

RGH Pharmacy E-Bulletin

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A joint initiative of the Patient Services Section and the Drug and Therapeutics Information Service of the Pharmacy Department, Repatriation General Hospital, Daw Park, South Australia. The RGH Pharmacy E-Bulletin is distributed in electronic format on a weekly basis, and aims to present concise, factual information on issues of current interest in therapeutics, drug safety and cost-effective use of medications.

Editor: Assoc. Prof. Chris Alderman, University of South Australia – Director of Pharmacy, RGH

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Christmas Edition – Best wishes for the festive season

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS – A DILEMMA AT RGH

Twas the night before Christmas, and it would seem
No drugs were dispensed by the pharmacy team?
The tablets did not make the usual run
And capsules, injections, of these there were none!

Untreated people were restive in beds
Delirious patients had quite muddled heads...
Cardiac failure without diuretics
The pain of arthritis was rather pathetic

When out in the car park there was such a clatter
We saw a solution for pharmacy matters
The news was quite welcomed by clinical teams
The doctors, the nurses, and others it seemed

The dilemma that looked that it might have no ending
Was now to be fixed by “physician attending”
Although he was bearded and wore no white coat
Doc Santa had tablets in a large, baggy tote

That jolly physician, so lively and quick,
Red-suited, and dapper, decidedly slick
He was somewhat rotund, with twinkling eye
But no-one begrudged him for his BMI

"Now Lasix! Now Zoton! Now Prozac and Valium!
On, Keflex! On, Plavix! On Astrix and Nexium!
To the top of the counter! And answer the call!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

Like subsidised treatments, the tablets did fly,
Ointments and eye-drops, all fit to apply
Out from the pharmacy, medicines flew,
They sat in the sleigh with the good doctor too.

Then on to the wards, where patients did wait,
Some were reduced to a terrible state
Who would have thought it would be such an issue?
Without medicines the treatment just could not continue

As he got the wards, Doc Santa surveyed
An absence of tablets so terribly grave
This can't go on, he said with a grin
And reached into his sack to the capsules within

His eyes-how they twinkled! His dimples - how wry!
He got straight to work in the blink of an eye
And into the drug rooms the good Doc dispensed
Injections and lotions, from pharmacy sent

The nurses were happy, the doctors ecstatic
Rescued from problems that seemed quite traumatic
For now all the medicines were ready at hand
And the hospital's prospects, decidedly grand

So in each bed patients quietly lay
Hoping for discharge before Christmas day
The good doc delivered the drugs that they needed
And all of their ailments could now be treated

And as he completed his medical run
His work was completed, deliveries done
He picked up his sack and returned to his sleigh
“Good bye and God Bless – I'm on my way”

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a shout,
“We have more things to do, more drugs to get out”
As he left RGH, and the sleigh took to flight
He cried "Happy Xmas to all, & to all a good-night!"

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION – CONTACT THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT ON 82751763 or email: chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au
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