

December 2006

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The Mortar & Pestle

Long Term Care Newsletter



Shelly's Medication Services - 1504 Grundy's Lane - Unit #8 - Bristol, Pa. 19007


 bonne année Merry Christmas 圣诞快乐! 
 Feliz Navidad Fröhliches Weihnachten
 Gezuar Krishtlindjet Рождеством Христовым
 próspero Año Nuevo Joyeux Noël
 新年快乐! Buon Natale
 НОВЫМ ГОДОМ הקִּיָּה שָׁמ
 Glückliches Neujahr anno nuovo felice
 Happy Hanukkah Happy New Year 

from everyone at **Shelly's Medication Services**

Educational Dinner Program

Chase your post-holiday blues and winter blahs by attending SMS' next educational dinner program given together with co-host Eisai, Inc. Join us at 6:30 PM on January 11 at **Christine's in Yardley**, located at 385 Oxford Valley Rd. in Yardley. Dr. Scott Fleischer, Geri-Psychiatrist, will speak on "Alzheimer's Therapies and Behavior Issues Related to AD".

Call Barry or Stan at SMS (215-785-6616) or Linda Cruz at Eisai (610-613-3583) before Jan. 8th to reserve your place.

Dr. Feelegoode's Corner

Hiccups - Over-eating or drinking often causes hiccups. Here are a half-dozen of my favorite remedies for them.

- 1-If you have normal breathing ability, take a deep breath and hold it, while pinching your nose closed. Hold as long as possible.
- 2- Breathe through a brown paper bag held tightly around your mouth and nose.
- 3-Gargle with plain water.
- 4-Sip ice water quickly.
- 5-Eat a tsp of sugar. Dissolve on your tongue. Do not just swallow.
- 6-Eat a tbsp of peanut butter.





Prescription Descriptions

CoaguChek PT Test Strips Recalled -

Roche Diagnostics and FDA have announced the recall of CoaguChek PT test strips, which are used to determine blood-clotting time of patients taking anticoagulant medication. FDA advised health care professionals who use CoaguChek PT test strips to institute "duplicate testing" or to use two strips with different lot numbers for each patient to reduce the risk of bias. It advised home users of the test strips to immediately discontinue use of the product and contact a health care provider.

Gleevec Tablets Associated with Cardiac Events

Novartis and FDA announced revisions to the Precautions section of the prescribing information for Gleevec (imatinib mesylate) that details the occasional occurrence of severe congestive heart failure and left ventricular dysfunction in patients taking Gleevec. FDA recommended that patients with heart disease or risk factors for heart failure be monitored carefully and that any patients with signs or symptoms consistent with heart failure be evaluated and treated.

This month's words of wisdom

After you have done the best you can, the hell with it.

....Joseph P. Kennedy

**Laughter,
the best
Prescription**

At the Post Office a sorter found an unstamped, handwritten envelope that was addressed to God. Upon opening it, he discovered it was from an elderly lady, distressed because her meager savings of \$200 had been stolen. She will be cold and hungry this Christmas without divine intervention.

In the true holiday spirit the postal workers organized and dug in their own pockets, coming up with \$180. They sent it to her by special courier the same morning.

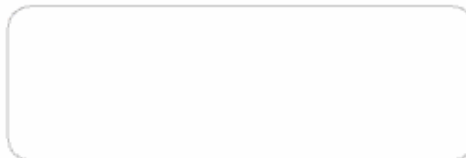
A week later, the same postal sorter recognized the same handwriting on another envelope addressed to God. He opened it to find: "Dear God, Thank you for the \$180. My holiday would have been so terribly bleak otherwise.

P.S. It was \$20 short, but that was probably those thieving workers at the Post Office."

SHELLY'S

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**Partnership In
Long Term Care**