We remember those who were lost on September 11, 2001 and the remarkable men and women who championed the rescue effort.

FDA Approvals

The FDA has approved Brilinta (ticagrelor). This oral antiplatelet agent is indicated to reduce myocardial infarction and cardiovascular death in patients with acute coronary syndromes.

The FDA has approved Arcapta Neohaler (indacaterol inhalation powder) for the long-term once-daily maintenance bronchodilator treatment of airflow obstruction in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including chronic bronchitis and/or emphysema. This drug is not intended to treat asthma or sudden, severe symptoms of COPD.

The FDA has approved a new indication for Lialda (mesalamine) delayed-release tablets for the maintenance of remission in patients with ulcerative colitis.

The FDA has approved a new indication for Topomax (topiramate) tablets and sprinkle capsules as initial monotherapy in patients 2 years and older with partial onset or primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures.

The FDA has approved a generic version of Arixtra (fondaparinux sodium injection), indicated for prophylaxis of deep vein thrombosis and its treatment, and the treatment of acute pulmonary embolism.

Find Chem Rx on Facebook and Twitter.
Drug Confusion

Similar sounding names can often cause the following drugs to be confused with one another. If you have questions, please feel free to speak to one of our pharmacists.

Lasix       Luvox
Altocor     Advicor
Alprazolam  Lorazepam
AVINza      Evista
Zyprexa     Zyrtec
Toprol-XL   Topamax
Cosopt      Trusopt
Plavix      Paxil
Soriatane   Sertraline
Mirapex     Miralax
Oscal       Asacol
Coumadin    Cardura

Vaccine Safety Following Restoration of Power or Vaccine Transportation to an Alternative Storage Facility

The viability and potency of vaccine depends upon the type of vaccine and the period of time that the vaccine remained out of the recommended storage temperature range. Vaccines that are not stored at appropriate temperatures may not protect against disease. In order to determine the viability of vaccines affected by power outages, providers should:

- **Measure and record the temperature** in the vaccine storage unit(s) at the time of power restoration or just prior to vaccine transportation to an alternative storage facility since this is likely to be the highest temperature at which vaccine has been stored. Some thermometers record minimum and maximum temperatures in addition to current temperature; the maximum temperature should be recorded if it is known.

- **Don’t discard the vaccines.** Mark the vaccines so that potentially compromised vaccines can be easily identified. Do not use the vaccines until vaccine viability has been determined.

- **Determine whether the vaccine storage unit(s) is working properly.** If the unit is not working properly, move the vaccine to an alternate storage unit that is working properly.

- **Call the vaccine manufacturer(s) for a determination of vaccine viability.** The manufacturer will need to know: the type of vaccines affected, number of doses, expiration dates, lot numbers, duration of power outage, and the maximum vaccine storage temperature during the power outage or temperature at the time of power restoration. **If the manufacturer(s) say any vaccine is non-viable (unusable), call 1-800-KID-SHOT (1-800-543-7468) for instructions on returning publicly purchased vaccine. Any vaccine that has been exposed to elevated temperatures and is determined to be viable should be used before administering any newer vaccines.

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**RECIPE OF THE MONTH**

**Apple Honey Bundt Cake**

**INGREDIENTS:** 1 Cup Sugar, 1 Cup Vegetable Oil, 2 Eggs, ¼ Cup Honey, 1 Tsp. Vanilla Extract, 2 ½ Cups All-Purpose Flour, 1 Tsp. Baking Powder, 1 Tsp. Baking Soda, 1 Tsp. salt, 1 Tsp. Cinnamon, ¼ Tsp. Allspice, 3 apples (peeled, cored & shredded), ¼ Cup chopped Walnuts (optional).

**DIRECTIONS:** Preheat over to 325 degrees and grease/flour a 9” Bundt pan. In a large bowl, stir together the sugar and oil. Beat in the eggs until light, and then stir in honey and vanilla. Combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and allspice. Stir into the batter until just moistened. Fold in apples and nuts. Bake for 50-65 minutes (until inserted toothpick comes out clean). Cool for 15 minutes before removing from Bundt pan.

