

The Golden Mortar



Newsletter of the Southern Gauteng Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa and Associated Sectors

Edition 6/December 2021



CHAIRMAN'S 2021 YEAR END MESSAGE

Lynette Terblanche

HOW WILL *SECUNDUM ARTEM* BE PRACTISED IN THE FUTURE ?

It is difficult to believe that 2021 has come and gone!

As we near the end of 2021 and look back on the year, we may wish to describe it as another most eventful year in recent history, not less so for our profession.

We have had to navigate the ups and downs of our pharmacy journey which included another lockdown period, the very unfortunate looting incidents resulting in the loss of livelihood for a number of colleagues, and the loss of provision of healthcare for many patients, and in addition, for many of us, the loss of family, friends, and colleagues due to the ongoing pandemic and for other reasons.

The ups of the year certainly include the rallying together of pharmacists supporting colleagues who really had to start all over. We saw the establishment of an emergency fund with extensive contributions from individual pharmacists, corporations, and other donors offering welcome financial support to our colleagues affected by the looting incidents. We thank every individual who in some way has been associated with supporting this initiative.

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The year 2021 also opened further opportunities for digital communication. The Branch managed to organise a virtual Symposium during Pharmacy Month, and our CPD sessions were all virtual, as were the meetings of the Branch Committee. **(Please remember to complete your online CPD requirement before the end of the year).**

We are experiencing a technology revolution also in the way we will practice *Secundum Artem* in the future. This was crystal clear from the presentations during our Symposium.

While for some, bad news took a major share of 2021, many others discovered opportunity in adverse times. People continuing to work from home became closer to their families, many new relationships were built and nurtured, and most important of all, people continued to learn new skills in the confines of their homes during the year. Pharmacists certainly are adaptable to their circumstances!

However, we also need to recognise the fact that continued remote working did present formidable challenges for many.

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The pandemic imposed very heavy burdens on pharmacists, pharmaceutical companies and healthcare centres, where the focus remained on Covid-19 treatment options of which the most revolutionary was perhaps the opportunity to participate in vaccination of the population. I do believe that the image of the pharmacist in the healthcare setting has increased dramatically.

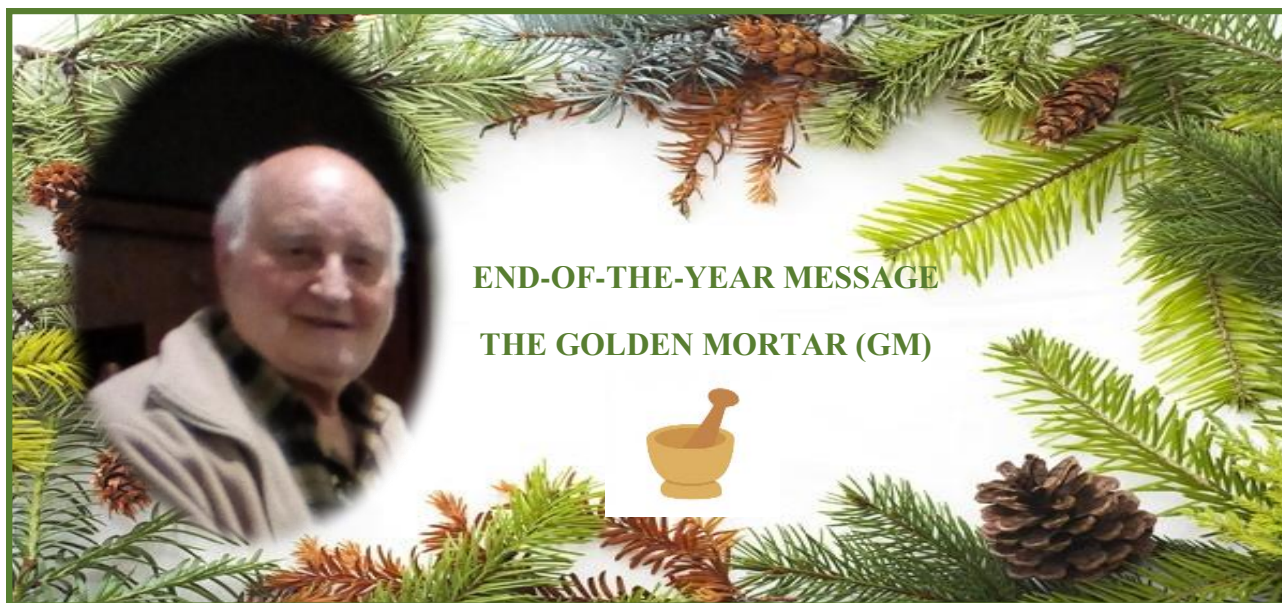
I am positive that many of our members cannot wait for the year to end and for 2022 to dawn.

This Branch would like to ensure that we continue to cater to the needs of our members, therefore we would like to encourage you to please communicate with the office to tell us how we can best cater for your professional needs. **Your continued support motivates the committee to continue to serve the membership.**

On a final note, I would like to thank every member of the Branch for their continued engagement. Hopefully, 2022 will continue to enthuse us all to be the best professionals we can be. We look forward to your active participation in Branch activities in 2022.

On behalf of the Branch Committee, I would like to wish you, your family, and all your loved ones a very happy and peaceful festive season and a successful 2022.

May 2022 bring you 12 months of success, 52 weeks of laughter, 365 days of fun, 8760 hours of joy, 525,600 minutes of pleasure, and 31,536,000 seconds of happiness...



The months and days have rocketed past, leaving us striving to keep up with the "new normal" that has resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic's still-raging surges - hopefully soon waning and staying within manageable bounds. There is no better time than the seasonal break to reminisce on the past year and look forward to the year to come.

We mourn the sad loss of some of our dedicated healthcare workers, and pay tribute to the thousands more who risked their lives and those of their families in the cause of service to their communities.

The start of 2021 saw unforeseen challenges to the scheduled publication of the first and second editions of The GM.

Online planning meetings of the Editorial Board were scheduled at six-week intervals, but through technical difficulties, including equipment and frequent loadshedding, they were often abandoned for lack of a quorum, and suggestions and discussions via emails were held instead; as a result, the number of editions was reduced to 6 for the calendar year.

.../ continued on page3



Welcome additions as Board members were Lynette Terblanche (Chairman of the SG Branch), Stephanie de Rapper (Academia), while Gary Kohn (SA Association of Community Pharmacists, SG Branch), Tammy Maitland-Stuart (SA Association of Pharmacists in Industry), Tabassum Chicktay and Rashmi Gosai (SA Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists, SG Branch), resumed the representation of their respective Branches or Sectors, as did Cecile Ramonyane, our Secretary and compiler of The GM editions.

A decision was taken by the PSSA Branch Committee that all articles and adverts should be sent to all Board members for review to ensure compliance with official product advertising and registration standards, as well as the POPI Act regarding personal information, and these have necessitated the revision and updating of the GM Policy Document, which is ongoing.

I wish to thank all Board members for their participation and contributions of editorial material that made each edition interesting, informative, and entertaining for the readers, as well as Amayeza for their regular clinical articles submitted; we are grateful for the financial support by the SAACP SG Branch that helps to defray our production expenses, and for the advertising by the associated SARCD A Exhibitions company.

It remains for me to wish everyone a happy festive season, good health, safety if traveling, and prosperity in the coming year.

Dave Sieff,
Chairman, The GM Editorial Board.



SAVE THE DATE

**The Southern Gauteng Branch
Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa
Annual General Meeting**

Notice in terms of the Constitution—Section 22.2

To:

**All members of the Southern Gauteng Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of
South Africa
(PSSA)**

**You are hereby notified that the Annual General Meeting of the Southern
Gauteng Branch of the PSSA will be held as a virtual online meeting on
Tuesday, 8 February 2022 commencing at 19h00**

Issued by:

**Lynette Terblanche -
Chairman Southern Gauteng Branch of the PSSA**





PSSA SG BRANCH HONOURED

Lynette Terblanche

Wits Pharmacy Students Council (WPSC) organised “The Last Vibe” on Friday 5 November, a very prestigious event, and the last formal event for the final year pharmacy students. The event was held at 52 Glenhove Road and attended by the students as well as their lecturers. The Southern Gauteng Branch received an invitation to the event.

Much to the surprise of the Branch, we were honoured with the WPSC Honorary trophy, awarded to the organisation that has shown the most support to the of the year to the WPSC.

