Dear:

Here's a recap of blog posts and other news from the past month.

Many thanks to our thousands of supporters around the globe who have signed a drug safety petition asking AbbVie and Intermune to drop their legal actions preventing public access to data on the adverse effects of prescription drugs.

The petition is now in nine languages (English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Kannada, and Dutch), with nine more to come (Russian, Telegu, Japanese, Serbian, Swedish, Punjabi, Turkish, Ibo, Yoruba, and Welsh).

One of our goals is to get signatures from every country. We are at 65 of 187 countries so far. We need your help - especially with Africa, South East Asia, and the Middle East. Click here to view and sign the petition.

The news that Washington Navy Yard gunman Aaron Alexis had been prescribed Trazodone re-emphasizes the adverse effects all prescription drugs can have and why it is so inappropriate for companies to hide effects that might have contributed to this and other tragedies.

This is one of the reasons we created the RxISK Violence Zone. Our database now offers you free access to more than 4.7 million reports of suspected adverse drug events - as reported to the FDA, Health Canada, and directly to the RxISK website itself - covering more than 17.4 million suspected side effects.

Click here to see reported effects on Trazodone and the kinds of violence-related effects that may be linked to its use.
Click here to see a post, Shooters on Prescription Drugs, which ties together various resources on RxISK.org and DavidHealy.org.

Thank you for your support.

Your feedback, as always, is greatly appreciated.

David Healy, MD

In the news...

Letter to Stacy London
Five weeks ago Johanna Ryan and Kim Witczak wrote a Letter to Stacy London. It covered Stacy's role in AbbVie's Humiraverse. It wasn't a critical letter. People in Humiraverses can't throw stones - the company will always win. Stacy is probably better placed than anyone to make a difference to AbbVie and Pharma's current campaign to close down access to clinical trial data to everyone. She would be the perfect person to deliver our Petition to Richard Gonzalez, asking him to call off his legal action against the European Medicines Agency's policy of open access to trial data. [Read More...]...»

RxISK drug safety petition asks AbbVie and InterMune to stop blocking access to drug clinical trial data
RxISK.org, the first free, independent website for researching and reporting prescription drug side effects, has launched a drug safety petition asking two pharmaceutical giants to stop blocking the European Medicines Agency (EMA) from releasing prescription drug clinical trial data. In 2010, the EMA began releasing patient-level data from the clinical trials used to approve new medicines in Europe, but the program was shut down in 2013 due to legal action by AbbVie and InterMune. [Read More...]...»

RxISK stories
AbbVie Petition: Drug hazards are not trade secrets
RxISK has started a petition on Change.org which will go to Richard Gonzalez CEO of AbbVie, and Daniel Welch CEO of InterMune, who are at present taking a legal action to block the European Medicines Agency's policy of open access ... [Read More...]

Herding Women
Since 2005, Paroxetine, first marketed by GlaxoSmithKline as Seroxat/Paxil, has carried warnings of birth defect risks. These risks led to litigation in the US - but not elsewhere. In the first case that went to court in the US in 2009, the Kilker ... [Read More...]

From David's blog...

Neal Parker on AbbVie's mission to discover new patients
Neal Parker, Section Head Legal, Biologics Strategic Development at AbbVie, was an industry representative on a panel organized by The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associates on August 27 in Bruxelles. Parker started off with a wonderful Freudian slip saying that AbbVie's mission is to discover new diseases and ends with another - that AbbVie's Mission is to discover New Patients. [...]...

Neal Parker on AbbVie's mission to discover new diseases
A great deal of the commentary about Parker's performance here says that he displays the ugly side of the pharmaceutical industry compared to the enlightened policies adopted by GSK. I can see no difference between AbbVie and GSK. What Parker outlines here appears to me totally consistent with GSK's current position. [...]...

Trade wars we have known and loved: Indianapolis vs. the world
Several weeks ago Canadians woke up to a Globe and Mail article saying that the pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly, who are based in Indianapolis, was suing their Government for $500 million for loss of revenues linked to the loss of patents on two of its drugs - Zyprexa and Strattera. "The drug giant alleges that the [...]...

Trade wars we have known and loved: AbbVie vs. China
This post is taken from a more complete article published in BMJ today authored by Nigel Hawkes. It tells of a recent European meeting on
access to clinical trial data. The meeting had input from AbbVie who it seems shocked everyone in the room shocked with their disregard for patient safety. The details [...]...

Humira and hope - and despair: Annette's story
Many people have wonderful responses to Humira and other biologic drugs like Enbrel (Phil Mickelson in the case of Enbrel). Rheumatoid Arthritis, Crohn's Disease and the other conditions these drugs were first used for are debilitating disorders that need a potent treatment. But if a drug is potent it will have the capacity [...]...

The Humira trials: Judith's story
AbbVie's current legal action against the European Medicines Agency's policy on access to clinical trial data led to the idea of an AbbVie - getting people on any drugs at all, especially new drugs and in particular biologicals, to do two things: report any of the effects they are having on RxISK.org & sign the [...]...»