



PRESCRIRE INTERNATIONAL

Managing Editor: Christophe Kopp general practitioner

Coordinating Editor: Christine Badiane

Sub Editor: Karen Albrecht

Translators: Helen Geneviev, Ros Schwartz, David Young

Consultants: Judith Mintzes, Andrea Tarr

Subscription department: Christine Barraud

PRESCRIRE

Publishing Director: Bruno Toussaint

Publishing Committee: José Aguilar, Séverine Carré-Pétraud, Pierre Chirac, Valentine de Belleroche, Hélène Merlin, Jérôme Robert, Philippe Schilliger, Jérôme Sclafer

Executive Secretary: Martine Divet

Development: Shirley Decupère with Lucie Alexandre, Élise Dezothez, Bernardin Dilou, Sarah Hembert and Vanessa Sumyoun; Houria Farhi (Algeria)

Human Resources: Valentine de Belleroche with Laetitia Luyeye Kinioko and Huynh Dieu Nguyen

Accounts: Tanguy Goblet with Martine Kowanski

Administration, Reception, Mail Room: Astou Badji, Séverine Bégnés, Ibrahima Daffé and "Il est 5 heures"

Circulation and Subscriber Services: Christine Barraud with Aleksandra Debon, Cécile Gai, Corinne Kramer, Patricia Médioni, Cécile Monteil and Stéphanie Traca; technical solutions B&C Technologies

Information Technology: Xavier Martin-Legeay, with Amaury Guern, AL consulting, Apogea, DevPartner, Dokeos, Les Artisans numériques, PFL consulting, Samu-Informatique, Ze Team

Design:

Art Director: Martine Talent

Layout: Nathalie Cappelletti with Nolwenn Benmeziane, Sandrine Guillaume, Geneviève Lamagdelaine, Sandrine Praud, Jennifer Ribeiro-Marta

Multimedia layout: Sandrine Praud

Editor: Jérôme Sclafer general practitioner with Séverine Carré-Pétraud pharmacist

Editorial Committee: José Aguilar, Marie Babin, Pierre Chirac, Philippe Mura

Section Editors:

• **New products:** Eric Cerqueira pharmacist; Florence Chapelle pharmacist; Nathalie Deleau pharmacist; Antoine Grandvullemin pharmacist; Sébastien Hardy pharmacist

• **Adverse effects:** Élisabeth Veyria pharmacist with Sophie Ginolhac pharmacist and Céline Roussel pharmacist

• **Reviews:** José Aguilar MD; Marie Babin biologist; Juliette Barthe general practitioner; Marc Legrelle diabetes specialist; Philippe Mura MD; Céline Martin pharmacist

• **Information to patients:** Christine Guilbaud pharmacist

• **Health and society:** Clarisse Briand public health; Pierre Chirac pharmacist; Bénédicte Connault MD

• **Book review:** Pierre Frouard general practitioner

• **Guideline watch:** Marine Barillot pharmacist

• **Reader's test:** Christian Bouret general practitioner

• **Take it easy:** Christophe Kopp general practitioner

• **Forum:** Odile Burrus nurse

• **Queries and comments:** Cécile Poilpré pharmacist

• **Prescrire electronic media:** Hélène Merlin pharmacist

Production Editor: Christine Badiane with Sophie Bel

Information search:

• **Companies and agencies:** Olivier Huyghe with Karine Bégnaud, Nathalie Deleau, Sophie Ginolhac, Ayah Hakim, Cécile Loubeyre-Unique, Samia Nabi

• **Literature search:** Marine Barillot, Cécile Loubeyre-Unique, Minata Traoré with Astou Badji, Nathalie Hayes and Hortense Sanon

Packaging working group: Olivier Huyghe and Samia Nabi

Editorial Office: Christelle Sissokho with Hélène Declercq

Editors: Nadine Aidan dentist; Laurence Aimard civil engineer; Anne Americh pharmacist; Anne Aubert pharmacist; Karine Bégnaud pharmacist; Éric Bel pharmacist; Angèle Bouquet pharmacist; Delphine Bourneau-Martin pharmacist; Isabelle Breton MD; Sophie Chalons pharmacist; Nolwenn Clech communication; Michel Coletti general practitioner; Thomas Declercq pharmacist; Nina Degrell pharmacist; Aurélie Delépine general practitioner; Claude Demange pharmacist; Jean Doubovetzky general practitioner; Houria Farhi general practitioner; Aldo Fari biologist; Nathalie François-Moliner paediatrician; Philippe Gabrié MD; Ghyslaine Galhaud-Costes pharmacist; Marie-France Gonzalez pharmacist; Jean-Pierre Gribeauval medical law; Dörte Gunther geriatrician; Béatrice Guyard-Boileau gynaecologist-

President: Pierre Chirac pharmacist

ASSOCIATION MIEUX PRESCRIRE

"To work, in all independence, in favour of quality healthcare, first and foremost in the interest of patients (...)." (Article 1 of the Association Mieux Prescrire bylaws).

