



# the Joint Pharmaceutical Analysis Group

Chairman : Dr Ray Munden

Hon.Sec. Prof. Geoffrey Phillips OBE

## Report for 2008

**Symposia** Four meetings were again presented at London venues. In April JPAG organised a 2-day conference *Faster & Smarter Analysis* at the University of London School of Pharmacy, including equipment exhibition & a wine reception for further viewing. In June *Combating Counterfeit Medicines* presented international speakers at the Waterloo school of pharmacy of King's College London. For the two Autumn symposia the Group was able to return to the RPSGB Hall. The October meeting dealt with *Advances in pharmaceutical laboratory efficiency*, and a 'superb' December one *The current state of dissolution assessment*.

In late September, JPAG represented RSC Analytical Division at the annual F A C S S meeting, held this year in Reno Hilton, Nevada, USA, with a series of presentations on *NIRS in pharmaceutical analysis - technology transfer in action*. Meeting details are in **Annex A**. The 2009 programme prepared by your Committee is at **Annex B**.

At **British Pharmaceutical Conference** in Manchester in early September, for the ninth successive year JPAG presented two half-day mini-symposia, on *Comparability of medicines* - one joint with APSGB Biologics Focus Group, and a session for reading 'Short papers in pharmaceutical analysis'. Miss Louise Ho (Otago & Cambridge Universities), as reported with photo in *PharmJ* October supplement., was the third recipient of our **Conference Analytical Science Award**, comprising a Certificate and a bursary of up to £ 2,000 to facilitate attendance at a analytical meeting of her choice. This award recognised the scientific quality, originality and potential impact of her paper *Terahertz-pulsed imaging as an analytical technique for tablet film coating: monitoring the unit operation and process scale-up*

**Attendance** during 2008 at the four symposia and three BPC sessions ranged from 25 to 97 (total 407), London mean 80. JPAG continued to gain useful feed-back from questionnaires completed by delegates on their sources of meeting information, satisfaction with presentations and their suggestions for future topics.

**Reports.** The Group symposia continue to attract a wider readership through the early publication in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of prompt and informative articles by Dr Joseph Chamberlain. His *PJ* reports are also directly lodged on the Group's **Web site**, <[www.jpag.org](http://www.jpag.org)> and, when an author explicitly agrees, are supplemented by **pdf** files of speaker "handout" material available through a unique password for each delegate registered for that meeting. The web site, designed, maintained and recently re-vamped by Dr Chamberlain, has been operational since October 2004 and during 2008 visits to site pages averaged 750/month. This site also advertises symposia programmes and registration options; information on how members of the joint sponsors, RSC and RPSGB, may join JPAG; and a wealth of historical information about activity of the Group in the past 38 years. Delegate questionnaires confirm that web details of forthcoming events are a favoured resource. The site also provides 'hot' links to other relevant sites - such as RSC, RPSGB, BPC, *Pharm.J.* - and, at appropriate times, invites Committee nominations and displays AGM Order of Business, Minutes & Hon. Secretary's annual Report.

**Group Management.** JPAG **Officers** from April 2008 have been *Chairman*~ Dr Ray Munden (*formerly* GSK); *Immediate Past Chairman*~ Prof Tony Moffat (ULSoP); *Hon. Secretary*~ Prof. Geoffrey Phillips OBE, *Hon. Events Secretary* Dr John Clements and *Hon. Treasurer*~ Dr Arthur Andrews. **Elected members** of the Committee of Management were Dr Andrew Cooper (Pfizer UK), Malcolm Dash (MHRA), Paul Graham (SCM Pharma), Dr Frank Haines-Nutt (retired), Dr Howard Hill (NDA Analytics), Dr Sián Howells (King's College London), Dr Stephen Robinson (Pfizer Global R&D), Dr Geoffrey Sharpe (biosciences consultant) & Andy Walsh (AstraZeneca). From the parent **sponsoring Societies**, RSC has been represented by Mr Ken Leiper and RPSGB by Prof Jayne Lawrence. To widen coverage of all analytical areas - pharmaceutical industry, independent laboratories, hospital service, regulatory and academic, the Committee usefully **Co-opted** Messrs Mark Santillo (Torbay Hospital), Mark Hammond (Melbourn Scientific) & Lee Coney (HLS). Dr Joseph Chamberlain continued as **Corresponding** member. We are grateful for the dedicated assistance from Science staff at RPS - notably Miss Julie Churchill, and her team.

