

President: Philippe Mura *general practitioner*

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 bimonthly journal of selected texts translated from the French journal *Prescrire*.

Prescrire is published monthly by Association Mieux Prescrire, a non-profit continuing education organisation (N° 11 711 075) under the French law of 1901. Its board members are: Philippe Mura (President); Pierre Chirac (Vice President); Hubert Ghestem (Treasurer); Antoine Grandvullemin (Deputy Treasurer); Jean-François Audouard (General Secretary); Clarisse Briand (Deputy General Secretary).

Executive Committee: Abdelhakim Berrah; Jérôme Robert; Bruno Toussaint

Executive Assistant: Florence Vandeveld

Executive Secretary: Martine Divet

Development: Fabrice Mailly assisted by Nolwenn Clec'h, Bernardin Dilou and Mélody Royère; Houria Farhi (Algeria)

Human Resources: Valentine de Belleroche

Accounts: Tanguy Goblet assisted by Martine Kowanski
Administration, Reception, Mail Room: Jean-Pierre Bargin, with Françoise Amani, Séverine Bégnès, Astou Badji and Gérard Pierre

Circulation: Christine Barraud

Subscription department: Corinne Kramer assisted by Stéphanie Traca and Aleksandra Debon • **Continuing education logistics:** Aleksandra Debon; Huynh Dieu Nguyen; Cécile Gai; Patricia Médioni

Subscriber correspondence: Jacques Juillard, Annie Péresse, Cécile Poilpré, assisted by Hélène Declerck and Christelle Sissokho

Information Technology: Xavier Martin-Legeay, with Bilog, Damien Donnet, Iago, SamuInformatique

Copyright Prescrire

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.

DESIGN

Art Director: Martine Talent

LAYOUT: Nathalie Froment assisted by Véronique Beauzel, Catherine Marriette, Sandrine Mourthé, Sandrine Praud and Geneviève Lamagdelaine

Multimedia layout: Catherine Marriette

Printing: Les Ateliers réunis - France



Prescrire is a founder and member of ISDB, a network of independent drug bulletins which aims to promote international exchange of quality information on drugs and therapeutics.
Website: <http://isdbweb.org>

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 www.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. They define editorial goals. They oversee documentary

research, the writing and rewriting of texts, and 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 (www.english.prescrire.org); see the "About Prescrire" section, "How we work".

PRESCRIRE INTERNATIONAL

Managing Editor: Christophe Kopp *general practitioner*

Coordinating Editor: Christine Badiane

Sub Editor: Karen Albrecht

Translators: David Young, Helen Genevier, Ros Schwartz

Consultants: Judith Mintzes, Andrea Tarr

Subscription department: Corinne Kramer

PRESCRIRE

Editorial Director: Bruno Toussaint MD with José Aguilar MD, Philippe Mura *general practitioner*, Philippe Schilliger MD

Section Editors:

• **Brain-teaser:** José Aguilar MD • **New products:** Séverine Carré-Pétraud *pharmacist*; Sébastien Hardy *pharmacist*; Gilles Mignot *pharmacologist* • **Adverse effects:** Élisabeth Veyriac *pharmacologist* • **Reviews:** Marc Legrelle *diabetologist*; Jean-Pierre Noiry *general practitioner*; Jérôme Sclafer *general practitioner* • **Key messages:** Philippe Mura *general practitioner* and Céline Martin *pharmacist* • **Information to Patients:** Jean Doubovitzky *general practitioner* • **Health and society:** Pierre Chirac *pharmacist*; Bénédicte Connault MD • **Book review:** Jacques Juillard MD • **Guideline watch:** Jean-Pierre Noiry *general practitioner* • **Reader's test:** Christian Bouret *general practitioner* • **Take it easy:** Christophe Kopp *general practitioner* • **Deciphering medical articles:** Marc Legrelle *diabetes specialist* • **Forum:** Odile Burrus *nurse* • **Questions/ Answers:** Cécile Poilpré *pharmacist* • **Prescrire electronic media:** Hélène Merlin *pharmacist*

Information search:

• **Companies and agencies:** Olivier Huyghe *pharmacist* assisted by Anne Americh *pharmacist*, Sophie Ginolhac *pharmacist*, Laurence Le Quang Trieu *pharmacist*, Cécile Loubeyre-Unique *pharmacist*, Samia Nabi *pharmacist*; assisted by Julie Gouzil • **Literature search:** Marine Barillot, Dominique Broclain, Cécile Loubeyre-Unique, Minata Traoré; assisted by Julie Gouzil, Nathalie Hayes, Hortense Sanon