The Branch would like to express its sincere gratitude for the award.

It must be said that the Branch was really privileged to have built excellent relationships with the WPSC representative, Esther Shuping, as well as the Academia representatives, who all actively participated in Branch activities during the past year.

We look forward to continuing the good working relationship with our students in future.

To all the final year students of 2021:

Congratulations on successfully completing your B Pharm studies!

You are the future of Pharmacy and we wish you every success.



SAAHIP SG 2021 AGM REPORT

The South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists, Southern Gauteng (SAAHIP SG) branch, held its Annual General Meeting on the 24th of November 2021 at 18:30 via Microsoft Teams. Prior to the proceedings, an exciting CPD was hosted by SAAHIP SG and presented by esteemed Clinical Pharmacist – Jacquie Fox. The topic of the presentation was *TDM: The Ins and Outs of Drug Monitoring*. Certificates of attendance were to be issued to attendees.

The proceedings of the AGM commenced as per the Agenda, with the annual financial report presented by Branch Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, Cazandra Da Silva, and the Chairperson’s report presented by the Branch Chairman, Rashmi Gosai. The elections of the new office bearers and branch committee were run by co-opted committee member, Thanushya Pillay.

Election results:

The incoming SAAHIP Committee for 2022:

Rashmi Gosai	Branch Chairman
Jameelah Shaikjee	Branch Vice-Chairman
Shaista Nabee	Branch Secretary & Treasurer

- Thanushya Pillay
- Tasneem Mukadam
- Tshilidzi Shabangu
- Jacquie Fox
- Tabassum Chicktay
- Kayakazi Hanise
- Shoni Mulibana

James Meakings, November Nkambula, and David Sieff were proposed for co-option.





SAAHIP SG BRANCH

CHAIRMAN'S END-OF-THE-YEAR MESSAGE



2021 was a year of hope for new beginnings amidst the pandemic but it proved to be a challenging year with the catastrophic 3rd wave hitting us in July. This was followed by stringent lockdown levels, medicine and resource shortages, civil unrest, anti-vaxxers and vaccine misinformation, and the sudden loss of many dear family members and colleagues.

All pharmacists in the front, middle and backlines have had anything but an easy year. Even through these trying times we were resilient, agile, and spirited enough to make it through, for this, we commend and thank each and every one of you for everything you have done to serve our profession regardless of the circumstances. Pharmacists have evolved in extraordinary ways to ensure that our patients still received optimal holistic care throughout the pandemic.



Rashmi Gosai

Pharmacists in all sectors have worked harder than ever to ensure our healthcare system functioned at its peak, even in the toughest of circumstances. We are making our mark on the history of pharmacy, and we hope you are able to rest throughout the festive period and enter the New Year with hope and positivity.

Rashmi Gosai
SAAHIP SG Chairperman



The PSSA Book Department

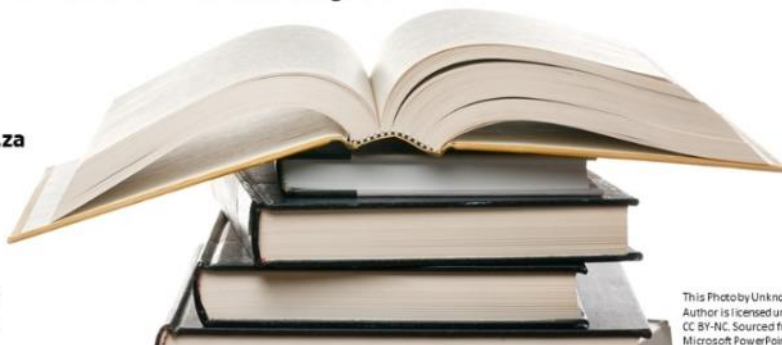
Do you know that the Book Department has a range of essential publications for pharmacists at preferential prices for members of the PSSA?

From overseas publications such as Martindale, Merck Manual and Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary to local publications such as the Daily Drug Use, South African Medicines Formulary (SAMF) and the Scheduled Substance Register.

Ordering is as simple as 1, 2, 3.

1. Go to the PSSA website, www.pssa.org.za click on Membership and then Member Services.
2. Complete the order form and submit it.
3. Make payment via EFT.