*Can also be baked in 2 loaf pans with a 45 minute baking time. Dust with confectioner’s sugar, sprinkle with cinnamon or drizzle with warm honey before serving.*

Adapted from www.allrecipes.com
2011 Seminars
Register at www.chemrx.net

Chem Rx Long Beach
All seminars to take place at Leonard’s of Great Neck (Great Neck, New York)

Fall Seminar: Wednesday, September 14 (Addiction Treatment, Mental Health, HIV and Disease State)

Winter Seminar: Thursday, December 1

Chem Rx Albany

Wednesday, October 12: “Medication Safety” (Desmond Hotel)

Chem Rx New Jersey

Thursday, September 15 (The Imperia in Somerset, NJ)

Wednesday, December 7th (Forsgate Country Club)

All dates subject to change.

Please contact a member of the Chem Rx Education Team for further information:

Tamika Lue at 516-889-8770 ext 145, tlue@chemrx.net -or-

Cori Yakabouski at 908-222-1011 ext 282, cyakabouski@chemrxnj.net

Chem Rx NY Dinner Series (for licensed health care professionals only):

9/13 - Recognizing and Treating Chronic Idiopathic Constipation (Two Steak & Sushi Den, New Hyde Park, NY)

9/14 – A Therapeutic Option for Patients with Asthma (Schaefer’s, Port Jefferson, NY)

9/21 – Wound Bed Preparation (Chadwick’s Restaurant, Brooklyn, NY)

9/22 - Wound Bed Preparation (Portofino Restaurant, Bronx, NY)

Chem Rx Albany Series (for licensed health care professionals only):

9/15 - Treating COPD in the Long-Term Care setting (Sperry’s, Saratoga Springs, NY)

11/10 - Medicare Part D 2012 Update (The Desmond Hotel, Albany, NY)

Chem Rx NJ Dinner Series (for licensed health care professionals only):

9/21 - An Interactive Discussion on the Antiepileptic Drug Vimpat (Maggiano’s Little Italy, Hackensack, NJ).
**Q:** What drug interactions commonly occur with antibiotics?

**A:** Antibiotic regimens carry the risk of drug interactions, which can alter the drug's absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion or clinical effect. Antibiotics and in particular, rifampin, are common drugs prescribed in primary care practice. Drugs with a narrow therapeutic range or low therapeutic index are more likely to result in serious antibiotic interactions. Some drugs in common include warfarin, fluoroquinolones, antiepileptic drugs and oral contraceptives. Many antibiotics act as precipitants or objects, and some drugs act as both. *Chem Rx* uses a drug-interaction software program that flags all interactions, and the Pharmacist will interpret the clinical significance and discuss with the prescribing physician any concerns and if adjustments to medication therapy is needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interaction</th>
<th>Potential effect</th>
<th>Time to effect</th>
<th>Recommendations and comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warfarin (Coumadin) plus ciprofloxacin (Cipro), clarithromycin (Biaxin),</td>
<td>Increased effect of warfarin</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Select alternative antibiotic; Monitor INR</td>
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<td>erythromycin, metronidazole (Flagyl) or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Bactrim, Septra)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fluoroquinolone plus divalent/trivalent cations or sucralfate (Carafate)</td>
<td>Decreased absorption of fluoroquinolone</td>
<td>Any time</td>
<td>Space administration by 2 to 4 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbamazepine (Tegretol) plus erythromycin, clarithromycin or fluconazole</td>
<td>Increased carbamazepine levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Monitor carbamazepine levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Diflucan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phenytoin (Dilantin) plus erythromycin, clarithromycin or fluconazole</td>
<td>Increased phenytoin levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Monitor phenytoin levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenobarbital plus erythromycin, clarithromycin or fluconazole</td>
<td>Increased phenobarbital levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Clinical significance has not been established. Monitor phenobarbital levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenytoin plus rifampin (Rifadin)</td>
<td>Decreased phenytoin levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Clinical significance has not been established. Monitor phenytoin levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenobarbital plus rifampin</td>
<td>Decreased phenobarbital levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Monitor phenobarbital levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbamazepine plus rifampin</td>
<td>Decreased carbamazepine levels</td>
<td>Generally within 1 week</td>
<td>Clinical significance has not been established. Monitor carbamazepine levels.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral contraceptive pills</th>
<th>Decreased effectiveness of oral contraception</th>
<th>Any time</th>
<th>Avoid if possible. If combination therapy is necessary, have the patient take an oral contraceptive pill with a higher estrogen content (&gt;35 µg of ethinyl estradiol) or recommend alternative method of contraception.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral contraceptive pills</td>
<td>Decreased effectiveness of oral contraception</td>
<td>Any time</td>
<td>Avoid if possible. If combination therapy is necessary, recommend use of alternative contraceptive method during cycle.</td>
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<td>plus antibiotics</td>
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<td>Sildenafil plus</td>
<td>Increased sildenafil levels</td>
<td>Any time</td>
<td>Initiate sildenafil at a 25-mg dose.</td>
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<td>erythromycin,</td>
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<td>itraconazole or</td>
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<td>ketoconazole</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMG-CoA reductase</td>
<td>Possible rhabdomyolysis</td>
<td>Any time</td>
<td>Avoid if possible. If combination therapy is necessary, monitor the patient for toxicity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>inhibitor plus</td>
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<td>erythromycin or</td>
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<td>itraconazole</td>
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In addition, it is important to be aware of the chelation effect for non-prescription (OTC) interactions. Chelation is the process when drugs bind in the gut to form insoluble complexes that cannot be absorbed. When a drug cannot be absorbed into the bloodstream, it does not work. We typically recommend spacing doses of the 2 interacting agents by at least 2-4 hours.