Production Editor: Christine Badiane

Senior Editors: Catherine Alexandre MD; Anne Americh *pharmacist*; Isabelle Breton MD; Clarisse Briand *health economist*; Dominique Broclain MD-*sociologist*; Jean Bruneton *pharmacognosy specialist*; Catherine Dumont *paediatrician*; Aldo Fari *biologist*; Béatrice Guyard-Boileau *gynaecologist-obstetrician*; Olivier Huyghe *pharmacist*; Laurence Le Quang Trieu *pharmacist*; Jeanne Maritoux *pharmacist*; Céline Martin *pharmacist*; Marie-Anne Mengeot *journalist*; Chantal Oliéric *pharmacist*; Étienne Schmitt *pharmacist*
Junior Editors: Laurence Aimard *civil engineer*; Anne Aubert *pharmacist*; Marie Babin *biologist*; Abdelhakim Berrah *economist*; Éric Cerqueira *pharmacist*; Florence Cha-

pelle *pharmacist*; Nina Degrell *pharmacist*; Houria Farhi MD; Nathalie François-Moliner *paediatrics*; Pierre Frouard *general practitioner*; Hubert Ghestem *pharmacist*; Sophie Ginolhac *pharmacist*; Marie-France Gonzalez *pharmacist*; Antoine Grandvullemin *pharmacist*; Dörte Gunther *geriatrician*; Fabienne Jourdan *emergency care*; Cécile Loubeyre-Unique *pharmacist*; Nadjat Loumi *pharmacologist*; Odile Martinet *geriatrician*; Denis Millières-Lacroix *general practitioner*; Laure Misrahi *pharmacist*; Évelyne Mouret *pharmacist*; Clotilde Nanga *pharmacist*; Angelina Nguyen-Tramond MD; Ann Pariente *general practitioner*; Sophie Pilon *pharmacist*; Élisabeth Rivollier *general practitioner*; Didier Rod MD; Céline Roussel *pharmacist*; Bernard Rueff MD; Bernard Topuz MD; Florence Vandeveld *pharmacist*; Maryse Véron *nurse*.

Art and Photo Editor: Olivier Huyghe

Illustrations: José David; Léa Lord; Alain Savino

Packaging working group: Olivier Huyghe and Samia Nabi

Indexing: Marie Babin; Hélène Merlin with Mélanie Hardy and Sandrine Parmentier

Projects: Mireille Didier; Samia Nabi; Didier Rod; Marianne Samuelson

Quality control: Philippe Adrien; Catherine Alexandre; Marie Babin; Karine Bégnaud; Odile Burrus; Frédérique Digonnet; Sophie Ginolhac; Jeanne Maritoux; Hélène Merlin; Laure Misrahi; Catherine Monteiro; Evelyne Mouret; Chantal Oliéric; Sophie Pilon; Céline Roussel
Proofreading: Jeanne Maritoux; Denis Millières-Lacroix; Evelyne Mouret; Annie Péresse; Céline Roussel; Bernard Rueff

Reviewers' panels: Laure Misrahi

For Belgium and Switzerland: Cécile Poilpré with Marie-Louise Bouffloux, Dominique Leyh (Agence fédérale des médicaments et des produits de santé - département Bon usage des médicaments), and Doris Ballinari, Martine Ruggli (pharmaSuisse, Société suisse des pharmaciens)

Translations "Assessment Elsewhere": Marie-Andrée Bernard, Marja Liisa Jérôme, Pierre Klotz, Karin Raton, Eva Stille

Editorial Office: Christelle Sissokho and Hélène Declerck

Prescrire electronic media: Hélène Merlin with Sandrine Parmentier

Website: Philippe Schilliger with Karen Albrecht

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

Pedagogical adviser: Philippe Schilliger • **Instructors:** Christian Bouret; Frédérique Digonnet; Marie-France Gonzalez; Jacques Juillard; Odile Martinet; Hélène Merlin; Étienne Schmitt; Maryse Véron • **Quality control:** Hélène Merlin • **Evaluation:** Michel Coletti; Dominique Broclain; Florence Vandeveld • **Promotion:** Pierre Atlan