## ANNEX A : Summary of JPAG meetings held in 2008

**Thu.3-Fr.4 April** 2-day Conference + Exhibition : **“Faster and smarter analysis”** Univ.London School of Pharmacy  
Attendance ~85 Report *Pharm.J.*, **280** pp 520-521, 26/4/08 and **JPAG 38<sup>th</sup> AGM** at 13.55 on Thu. 3 April  
12 Exhibitors, six of whom made 5 min. presentations

The pharmaceutical sector is under increasing commercial and social pressure to discover and develop important new medicines while reducing cost and improving productivity. These two symposia explored how technology developments in analytical spectroscopy, separation science and laboratory automation and informatics can help to achieve these goals through faster, or smarter, analysis in order to gain more information per test.

**Thu.12 June** **“Combating counterfeit medicines – the challenge for the analyst”** King’s College London  
Attendance ~90. Report *Pharm.J.*, **280**, pp.758-9. 21/6/08 4 Exhibitors  
Counterfeit medicines are estimated as more than 10% of the global medicines market and in some developing countries it is thought to be as high as 50%. One prediction is that global counterfeit drug sales will reach US\$ 75 billion by 2010. This symposium looked at methods to detect counterfeit medicines, the current and prospective legislative position, and ways to combat counterfeiting. The exhibition presented relevant equipment and systems to detect and combat .

**Sun.7-Tues.9 Sept** **JPAG contributions within British Pharmaceutical Conference 2008** in Manchester  
**Sun.7:** 15.00~17.00 : **‘Short Papers in Pharmaceutical Analysis’** with JPAG ‘Conference Analytical Science Award’ for best podium presentation including a bursary up to £2000 for original work by author aged <35

**Mon. 8:** 13.40~15.40 & 16.00~18.00 : **‘Comparability of medicines’** joint with APSGB Biologics Focus Group  
The complexity of new molecular entities and their delivery systems presents an increasing challenge to scientists and regulatory agencies alike in establishing the comparability of drug products arising from manufacturing changes or new commercial sources. This symposium examined the regulatory and analytical aspects of characterising change in the assessment of product safety and performance.

**Tue.30 September** **“Pharmaceutical applications of Near InfraRed Spectroscopy”** Reno Hilton, Nevada, USA  
JPAG contribution within the F A C S S meeting 28 Sept.~2 Oct. 2008

**Thu.16 October** **“Advances in pharmaceutical laboratory efficiency”** RPSGB, London  
Attendance 50 Report *Pharm.J.*, **281**,pp.517-8 , 1/11/08 3 Exhibitors  
The Quality Control Laboratory, in both the R & D and Operations environment, is a key element of the supply chain with a particularly significant impact on lead times, affecting speed of drug development and overall site manufacturing performance. As pharmaceutical industry faces ever-increasing competition from abroad, the enhancement of laboratory productivity to improve the product-process development cycle and manufacturing efficiency has become even more crucial for the long-term viability of UK-based sites. This symposium reviewed advances in laboratory efficiency which, both individually and collectively, are designed to achieve these outcomes, through the adoption of process-based improvement tools, automation and integrated data handling within the laboratory.

**Tue. 2 December** **“The current state of dissolution assessment”** RPSGB, London  
Attendance 97 Report *Pharm.J.*, **282**, pp.52~54, 17/1/09 6 Exhibitors & 9 posters  
This symposium explored use of dissolution testing in development & control of a range of dosage forms. Speakers described the available pharmacopoeial methods; equipment requirements for qualification & calibration; provided practical examples of use during development & routine quality control; discussed use, regulatory acceptance & further development of the Biopharmaceutics Classification System and describe how it may be used to justify “biowaivers”; setting specifications for modified release products supported by examples of *in-vitro* – *in vivo* correlations and how this can support post-approval changes.

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## ANNEX B : Outline of JPAG meetings planned for 2009

**Thursday 5 March** *Clinical Trials Directive - five years on* Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London  
and the **39<sup>th</sup> AGM of JPAG**

**Wednesday 11 March** *Training meeting on particle size analysis* Royal Pharmaceutical Society  
Organised by the Particle Characterisation Interest Group and the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry

**Thursday 23 April** *Impact of ICH Q8, Q9 and Q10: fact or fiction?* Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London

**Thursday 11 June** *Biosimilars and analytical challenges* Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London

**Monday 3 August** *Quality assurance of medicines and detection of counterfeits* within IUPAC General Assembly, Glasgow

**Wednesday 9 September** within British Pharmaceutical Conference , Manchester  
**JPAG symposium:** Combating counterfeit medicines  
**JPAG symposium:** Emerging technologies in point-of-care testing  
**Presentation of short papers in pharmaceutical analysis.**

**Thursday 15 October** *Analysis of inhaled products* Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London  
a joint symposium with the Inhalation Focus Group of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Thursday 3 December** *Pharmaceutical packaging* Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London  
a joint symposium with the Pharmaceutical Analysis Sciences Group

*Geoffrey Phillips* : 26 February 2009