Or contact Dinette at PSSA National Office on (012) 470-9559 or at dinette@pharmail.co.za



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RABIES

Terrifying, but don't be scared – be aware of it and act accordingly

*Lee Baker
Amayeza*

INTRODUCTION

September the 28th was World Rabies Day and is the anniversary of the death of Louis Pasteur, a French chemist and microbiologist who developed the first rabies vaccine in 1885, and saved the life of a little boy, Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by a rabid dog. **The theme this year is 'Facts not Fear.'**

Rabies is one of the oldest and deadliest diseases and is still endemic in many countries, especially those in Asia and Africa, and even though there are very effective vaccines for both humans and animals available, canine rabies is still responsible for more than 55000 deaths annually - that is 1 death every 15 minutes! In most cases these deaths could have been avoided through education and access to vaccines because, **although rabies is a fatal disease, it is also 100% preventable by vaccinating animals and humans.**

Rabies is endemic in South Africa, especially in KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape, but cases occur throughout the country, and pharmacists should be up-to-date with the guidelines so that they can assist when someone comes into the pharmacy with a dog bite or bite from another animal. It is very rare to see dog rabies in the Western Cape but there have recently been two cases, and the West Rand in Gauteng has also had a number of rabies cases, mostly involving wild and farm animals.

WHAT IS RABIES AND HOW CAN WE PREVENT IT?

Rabies, without appropriate postexposure prophylaxis (PEP), is a fatal untreatable disease that is transmitted to humans from infected animals. It is caused by a virus that is spread via the saliva of an infected animal. The virus enters another host through bites, scratches and any other wounds that break the skin, and then affects the brain and causes death. Although any mammal could theoretically get and transmit rabies, 99% of human rabies deaths are caused by rabid dogs.

Although most cases are due to dog rabies, cats and livestock, as well as bats are sometimes implicated. Small rodents e.g. mice and rats are not typically associated with rabies. A healthy animal does not transmit the rabies virus. Animals that may transmit the virus will themselves be affected by the disease. Any abnormal behaviour or signs of ill health in the animal could indicate rabies. For example, domestic animals who are normally tame, become very aggressive and often salivate and are unsteady on their feet, whereas wild animals with rabies may be unusually timid.

Rabies is 100% preventable through vaccination of animals (especially all dogs) and appropriate treatment for anyone who has had a potential rabies exposure, so brush up on your knowledge on how to treat these!

DIAGNOSIS

The time that it takes for the virus to move from the entry wound to the brain is known as the incubation period, and this can vary from weeks to months. During this time there are no symptoms and there is no test that can be done to determine whether the person has contracted rabies or not. As the virus is never present in the blood, one cannot send a blood sample to the laboratory to be tested for rabies.

The initial symptoms are similar to those of 'flu and there may be a prickly sensation at the site of the wound. After a few days, the symptoms progress further, presenting either as encephalitic or furious rabies (in about 80% of cases), or paralytic or dumb rabies.

.../ continued on page 7



In furious rabies, the person may experience delirium, abnormal behaviour, hallucinations, hydrophobia (fear of water) and insomnia, and these last for less than 10 days, after which the person dies. In paralytic rabies, the muscles become paralysed and a coma develops and death occurs within a month. Once the symptoms present, there is no effective treatment and the patient will die.

The diagnosis is usually made based on clinical symptoms and history of an animal bite, but a definitive test can only be done once the person has passed away.

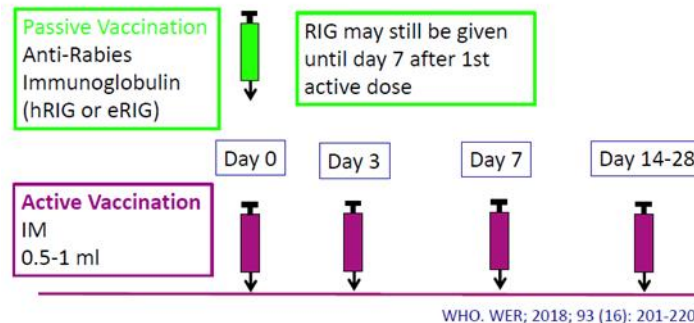
The survival of the patient depends on treatment before the symptoms present. This is usually possible due to the lengthy incubation period.

MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT

The wound should be thoroughly washed and flushed out for about 15 minutes, preferably with soap and water. A disinfectant such as povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine should be applied thereafter. Postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) should be started as soon as possible. If the person has not had any rabies vaccines previously, he or she should be given a series of four vaccines (Verorab®) intramuscularly, either in the arm, or in the upper leg (for little children), but never in the buttocks; one dose on each of the following days – day 0 (the first day of treatment), day 3, day 7 and day 14. In addition, rabies immunoglobulin (Rabigam® or Equirab®) should be infiltrated into the wound.

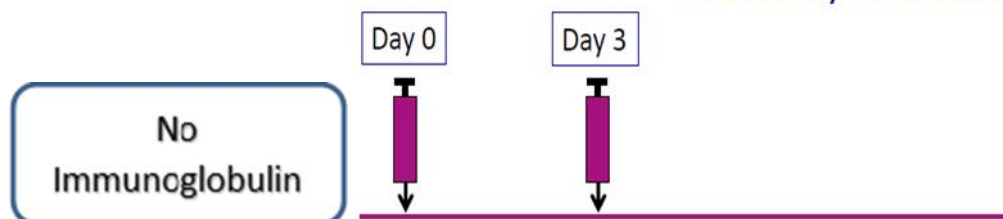
The immunoglobulin dose is dependent on the product used and the weight of the patient. The dose of Rabigam® is 20iu/kg and that of Equirab® is 40iu/kg. This is very important as the immunoglobulin will neutralise the virus in the wound before it can enter the nerve cells. It is no longer advisable to inject any immunoglobulin that cannot go into the wound, intramuscularly, as this has been found to have no benefit. Rabies immunoglobulin can be administered up to the 7th day after the first vaccine dose, but if not given by then, it is too late to give.

Rabies Post-exposure Not Immunised „Reduced 4-Dose Regimen“



If the patient has previously had rabies vaccines, then they only require two doses of the vaccine, one on day 0 and one on day 3. No rabies immunoglobulin is given.

Rabies Post-exposure Previously immunized



PREVENTION

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is advised, which is a series of two vaccines on separate days (one on day 0 and one on day 7), for people who may be at high risk of being exposed to rabies, such as frequent travellers to Asia and Africa (especially children), vets, hunters, and laboratory workers working with the rabies virus. This makes PEP, if they are exposed to rabies, much simpler, as only two rabies vaccine doses are then required, one on day 0 and one on day 3 and, most importantly, rabies immunoglobulin, which is often difficult to get hold of, will not be necessary. Those who are at constant high risk of being exposed to rabies should have their antibody levels tested every two to three years, and if they fall below 0.5iu/ml, a booster dose of vaccine should be given.

Patients who are immunocompromised should receive the full series of vaccines plus immunoglobulin in all situations.

Although rabies is a terrifyingly fatal disease, it can be prevented by appropriate vaccination of pets and humans, and remember, **DON'T HUG STRAY DOGS!!!** In South Africa, where we have access to both vaccines and immunoglobulins, every rabies death is a failure of the health system.

BE INFORMED AND SHARE THE INFORMATION WITH OTHERS. HELP CREATE A RABIES-FREE WORLD

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

[PSSA Webinar on 7 December was a timely bonus to this article, co-presented by Lee Baker and Prof. Lucille Blumberg]



2021 has been a fantastic year for SA Association of Pharmacists in Industry (SAAPI) despite all its challenges. SAAPI have delivered more workshops and commented on more guidelines than ever before. This year saw our first fully virtual SAAPI conference where we not only got to interact with our members, but also deliver content that was both stimulating and thought provoking, helping us to prepare for a world and profession that is evolving faster than ever before. Our digital footprint and social media reach through our LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Website, has been taken to the next level. None of the successes we experienced in 2021 would have been possible without an amazing SAAPI EXCO team, the dedicated staff of SAAPI and the support of you, our members. I want to thank you all, because without you this would not have been possible to achieve.