REVIEW PANEL: The following persons reviewed the articles, which were first published in *Prescrire* then translated for this issue of *Prescrire International*: Jean-Jacques Altman (diabetology); Jean-Louis Arné (ophthalmology); Jean-Pierre Auffray (intensive care); Marie-José Augé-Caumont (community pharmacy); Michel Aujoulat (general practice); Guillaume Babin (medical student); Françoise Bacle (general practice); Haleh Bagheri (pharmacology); Claude Bailleur (general practice); Françoise Ballereau (hospital pharmacy); Jeanne Barre (anesthesiology-intensive care); Arnaud Basdevant (nutrition); Anne Bastide (midwifery); Claude Bernadou (general practice); Philippe Biedermann (general practice); Marc Bosment (general practice); Henri Bruel (paediatrics); Alain Burtcher (paediatrics); Julien Chauvin (community pharmacy); Pierre Chevallier (INAMI - Belgium); Marc Chobert (general practice); Maurice Combes (general practice); Emmanuel Corset (dietetics); Dominique Costagliola (epidemiology); Suzanne Dat (gynaecology); Marc Dauphin (endocrinology); Eric de Beaurepaire (community pharmacy); Hughes De Chorivit (general practice); Philippe Deguair (oncology); Jean-Emmanuel de la Coussaye (intensive care); Denis Del Nista (intensive care); Claude Demange (hospital pharmacy); Corinne Denis (community pharmacy); Bertrand Devaud (general practice); Jean-Louis Devoize (neurology); Philippe De Wals (public health - Canada); Jean-Louis Dhondt (biochemistry); Christophe Droin (general practice); Emmanuel Dumont (cardiology); Sandrine Espérahé-Vignau (health law and ethics); Emmanuelle Espieussat (community pharmacy); Max Favier (gynaecology); Jean-Louis Feit (community pharmacy); Catherine Foulhy (midwifery); Walter Foulon (gynaecology-obstetrics); Alain Fournié (gynaecology-obstetrics); Annie Fournier (pharmacology); Stephan Gaillard (neurosurgery); Bernard Gavid (general practice); Cyrille Goizet (genetics); Marcel Goldberg (epidemiology); Martin Gonzalez (surgery); Philippe Gratot (general practice); François Gueyfier (cardiology); Christine Guilbaud (community pharmacy); Marie-Laure Hessel (pharmacy); Christian Jamin (gynaecology-obstetrics); Hubert Journal (genetics); Sendil Kalimoutou (pharmacovigilance); François Katona (general practice); Gilbert Kirkorian (cardiology); Claude Kouakam (cardiology); Martine Lalande (gynaecology); Jacques Lansac (gynaecology)

logy obstetrics); Frédéric Lapostolle (emergency medicine); Georges Laroche (ophthalmology); Dominique Lasne (haematology); Philippe Latreyte (general practice); Christian Layole (community pharmacy); Daniel Le Corgne (general practice); Stéphane Le Gratiel (community pharmacy); Hervé Le Naour (cardiology); Jean-Pierre Letinaud (community pharmacy); Antoine Lévy (pneumology); Francisque Leynadier (allergology); Anne Maheut Bosser (geriatrics); Gilles Mangiapan (pneumology); Francis March (general practice); Eric Marchesseau (general practice); Catherine Maurain (pharmaceutical law); Pierre Méneton (Inserm U367); Jean-Baptiste Meric (oncology); Christian Merlin (community pharmacy); Alexandre Merlo (general practice); Bernard Mesle (general practice); Marie Mittaine-Guidet (pneumology); Jean-Louis Montastruc (pharmacology); Didier Morère (community pharmacy); Etienne Pace (general practice); Élisabeth Paganelli (gynaecology); Nathalie Pelloquin (hospital pharmacy); Paul Perrin (urology); Luc Perrot (obstetrics); Patrice Pierluca (neurosurgery); Alain Pinzani (cardiology); Béatrice Place (community pharmacy); Bernard Planchon (internal medicine); Marie-Hélène Portal (general practice); Robert Pujol (community pharmacy); Florence Ranchon (hospital pharmacy); Gilles Renard (ophthalmology); Arnaud Ribier (cardiology); François Ribière (general practice); Christian Rigaudières (community pharmacy); Françoise Rivals-Jonquet (general practice); Olivier Rogeaux (infectious disease); Valérie Rougeot (pharmacy); Lucien Roulet (pharmacovigilance); Chloé Rousselière (hospital pharmacy); Olivier Rozand (general practice); Henry Rozenbaum (gynaecology); Issam Salouage (pharmacovigilance - Tunisia); Ginette Sapede-Escobar (general practice); Jean-Pierre Sarramon (urology); Florence Savary (hospital pharmacy); Jean-Paul Sculier (oncology - Belgium); François Serru (community pharmacy); Emmanuel Sonnet (diabetology); Jean-Christophe Souquet (gastroenterology); Florence Taboulet (pharmaceutical law); Stéphane Tellez (community pharmacy); Laurent Thiriet (hospital pharmacy); Marc Timsit (ophthalmology); Dominique Tingaud (community pharmacy); Mathilde Touvier (Afssa); Anne Vambergue (diabetology); Thierry Vial (pharmacology); Daniel Wirthner (gynecology-obstetrics-Switzerland)