



June 2017

Greetings!

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

The [What a Surprise: RxISK Taking Entrepreneurs](#) post on RxISK this month marks something different - a feature of RxISK reporting that has been neglected. When Drugs go into Bodies they do 99 things other than the one thing a company may be focused on. In amongst these 99 other things are new benefits, as well as problems. The best route to new drug discovery still lies in spotting these benefits.

So we would like to ask women who have lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) to consider taking sildenafil or tadalafil or one of the other drugs in this group and tell us whether it helps - or not.

For men, there is an unquestioned benefit to taking these drugs for LUTS or for benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). Your doctor may say this is off-label and be uncomfortable about prescribing but s/he shouldn't be.

We would love to hear from women and men about any encounters with the medical system you have around trying to access these drugs

Thank you for your support.

Your feedback, as always, is greatly appreciated.

David

David Healy, MD

PS. You can find me on Twitter [@DrDavidHealy](#). And you can also follow RxISK on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

RxISK stories

I Took Antidepressants and I Still Feel Medicated

I suffered from a pretty bad biological anxiety that runs in my family and was very difficult to control without medication. Prior to the timeline of events below, I have taken other medications (Paxil, Effexor, Cymbalta) each causing sexual dysfunction at the lowest possible dose and genital numbness almost immediately upon taking them. I stopped them [...].»



What a Surprise: RxISK Taking Entrepreneurs

It is worth wading through some slow moving stuff at the start of this post to get to the juicy bits. The Things Drugs Do Drugs do things.

Company marketing divides these things into the one good thing the company wants you to focus on - good for a company bottom-line and the ninety-nine other [...].»

Drug Wrecked: Where Does Change Come From?

There are two elements to RxISK. One is identifying adverse events in order to keep people safe and to widen our knowledge about what drugs do. But just as important is taking on a power structure that some of us get a glimpse of when we raise the possibility of an adverse event [...].»



From David's blog...

[Change in Chicago: Boomerang](#)

When it comes to branded and generic drugs, the listing of key issues in this image misses a trick. The labels are identical. This lack of difference is a consequence of the 1984 Hatch-Waxman Act which after two decades

of dispute staked out a boundary between generic and branded pharmaceutical companies, part of which in [...]...»

[Change in Chicago: Whose Problem?](#)

Courts are not a place you can make jokes. I started off with a confident pitch: If you owe a bank a million pounds, you have a problem but if you owe the bank a billion ... I didn't get much further. It felt like several GSK lawyers popped up, addressing the judge with words to the effect that he's talking about banking your honor, this is not his area of expertise. The judge accepted their objections and I didn't get to complete the analogy.[...]...»

[Change in Chicago: Dr. Welby on the Witness Stand](#)

This is part three in the Change in Chicago series covering the Dolin trial and its implications. Like part 1 it is written by Johanna Ryan - The Dolin Verdict and Playing Go. By twenty-first century American standards, Stu Dolin's medical care was close to ideal. That's a hard idea to swallow, given [...]...»

[Change in Chicago: Playing Go](#)

This is a second post in the Change in Chicago Series looking at the Dolin trial and its verdict. There will be two more in the series. Being cross-examined in a legal case involving Pharma is rarely fun. The lawyers will have done their homework in spades. As one of them put it [...]...»

[Change in Chicago: The Dolin Verdict](#)

This series of posts on Stewart Dolin's death interrupts a series on how to bring about change . This is not inappropriate as law suits are one of the few ways to bring about change. This post in the series is by a Chicagoan - Johanna Ryan who has been tracking the case since [...]...»



Could it be my meds?

Free resources to help you assess the connection between a drug and a side effect.

