Designation of WHO Collaborating Centre in Trivandrum, Kerala, India

On 17 February 2012, WHO designated the Trivandrum Institute of Palliative Sciences (TIPS) in Trivandrum, Kerala, India, as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Training and Policy on Access to Pain Relief. Dr M.R. Rajagopal is the director of this centre which has been established by Pallium India. For information on this WHOCC in India, please visit its website. The Access to Controlled Medicines Programme is looking forward to a fruitful collaboration.

In 2010, the Institute of Palliative Medicine, in Calicut, Kerala was already designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Participation in Palliative Care and Long Term Care. This Collaborating Centre works primarily with WHO’s Cancer Control Programme. Furthermore, WHO’s Access to Controlled Medicines Programme also works with the Pain and Policy Studies Group, Madison, WI, United States of America, which is the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pain Policy and Palliative Care.

35th Expert Committee on Drug Dependence

The 35th Expert Committee on Drug Dependence will be held in Hammamet, Tunisia from 4 - 8 June 2012. The proposed agenda is attached as an Annex to this Newsletter. Meeting documents will be published on WHO's website when they become available. (This webpage will be updated shortly.) An Information Meeting where stakeholders are invited to bring up any relevant issues will be held...
in the morning of 4 June 2012 at the same location at 9:00. For more information on this pre-meeting see the guidance on the Expert Committee procedures, paragraphs 37 - 39. For registering for this pre-meeting please contact jiguete@who.int.

See also our controlled medicines website

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For previous issues of this Newsletter please go to: http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/Access_Contr_Newsletter/en/index.html
For further information:
Willem Scholten, PharmD MPA
Team Leader, Access to Controlled Medicines
Department of Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies
World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 79 15540,
e-mail : scholtenw@who.int

Annex: Proposed Agenda for the 35th Expert Committee on Drug Dependence

1. OPENING OF MEETING

2. PROCEDURAL MATTERS
   2.1 Election of chairperson, vice-chairperson and rapporteur
   2.2 Adoption of agenda

3. FOR INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE
   3.1 Revision of Guidelines
   3.2 Work of international bodies concerned with controlled substances

4. CRITICAL REVIEW OF PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
   4.1 GHB
   4.2 Ketamine INN

5. PRE-REVIEW
   5.1 Dextromethorphan pINN
   5.2 Tapentadol
   5.3 Piperazines
       N-benzylpiperazine (BZP),
       1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)piperazine (TFMPP),
       1-(3-chlorophenyl)piperazine (mCPP),
       1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)piperazine (MeOPP) and
       1-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)piperazine (MDBP)
   5.4 Gamma-butyrolactone
   5.5 1,4-Butanediol

6. OTHER ISSUES
   6.1 Use of terms
6.2 Use of pharmacovigilance data for the assessment of dependence and abuse potential (procedures and methodology)
6.3 Balancing medical availability and prevention of misuse of medicines manufactured from controlled substances.
6.4 Improving the evidence base of substance evaluation

7. ADOPTION OF REPORT

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING