RU-486 Update
By Bert Wagner

On 15 November 2004, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced an important labeling change for Mifeprex (mifepristone), also known as RU-486. Mifepristone was approved in 2000 for the treatment of early pregnancy, defined as 49 days or less under a fast-track policy designed for rapid approval of life-saving experimental treatments for patients with lethal diseases, such as AIDS. According to FDA Commissioner Jane E. Henney, the decision to finally approve RU-486 was the result of "careful evaluation of the scientific evidence related to the safety and effective use of this drug." The regimen had not caused any fatalities and had been shown to be free from the risk of uterine perforation and complications caused by anesthesia in surgical interventions. The most commonly reported side effects were abdominal pain and heavy menstrual-type bleeding for a short duration. However, since then, the FDA and Danco Laboratories have received reports of serious and sometimes fatal infections, bleeding, and ectopic pregnancies that were unreported. These reports have led to the revision of the black box labeling. The original black box warning only discussed the potential complication of incomplete abortion. The new information reminds health care providers that serious bacterial infection and sepsis may occur without the usual signs of infection, such as fever and tenderness on examination. Health care providers should be aware that prolonged, heavy bleeding may warrant surgical interventions. The label also warns that health care providers should be vigilant for patients with undiagnosed ectopic pregnancies (tubal pregnancies) as this condition may be missed by physical examination and ultrasound. Some of the symptoms of an ectopic pregnancy may mimick the expected symptoms of a medical termination of pregnancy. Mifepristone is not effective for termination of these pregnancies.

For consumers, the Medication Guide states patients should contact their health care provider right away if they develop fever, abdominal pain, and heavy bleeding. Also, consumers are advised to take their Medication Guide to the emergency room or any health care provider they visit for the problem. This allows health care providers to understand that the patient is undergoing a termination of pregnancy, and assess risks associated with that condition.

The letter, label, and other information can be found on the FDA’s Web site at: www.fda.gov/cder/drug/information/mifepristone.

More information on the abortion drug RU-486 may be found at the National Right to Life Web site at: http://www.nrlc.org/RU486/ru486info.html.
I have been practicing retail pharmacy for the past eight years and as the years go by, I realize that God is incorporated in every cell of our body. His word manifests its life into the hand I was touching. (Ecc. 9:10) Only does God give life to hands, but to something special, like a warm feeling. Not everyone can feel it, but if it happens, they will know it is special.

There was something wrong with her. I had to take strong pain medication to manage the pain. We talked and I held her sore wrist and said a prayer asking God to put life into the hand I was touching. (Ecc. 9:10)

There is something in God's word for every ailment, and in John 8:36, the Lord says the truth shall make you free. The more you know about the ailment and the part of the body it affects then you can apply this wisdom and knowledge in order to treat your condition. From here you can claim your healing through faith.
I have been practicing retail pharmacy for the past eight years and as the years go by, I realize that God is incorporated in every cell of our body. His word manifests its life during her illness. I shared Matthew 17:14-18 about how Jesus healed a man believed to have a demonic spirit when one patient recently had a stroke and she was scared that she didn’t know who God’s will be done. A number of missions trips are planned. If you have not been on one, please prayerfully consider going. It is a life changing experience. For information, please call Ron Herman, 319-354-2195 or e-mail at rohnerham@nchsi.com

Help Introduce a Student to CPFI

The CPFI Board has set a goal of fostering greater student participation in our organization. We would like to see more students at our annual meeting, but for many, the cost is prohibitive. Please consider sponsoring a student to attend the CPFI Annual Meeting in Springmaid Beach, SC. The meeting brochure will have a section in which you can send in a little extra to help fund a student to attend, $25, $50, $100 or more, or whatever you can give would help a student experience a pharmacy meeting with a Christian focus. Even if you can’t attend the meeting this year, you can complete the sponsorship section of the meeting registration form and send it to CPFI. Students interested in attending the annual meeting must contact CPFI (cpfi.org) prior to the meeting if they wish to receive financial support. The available funds will be split equally amongst the students who attend the meeting. Help invest in the future of CPFI by supporting our students.

Message From the President (Continued)

• General member dues will increase from $50 to $70 per year starting January 1, 2005.
• Our BOD met in Louisville so that we could also attend the Medical Missions conference on Friday and Saturday, November 12th and 13th. This is the largest missions conference in the world with 2300 in attendance. An added plus to the conference is the offering of Christian Missions Continuing Education credits. (I obtained 6 hours credit on my pharmacy license requirements while being blessed by good Christian teaching).

I look forward to seeing each of you and your families at the beach in June, and pray that God will continue to bless the work of CPFI and lead each of us in the way He would have us go. May we be open to His guidance.

In Christ’s Name, Herb Hames

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The CPFI Annual meeting is back at Myrtle Beach. Attending this annual meeting is a must! There will be plenty of family activities, food, prayer, and of course CE! Come and enjoy a pharmacy program with a Christian perspective. Make sure and bring a friend (or two!).

I would like to join CPFI’s Circle of Friends so that the Newsletter and Journal may continue to be published.

NAME ____________________________ ____________
ADDRESS ____________________________ ____________
CITY ____________________________ STATE ZIP ____________________________
PLEDGE AMOUNT ____________________________

We will acknowledge your pledge by name (not by amount) in upcoming issues of Faith Script, unless you wish to remain anonymous (check here □). Please send this coupon to CPFI in the enclosed envelope. Thank you and God bless!

PLanned Giving Sponsorship Section

Annual Conference March 11-13, 2005

The CPFI Annual conference is planned for Myrtle Beach, SC. Attendees can expect a great conference on current issues in pharmacy practice. Make sure and bring a friend (or two!).

In Christ’s Name, Herb Hames

HELPERS WANTED

We are in need of volunteers to help staff the CPFI booth at the APhA meeting in New Orleans. Please contact your district chairman or Ron Herman if you are interested in helping.

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Front page:

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