Prescrire International is a monthly journal of selected texts translated from the French journal Prescrire.

Prescrire International is published 11 times a year by Association Mieux Prescrire, a non-profit continuing education organisation (N° 11 711 075) under the French law of 1901. Its board members are: Pierre Chirac (President); Séverine Carré-Pétraud (Vice President); Dörte Gunther (Treasurer); Antoine Grandvullemin (Deputy Treasurer); Bernard Topuz (General Secretary); Maryline Dufils-Gelgon (Deputy General Secretary).

EDITORIAL STAFF Members of the Prescrire Editorial Staff sign a yearly declaration of absence of conflicts of interest, in accordance with Prescrire's "Non merci..." Charter. Members are free from any interest contrary to Association Mieux Prescrire's objectives (the Charter and the Declaration are available online at english.prescrire.org).

Publishing reliable reviews that are easy to use and adapted to readers' needs depends upon complex editorial procedures, all initiated and overseen by the members of Prescrire's Editorial Staff. Members of the Editorial Staff define editorial goals. They oversee the literature search, the writing and rewriting of texts, and the review by a panel of outside experts (medical specialists, methodologists, representatives of Prescrire's subscriber base...). They organise internal and external quality control procedures, and edit the final copy. Every draft is submitted, before publication, to a large number of outside reviewers. Details on how Prescrire's content is produced are available online at the Prescrire in English website (english.prescrire.org); see About Prescrire and How we work.

obstetrician; Ayah Hakim pharmacist; Mélanie Hardy pharmacist; Ghislaine Henry general practitioner; Olivier Huyghe pharmacist; Aurélie Jamet pharmacist; Jérôme Jean nursing; Fabienne Jourdan emergency care; Jacques Juillard MD; Philippe Lecco internal medicine; Laurence Le Quang Trieu pharmacist; Sophie Logerot pharmacist; Cécile Loubeyre-Unique pharmacist; Nadjat Loumi pharmacologist; Odile Martinet geriatrician; Marie-Anne Mengeot journalist; Gilles Mignot pharmacologist; Denis Millières-Lacroix general practitioner; Laure Misrahi-Guillaume pharmacist; Agnès Monchovet-Godard general practitioner; Didier Morère pharmacist; Évelyne Mouret pharmacist; Clotaire Nanga pharmacist; Angelina Nguyen-Tramond general practitioner; Jean-Pierre Noiry general practitioner; Chantal Oliéric pharmacist; Ann Pariente MD; Eve Parry pharmacist; Sophie Pilon pharmacist; Sonia Prot-Labarthe pharmacist; Pauline Quillet pharmacy; Michaël Rochoy general practitioner; Jean-Yves Rolland dentist; Anne-Claire Rosati public health; Bernard Rueff MD; Étienne Schmitt pharmacist; Agnès Sommet pharmacologist; Christoph Steffen epidemiology; Bernard Topuz MD; Florence Vandeveldé pharmacist; Maryse Véron nurse; Cyril Vidal dentist; Caroline Vincent pharmacist

Consulting Editors: Philippe Adrien; Alain Burtscher; Mélanie Hardy; Natacha Marpillat; Annie Pecresse; Olivier Rozand

Art and Photo Editor: Olivier Huyghe

Illustrations: José David; Léa Lord; Alain Savino

Indexing: Mélanie Hardy, Hélène Merlin with Laurence Le Quang Trieu, Sandrine Parmentier

Prescrire electronic media: Hélène Merlin

Policy advocacy: Florence Vandeveldé with Teresa Alves, Pierre Chirac, Olivier Huyghe, Christophe Kopp
Projects: Catherine Alexandre; Karelle Le Gleut; Christine Piette; Didier Rod

Reviewers' panels: Laure Misrahi-Guillaume

For Belgium and Switzerland: Sophie Chalons with Marie-Louise Bouffloux, Dominique Leyh (Agence fédérale des médicaments et des produits de santé), and Catherine Delafontaine (pharmaSuisse)

Translations "Assessment Elsewhere": Marie-Andrée Bernard, Annick Pijnenburg, Karin Raton, Eva Stille

Website: Philippe Schilliger and Karen Albrecht

Subscriber correspondence: Anne Americh, Nolwenn Clech, Annie Pecresse, Jérôme Robert with Huynh Dieu Nguyen

Continuing education programmes:

Pedagogical adviser: Philippe Schilliger • **Instructors:** Anne Aubert; Christian Bouret; Frédérique Digonnet; Maryse Véron • **Organisation:** Hélène Merlin • **Atelier Médicaments en Question:** Nadine Aidan • **Atelier Questions de Pratiques:** Éric Bel, Christine Guilbaud

• **Evaluation:** Sandrine Parmentier • **Accreditation:** Ghyslaine Galhaud-Costes

Preventing the Preventable Programme: Marie-France Gonzalez and Étienne Schmitt with Éric Beaugendre, Éric Bel, Thomas Declercq, Éric Galam, Josette Vallée.