As we start winding down the year, I want to personally extend my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for making 2021 a year to remember. If you are traveling for the holidays take care on the roads. **I wish you and your families all a very safe and very blessed festive season. Come back rejuvenated and ready to take our Association to even greater heights in 2022.**

Warm regards
Gina Partridge





END-OF-THE-YEAR MESSAGE

SA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS SOUTHERN GAUTENG BRANCH (SAACP SG)



As 2021 draws to a close, this marks the end of yet another challenging year; the Covid-19 situation has evolved further, and we are still dealing with significant global challenges. This is a very sad situation we find ourselves in, and sincere condolences are extended to the families who lost their loved ones due to Covid-19 – our "unsung heroes."

With resilience and continuous support, together we know that we will navigate the Covid-19 pandemic and weather the storm. We will continue the good work we are doing to advance and protect our profession as SAACP, engaging with the Department of Health, and providing Continuing Professional Development sessions to our colleagues, as we did this year.

Moving forward into 2022, I would like you to know that there are many great things ahead for pharmacists that we can do to raise the flag high, looking forward to even stronger collaborative endeavours with other pharmacy associations locally and internationally, to fulfil a higher purpose in the world.

Not turning a blind eye to our colleagues who lost their businesses during the unrest and looting during July 2021, we would like to extend our heartfelt emotional support for their speedy recovery and restoration of pharmaceutical services to their communities.

It would be amiss of me not to mention the sad passing of our great stalwart, our hero and pillar of strength – the one who fought the battles of our profession till his last breath Mr Ray Pogir, the Curator of the Pharmacy Museum of the Southern Gauteng Branch of the PSSA. May his soul rest in peace. He used to say that he "was a part of the artefacts in the museum !" and I can still remember his cute smile.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Tintswalo Winnie Ndlovu,
SAACP SG Branch Chairman, 2021.



SAACP (SG)

**South African Association of Community Pharmacists
(Southern Gauteng Branch)**

Visit our website: www.saacpsg.co.za

Follow us on Facebook: South African Association of
Community Pharmacists SG (SAACPSG)

View The Golden Mortar editions on our website.
Contact us at:

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SAACP SG is a financial contributor to The Golden Mortar.





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Southern Gauteng Branch

(Representing the Community Pharmacy Sector of the PSSA)

1 December 2021

B218/11/21

NOTICE OF THE 70th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE 70th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
SOUTHERN GAUTENG BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS AT 20:00 via ZOOM ON
WEDNESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2022**

AGENDA

1. Notice of Meeting
2. Welcome
3. Acknowledgements
4. Obituaries
5. Apologies
6. Adoption of Minutes of the 69TH Annual General Meeting held on 10 February 2021 and the Adjourned Annual General meeting held on 3 March 2021
7. Matters Arising
8. Chairman's Report
9. Results of Election
10. Honorary Treasurers Report
 - 10.1 Audited Financial Statements of the SAACP SG Branch and its subsidiary, SARCD Trade Exhibitions (Pty) Ltd as at 30 September 2021
 - 10.2 Appointment of Auditors
11. Motions
12. General
13. Closure

**T Ndlovu
Chairman**

RSVP: ella@saacp.co.za



We are excited to announce
that SARCD Africa is here!



Africa
2022



**SAVE THE
DATE**

**WEDNESDAY, 16 – FRIDAY, 18 MARCH
09:00 - 17:00**

**THE SARCD TEAM CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
YOU AT SARCD AFRICA 2022!**

**BUYERS BARCODE WILL BE EMAILED
TO YOU JANUARY 2022**

SARCD 2021 & COVID 19 REGULATIONS



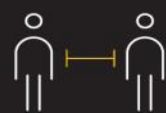
**Wash & sanitise
your hands
regularly.**



**Face mask is
compulsory**



**Temperature
screening**



**Maintain social
distancing of at least
1.5m apart from
other people
at all times.**



TRIBUTES TO NEVILLE LYNE

APRIL 1935 — 29 August 2021

Lorraine Osman

Neville Lyne was a long-time friend and colleague, who had a varied and interesting career. From 1953 – 1960, he was employed in various community pharmacies in Durban, where he also attended the Pharmacy School, after which he completed his pharmacy apprenticeship.

He then changed direction, joining Scherag (Pty) Ltd as a professional services representative (rep) for the extensive Natal, East Griqualand, Transkei, southern Orange Free State (OFS), and Swaziland regions. From 1961 to 1970, Neville was transferred to the Scherag Head Office in Johannesburg, as understudy to the Pharmaceutical Director, Dr Mike Tonkin. He was later promoted to national sales supervisor of the White Laboratories division, and subsequently to National Sales Manager for the Schering Corporation division, for South Africa.

