



International Society of Pharmacovigilance

Committed to safer use of medicines worldwide

Dear Members of the ISO P Women's Medicines Special Interest Group,

Today, on International Women's Day, we send our very best wishes to you all and would like to share the following important messages:

International Women's Day 2021

We send our solidarity to all women in these difficult times, when women's lives around the world have been disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. It is important to mark this day in recognition of *all* the important work women do, from the humblest unpaid tasks in our families and communities, to professional roles in all sectors of pharmacovigilance, to the highest level of leadership roles in national and international organisations.

We also salute those of any gender who work towards improving women's health and wellbeing, supporting our ISO P SIG's mission to improve the efficacy and safety of medicines and devices, at all stages of product development and availability, for women in all countries of the world. As Mira said in her inaugural presidential address at ISO P 2019 in Bogota, "We are all in this canoe together!"

FSRH statement on OCs and antibiotics

Following publication of an article by Aronson and Ferner in BMJ Clinical Evidence in 2020 (*'Analysis of reports of unintended pregnancies associated with the combined use of non-enzyme-inducing antibiotics and hormonal contraceptives'*, doi 10.1136/bmjebm-2020-111363) the UK Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH) has published a statement about concomitant use of antibiotics with oral contraceptives. The key message is, "FSRH CEU guidance remains that additional contraceptive measures are not required when [non-enzyme-inducing] antibiotics are prescribed to users of hormonal contraception".

More detail may be found here: <https://www.fsrh.org/news/updated-statement-fsrh-ceu-response-to-study-unintended/>

UK Consortium on Medicines in Pregnancy

Following publication of the Cumberlege Report <https://www.immdsreview.org.uk/news.html> the UK has established a Consortium on medicines for pregnant and breastfeeding women, involving 16 leading organisations. If any SIG members are involved in this Consortium, please let us know. We would like ISO P to be represented and our SIG could help disseminate information to ISO P's international members.

More detail may be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-partnership-pledges-clear-and-consistent-evidence-based-guidance-on-medicines-for-pregnant-and-breastfeeding-women--2>

ISO P International Society of Pharmacovigilance

Mira Harrison-Woolrych, President; Rebecca Chandler, Vice-President; Deirdre McCarthy, Secretary; Jean-Christophe Delumeau, Treasurer; Angela Caro Rojas, Jan Petracek, Mónica Tarapués, Gianluca Trifirò, Manal Younus, Li Zhang, Advisory Board Members – Sten Olsson, Past-President | Sophie Spence, Executive secretariat, ISO P Secretariat Ltd
140 Emmanuel Road, London SW12 0HS, UK | administration@isoponline.org | Tel/fax +44 (0)20 32560027 | www.isoponline.org

Plans for Women's Medicines Session at ISoP 2021 in Oman

Plans are underway to have a session on women's medicines at ISoP's annual conference in November this year. Due to the global pandemic, the meeting will be in hybrid form (mainly online, with some local events/attendees). There will be more information available on the ISoP website soon. The session is being organised by Manal Younus and Mira Harrison-Woolrych who may reach out to SIG members for contributions soon. Please be willing to share your expertise with us!

More detail may be found here: <https://www.isop2021oman.org/>

ISoP President's book *New Admissions* published worldwide

Following on from her first collection of short stories about women working in a run-down public hospital, Mira has recently published a new volume of tales, set in the time of the global Covid-19 pandemic. Many of you will know Mira's stories are fictional, but if you have worked in healthcare, you may recognise certain settings and situations!

More detail may be found here: https://www.amazon.com/New-Admissions-Tales-death-lockdown/dp/0995143315/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1609371538&sr=8-1

Request for non-members to join ISoP this year

If you are not already an ISoP member (or your membership has lapsed) please consider joining this year. As a not-for-profit organisation, ISoP depends on membership fees to continue our work. We have recently introduced lower fees for those in low and middle income countries and will consider special requests from those in high-income countries who may not be able to afford the higher fees. Please consider joining ISoP today, to mark International Women's Day!

More detail may be found here: <https://isoponline.org/members/how-to-join-fees/>

Noho ora mai/wishing you good health

Mira Harrison-Woolrych and Ulrich Hagemann

Co-ordinators of the ISoP Women's Medicines Special Interest Group