Review Panel: The following persons reviewed the articles, which were first published in Prescrire then translated for this issue of Prescrire International: Noël Amouroux (toxic substance surveillance); Emmanuel Andres (internal medicine); Françoise Augry (hospital pharmacy); Michel Aujoulat (general practice); Françoise Bacle (general practice); Dany Baud (pulmonology); Marie Baudon-Lecame (hospital pharmacy); Laurence Baumann-Coblentz (general practice); Mireille Benit (general practice); Philippe Biedermann (general practice); Béatrice Brembilla-Perrot (cardiology); Patrick Carlier (pharmacology); Simone Casel (pulmonology/allergology - Luxembourg); Pierre Chevalier (general practice - Belgium); Philippe Colombat (haematology); Alexandra Daguet (pharmacy intern); Christine Damase-Michel (pharmacology); Blandine De La Gastine (pharmacovigilance); Didier Debieuvre (pulmonology); Philippe Degural (oncology); Denis Del Nista (emergency care); Jean-Dominique Dewitte (pulmonology); Serge Douvier (gynaecology); Christophe Droin (general practice); Nicolas Dupont (public health); Geneviève Durrieu (pharmacology); Daniel Dusser (pulmonology); Waly Fager (hospital pharmacy); Jean-Luc Faillie (pharmacovigilance); Daniel Floret (paediatric intensive care); Alexandre Gelgon (general practice); Jean-Marc Géniole (general practice); Bénédicte Gosselin (hospital pharmacy); Claire Gozalo (pharmacovigilance); Aurélie Grandvullemin (pharmacovigilance); Emmanuel Gyan (haematology); Anne Hallopeau-Le Goaster (hospital pharmacy); Emmanuelle Herlem (pharmacovigilance); Catherine Hill (epidemiology); Bruno Housset (pulmonology); Philippe Jaccard (hospital pharmacy); Claude Kouakam (cardiology); Jean-Claude Kuhn (general practice); Pascal Lachaise (pharmacy); Antoine Lévy (pulmonology); Daniel Lévy-Bruhl (epidemiology); Amélie Liou-Schischmanoff (hospital pharmacy); Jean-François Massé (general practice); Christian Merlin (pharmacy); Sylvie Mesrine (gynaecology); Noël Milpied (haematology); Joseph Monsonego (gynaecology - obstetrics); Jean-Louis Montastruc (pharmacology); Marion Montastruc (haematology - oncology); Christiane Mouglin (virology); Nathalie Mugnier (hospital pharmacy); Pascal Mugnier (pharmacy); Élisabeth Paganelli (gynaecology); Norbert Passuti (orthopaedic surgery); Alain Pinzani (cardiology); Laurent Portel (pulmonology); Claire Presne (nephrology); Robert Pujol (pharmacy); Michel Rebstock (general practice); Frédéric Romieu (general practice); Jérôme Roth (general practice); Renaud Roubille (hospital pharmacy); Étienne Rouleau (pharmacy); Marc Samama (anaesthesiology - intensive care); Dominique Tingaud (pharmacy); Marie-Madeleine Trassart (general practice); Frederick Varrichio (FDA - USA); Jean-Luc Vidal (general practice); Eric Voog (oncology); Raphaël Wielgo (hospital pharmacy); Nassima Yahiaoui (pharmacovigilance); Marc Zaffran (general practice - Canada)

Copyright Prescrire

www.prescrire.org

Registered address: 83, bd Voltaire 75011 Paris France
Tel.: (33)(0)1 49 23 72 80 - Fax: (33)(0)1 48 07 87 32

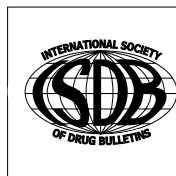
E-mail: contact@prescrire.org

Postal address: Prescrire - 83, bd Voltaire
75558 Paris Cedex 11 - France

All rights reserved. Contents may not be reproduced, except by individual subscribers for limited distribution, in small quantities, for solely non-commercial purposes.

All other uses: permission must be obtained in writing from the publisher.

Printing: Imprimerie BMG - France



Prescrire is a founder and member of ISDB, a network of drug bulletins that are independent of drug companies, which aims to promote international exchange of quality information on drugs and therapeutics.
Website: www.isdbweb.org