From 1971, Neville's responsibilities were expanded internationally to include Mozambique and Angola, and later he was promoted to Marketing Planning Manager at Schering Plough European headquarters, Switzerland, where he was responsible for corticosteroids, antihistamines, and gastrointestinal medicines for western Europe, excluding France and West Germany but including Scandinavia, and in addition, Middle Eastern countries and Africa South of the Sahara. He was eventually transferred to Belgium as marketing manager.

In 1981, Neville returned to Johannesburg to take up the position of Head of Communications and Marketing at the PSSA National office. Together with Oppel Greeff and Hugo Durrheim, Neville introduced CPD courses for members. He also organised and managed the AGMs and conferences, among other responsibilities. He was appointed Chairman of the hugely successful and popular Pharmacy Professional Awareness Campaign (PPAC), promoting pharmacy to the general public via print, radio, and TV media, while also supervising the office of the SA Pharmaceutical Journal in Braamfontein, during the terms of several PSSA Presidents.

In 1991, in conjunction with Colin Stanton, Neville conceptualised and introduced Insurance Advisor, the Professional Indemnity Insurance Plan (PIP) for PSSA members. This was originally managed by the Southern Gauteng branch of the PSSA but is now run by the Professional Provident Society in partnership with PSSA National.

As a token of appreciation for exceptional service to Pharmacy and the PSSA, as a non-pharmacist and non-member, in May 1995 Neville was awarded Honorary Fellowship of the PSSA. In April 2000, he retired from full-time activities, but continued to manage the PIP until this was transferred to the National Office.

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In 2004, the Southern Gauteng (SG) branch invited Neville to take up the position of Professional Officer, and to manage their CPD programme, in a part-time capacity; he was also invited to join the Editorial Board of The Golden Mortar (GM), the SG Branch Newsletter. From 2014, Neville managed and arranged the Branch's Clinical CPD programme, continued as Professional Officer, and since 2018 acted also as Publishing Co-ordinator of The Golden Mortar, even after his retirement from office in 2019. The high standard of the GM is the legacy that Neville has left.

My overall impressions of Neville, the man, are of his competency, professionalism, clear thinking, dedication, his sage advice, his co-operation, his gentlemanly manner and wry sense of humour, and the respect which he was shown.

My sincere condolences to Eleanor, Stuart and Nikki. MHDSRIP.

David Sieff

As comprehensively described above in a tribute to the late Neville Lyne, he had a varied and interesting career in several fields of pharmacy, in which his organisational abilities and talent featured prominently.

It was during his nine years as Manager of the Sales Representatives ("Reps") at Whites Laboratories, a division of the (American-based) Scherag Company, that our paths first crossed; I was employed as a "rep" for an interim period - about nine months - between two of my pharmacy education course attempts.

The extensive training in physiology, prescription-product knowledge, presentation skills, reporting back, etc., was under a stern but very knowledgeable tutor, preparing me for the ten-week schedule of doctors' and specialists' calls, often demanding and probing, both in and away from Johannesburg; I mention this here as it was while I was still in training, that Neville and I were associated in over-the-counter products' training aspects of the position.

[By the way, this is where I also had friendly contact with "apprentice" Cecil Abramson, (only the second in pharmaceutical manufacturing in the country !) an erstwhile luminary and leader in pharmacy organisations' affairs.]

Our association was renewed when we both served on the PSSA Southern Gauteng (SG) Branch Committee, and more particularly on The Golden Mortar (GM) Editorial Board; Neville used his aforementioned skills in organising the Board meetings and their Agendas, the Editorial Planning grid, researching and presenting ideas for editorial material and proposed authors, the revision of the GM Policy Document and the advertising Rate Cards, and always raising issues pertinent to the production and publication of each edition and its distribution to the SG Branch membership and the National office - i.e. my right hand in editorial matters - and always a gentleman.

I was indeed privileged and honoured to have had such a close and beneficial relationship with Neville, and until only a few weeks before his passing, we had occasional telephonic chats, to catch up on our health conditions and other matters, and specially his comments on the latest edition of our SG Branch newsletter, The Golden Mortar.

My condolences to the family. I shall miss Neville and our good friendship.

MEMORABILIA ARTEFACT DONATION TO NATIONAL PHARMACY MUSEUM

Dave Sieff

As a collector, I regularly attend an online auction of coins, banknotes, stamps, and memorabilia, and bid for an occasional item of interest.

At recent sessions there were the occasional "unsold" items, and a particular one remained unsold on a few occasions, and which caught my interest as a possible addition to the vast range of artefacts on display in the National Pharmacy Museum in the Branch building, but I would have to consult the PSSA Branch management about funds available to purchase this item.

I explained this to the auctioneer, Mr. Louis du Plessis, and he agreed to hold it for me until I received approval - or otherwise - from the Management team.

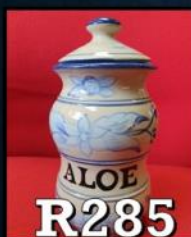


At the most recent auction where the item was again unsold, Mr. du Plessis spontaneously offered it as a no-charge donation to the Museum, which I immediately and gratefully accepted.

As shown in the photos, it is a large, empty, (Smith and Nephews) Elastoplast tin, from the days when things were made to last and be reused.

I hope that the tin will find a suitable display location in the company of the thousands of items in our Museum and add to the important historical artefacts on view - a visit is highly recommended when circumstances improve - and meanwhile other replica artefacts may be ordered for home or office display, representing a facet of our profession that is often not sufficiently recognised.

National Pharmacy Museum Artefacts



To start your very own collection, Please contact Virginia at 011 442 3615 / virginia@pssasg.co.za



**WEBSITE FOR MEDICINES - CURRENT
AVAILABILITY OR OTHERWISE, NEW AND
DISCONTINUED PRODUCTS, ETC.**


The website was first launched in 2011 as "Medical News & Events", which had over 600,000 pageviews. In 2019 we decided that a new "face" was required and we updated the website to [PharmaNews](https://pharmanews.co.za/), click on the link to view.

Our mission is to supply information that is fast, reliable, and accurate, regarding Scheduled products that directly impact on the medical and pharmaceutical professions, using push notifications.

A Healthcare Professional (Pharmacist, Pharmacist Intern, Community Service Pharmacist, Pharmacist's Assistant, Doctor, Intern, and Nurse) will be able to check on New Products as they are launched, the availability, should there be a supply problem, and the withdrawal of a drug for whatever reason. This is of particular interest to pharmacists in the Community Pharmacy Sector, and Locum pharmacists. We have seen an increase in readership since Covid restrictions on Company Representative visits.

In order to comply with the National Code of Marketing, the website is secure and the Healthcare Professional needs to register with their respective "P" Numbers. This prevents the consumer from seeing sensitive information. (The number you use is, e.g. "11585", without the "P". I cannot see your password, in terms of the POPI Act and you can generate a new one if so desired).


The log-in link is https://pharmanews.co.za/wp-login.php?redirect_to=https://pharmanews.co.za/ and for those colleagues that want to register the link is : <https://pharmanews.co.za/register/>.



Professional Indemnity Insurance

You should be aware that pharmacists in all spheres of Practice require Personal Indemnity Insurance. Not to have it is simply not an option – it is a requirement of the South African Pharmacy Council.

PSSA offers its members access to the essential cover at very competitive rates through the Professional Provident Society.



For further details please contact Nikita at the PSSA National Office on (012) 470-9557 or at Nikita@pharmail.co.za

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The Chairman of the Editorial Board is David Sieff and the members are Tabassum Chicktay, Stephanie De Rapper, Gary Kohn, Tammy Maitland-Stuart, and Cecile Ramonyane, - Branch Secretary. All articles and information contained in The Golden Mortar of whatsoever nature do not necessarily reflect the views or imply endorsement of the Editorial Board, the Branch Committee, the PSSA, it's Branches or Sectors. The Editorial Board and the afore-said cannot therefore be held liable. Every effort is made to ensure accurate reproduction and The Golden Mortar is not responsible for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies which may occur in the production process.

The Editor reserves the right to amend punctuation or text for correctness, and to summarise where necessary.

We welcome all contributions and as space permits, these will be published.

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