

PHARMSCI DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

June 2019

OUR DEPARTMENT

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT

Our Department newsletter will be distributed to departmental faculty every two months. The purpose of the newsletter is to announce the achievements of faculty and their lab members in research, teaching, and service in a timely and succinct manner. The newsletter is meant to be a simple listing of your achievements and newsworthy events, so detailed elaborations are not necessary.

The Department newsletter is designed to be complementary to the School of Pharmacy's Event Notification. Please continue submitting your newsworthy events through the School of Pharmacy's Event Notification via the School of Pharmacy Intranet (<https://intranet.pharmacy.pitt.edu>).

Please submit your items to Karen Wagner by email (kbw17@pitt.edu).

PUBLICATIONS

Hauspurg A, Lemon L, **Venkataramanan R**, Caritis SN. Reply. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2019 Feb 18. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30790567.

Wu X, Clancy CJ, Rivosecchi RM, Zhao W, Shields RK, Marini RV, **Venkataramanan R**, Nguyen MH. Pharmacokinetics of Intravenous Isavuconazole in Solid-Organ Transplant Recipients. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2018 Nov 26;62(12). PMID: 30275091.

Caritis SN, Hauspurg A, **Venkataramanan R**, Lemon L. Defining the clinical response to 17-alpha hydroxyprogesterone caproate. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2018 Dec;219(6):623-625. PMID: 30171841.

Shah M, Xu M, Shah P, Wang X, Clark SM, Costantine M, West HA, Nanovskaya TN, Ahmed MS, Abdel-Rahman SZ, **Venkataramanan R**, Caritis SN, Hankins GDV, Rytting E. Effect of CYP2C9 Polymorphisms on the Pharmacokinetics of Indomethacin During Pregnancy. *Eur J Drug Metab Pharmacokinet*. 2019 Feb;44(1):83-89. PMID: 30159654.

Xie Y, Xu M, Deng M, Li Z, Wang P, Ren S, Guo Y, **Ma X**, Fan J, Billiar TR, **Xie W**. Activation of pregnane X receptor sensitizes mice to hemorrhagic shock induced liver injury. *Hepatology* 2019 Apr 30. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 31038762

Li Y, Pu S, Liu Q, Li R, Zhang J, Wu T, Chen L, Li H, Yang X, Zou M, Xiao J, **Xie W**, He J. An integrin-based nanoparticle that targets activated hepatic stellate cells and alleviates liver fibrosis. *J Control Release*. 2019 Apr 17. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 31004666

Casal MA, Nolin TD, **Beumer JH**. Estimation of Kidney Function in Oncology: Implications for Anticancer Drug Selection and Dosing. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol*. 2019 Apr 5;14(4):587-595. PMID: 30890575

Christner SM, Parise RA, Ivy PS, Tawbi H, Chu E, **Beumer JH**. Quantitation of paclitaxel, and its 6-alpha-OH and 3-para-OH metabolites in human plasma by LC-MS/MS. *J Pharm Biomed Anal*. 2019 Apr 15;172:26-32. PMID: 31022613

Shehu AI, Lu J, Wang P, Zhu J, Wang Y, **Yang D**, McMahon D, **Xie W**, Gonzalez FJ, **Ma X**. Pregnane X receptor activation potentiates ritonavir hepatotoxicity. *J Clin Invest*. 2019 Apr 30;130. PMID: 31039134

Long K, Kostman SJ, **Fernandez CA**, Burnett JC, and **Hury DM**. Do Zebrafish Obey Lipinski Rules. *ACS Med Chem Lett*. 2019 Apr 24 (Web). <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsmchemlett.9b00063>.

Liu R, Tzounopoulos T, and **Wipf P**. Synthesis and Optimization of Kv7 (KCNQ) Potassium Channel Agonists: The Role of Fluorines in Potency and Selectivity. *ACS Med. Chem. Lett*. 2019 May 8. DOI: 10.1021/acsmchemlett.9b00097.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Raman Venkataramanan was an invited presenter at the MWRI Research Day. University of Pittsburgh. May 17, 2019. The title of his presentation was "*Pharmacology of Substance ABUSE disorder*."

Donna Hury was an invited speaker at the 2019 Spring American Chemical Society meeting. March 31-April 4, 2019. Orlando, Florida. Her talk, "Carboxylic Acids and Their Isosteres" was part of a session entitled "Ions Count: Acids, Bases & Zwitterionics in Drug Design"

Donna Hury was an invited guest and participant in the University of Connecticut Department of Chemistry's Chemistry Building 20th Anniversary Celebration & RT Major Symposium. April 17-18, 2019. Storrs, Connecticut.

Donna Hury was an invited speaker at the Celgene Symposium at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor on May 6, 2019. The title of her presentation was "Academic Drug Discovery: Playing to the Strengths to Address Challenging Targets & Diseases"

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Raman Venkataramanan was a Scientific Advisory Committee chair for the 2019 FAME II Annual Meeting held at the Magee-Womens Research Institute on Thursday, April 4 and Friday, April 5, 2019.

Raman Venkataramanan was a member of the Plague Clinical Guidelines Expert Forum for the CDC in Atlanta, Georgia on May 7-8, 2019.

Donna Hury was a member of a Special Emphasis Panel for NCI Clinical and Translational Research Proposals. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. March 7- 8, 2019.

PROMOTIONS

Shilpa Sant was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure as of May 1, 2019.

Jan Beumer was promoted to Professor with tenure as of June 1, 2019.

AWARDS

Wen Xie received the 2019 Graduate Program Faculty Member of the Year Award.

GRADUATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PhD Candidate: Lingjue Li

Primary Advisor: **Samuel Poloyac**

Thesis Title: "*Alteration of Cerebral Blood Flow after Neurovascular Injury*"

Date: April 5, 2019

PhD Candidate: Hongfei Zhang

Primary Advisor: **Raman Venkataramanan**

Thesis Title: "Optimization of Buprenorphine Dosing in Pregnant Women"

Date: April 18, 2019

PhD Candidate: Ashley Fancher

Primary Advisor: **Paul Johnston**

Thesis Title: "*Disrupting Androgen Receptor Transactivation Domains to Identify Lead Compounds with Potential to be Optimized and Developed into Prostate Cancer Therapeutics*"

Date: April 25, 2019

M.S Candidate: Nupur Chaphekar

Primary Advisor: **Raman Venkataramanan**

Thesis Title: "*Safety of Intravaginal Hydroxyprogesterone caproate in Pregnancy*"

Date: April 2, 2019