: a rapidly expanding pharmaceutical market	221	<b>Advisory Notices</b>	
Self-medication in Brazil	221	Non-ionic radiocontrast media	228
Selecting an NSAID	221	French guidelines on Good Clinical Practices	228
Snake bites in Nepal	222	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and asthma	228
Controversy on generic drugs in the USA	222	Beta-blocking agents and fatal bronchospasm	229
<b>Pharmaceutical Products Approved</b>		Bioavailability guidelines	229
Aclarubicin	223	<b>Essential Drugs</b>	
Amfenac	223	Trypanosomiasis	
Arotinolol	223	Sleeping sickness:	
Brovincamine	223	50 million people at risk	230
Cloconazole	223	Pentamidine	231
Cloperastine	223	Suramin sodium	232
Enoxacin	223	Melarsoprol	233
Famotidine	223	Chagas' disease affects 16-18 million people in Central and South America	234
Formoterol	223	Benznidazole	235
Gemeprost	224	Nifurtimox	236
Gestrinone	224	A new price control order issued in India on 166 essential drugs	237
Mesalazine	224	<b>Recent Publications</b>	
Moxisylyte	224	New Pharmacopoeias	239
Nifuroxazide	224	A guide to self-medication	239
Ofloxacin	224	French drug compendium 1987	239
Somatorelin	224	EEC directives and recommendations on pharmaceuticals in a single volume	239
Somatrem	224	Abnormal laboratory results	240
Thymostimulin	224	Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association Newsletter	240
Tilactase	224	Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews: a new journal	240
Tofisopam	225	<b>Recommended International Nonproprietary Names: List 27</b>	241
Trilostane	225		
Trimebutine	225		
Vindesine	225		
Zidovudine	225		
<b>Reports from Regulatory Agencies</b>			
Dipyridamole	226		
Epinephrine	226		
Rifampicin	226		
Theophylline	226		
<b>Regulatory Matters</b>			
Should all ingredients of medicines be disclosed?	227		
Advice on drug studies carried out on healthy volunteers	227		