Common OTC's that chelate with many prescription drugs:
- Iron (found in iron supplements (Feosol, Fergon), most multivitamins with minerals);
- Zinc (found in zinc supplements such as Cold-Eeze, most multivitamins with minerals);
- Calcium (found in calcium supplements, most multivitamins with minerals, milk and dairy products, antacids such as Rolaids and Tums);
- Aluminum (found in antacids such as Maalox and Mylanta); and
- Magnesium (found in antacids such as Maalox and Mylanta, laxatives including Milk of Magnesia).

Read the labeling on your prescription bottle or literature that comes with it, which should indicate if there are precautions to be taken.

**Did You Hear?**

A newly released study supports the use of mammography as a valuable tool to reduce breast cancer related death by at least 30%. The 30% reduction can translate to 15,000 to 20,000 lives saved. Critics had previously cited that false positives are often produced, requiring women to undergo invasive procedures to rule out the presence of a tumor.

In the US women are generally recommended to have mammograms annually.
WORTHY EVENTS

It is our privilege to support our clients and participate in their fundraising efforts.

9/15 – AHRC Margiotta Memorial Golf Outing (The Muttontown Club, East Norwich, NY)

9/17 – Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation’s 49th Annual Ball (The Bourne Mansion at St. John’s University)

9/18 – Eger Health Care and Rehabilitation Center: “Taste of Staten Island” (On Site, Staten Island, NY)

9/23 – Andrus Children’s Center Light Up the Night (On Site, Yonkers, NY)

9/24 – Norwegian Christian Home and Health Center Annual Fundraising Event (On Site, Brooklyn, NY)

9/26 – St. Catherine of Siena Annual Golf Classic (St. George’s Golf Club, Setauket, NY)

9/26 – National Foundation for Human Potential 20th Annual Golf & Tennis Tournament (The Creek, Locust Valley, NY)

9/29 – Madonna Heights Ladies Auxiliary hosts A Benefit for the Women and Children served by Madonna Heights Services (John W. Engeman Theatre (Northport, NY)

To have your event posted, please send an e-mail to shanna@chemrx.net.

Sudoku Puzzle Key from Page 6

NO PEEKING!
Each puzzle consists of a 9 x 9 grid containing. Use the clues to fill all the empty squares so that the numbers 1-9 appear exactly once in each row, column and 3 x 3 box.
Difficulty Level 2. Solution Page 5.

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