

Meet “Marvelous Marvin” Goldenberg

By Sonja Sherritze, Editor, *P&T*



Don't let the tux fool you. Dr. Goldenberg, or “Marvelous Marvin,” as I sometimes call him, is actually a very down-to-earth person, comfortable in jeans and sneakers. On the weekends, in nice weather, you can find him at the local crafts fairs from New York to Pennsylvania, selling his handmade pottery. He is partial to cool blue and green glazes on his bowls, mugs, vases, and other creations. He's a veritable pottery machine.

He is also one of our most active editorial board members. Dr. Goldenberg has been writing for *P&T* since 1996, when he collaborated with Alan Caspi on early Drug Forecast articles. The Pharmaceutical-Approval Update column, as it is now known, began in 1998. This regular department started out as a quarterly update of FDA approvals, but Dr. Goldenberg gave it the snappy title of Drug-Approval Update: Hits and Misses. The name was changed in 2001, in part to differentiate it from the other columns that have “drug” in the title. He has authored several articles that have been approved for continuing education (CE) credit, along with two articles on the politics of clinical trials (“Politics and the Clinical Development of Drugs: Pediatric Drug Testing Update, United States” in June 2003 and “Politics and Clinical Trials: The Inclusion of Women” in December 2003).

In 2002, Dr. Goldenberg came up with the idea of alternating his regular Pharmaceutical-Approval Update column with other types of updates, namely Oncology Update (April 2002) and Drug Safety Revisions: FDA Update (March and August, 2003, respectively). It is expected that these types of updates will appear periodically this year on an as-needed basis. In recognition of the new demands on P&T committee members, we decided that Dr. Goldenberg should also contribute a regular section on newly approved medical devices, and this was subsequently added to our New Drugs/Drug News department in December.

Now, for a bit of background. As the

executive director of his own medical consulting company (MMG Associates) since 2000, Dr. Goldenberg has worked with numerous publishers and pharmaceutical companies to produce review articles, medical communications reviews, new drug application submissions, continuing medical education kits, supportive literature for drug launches, patient package inserts, and so on. He has also written clinical reports for the Food and Drug Administration.



Marvin M. Goldenberg, PhD, RPh, MS

Before creating his own company, he had extensive experience in the pharmaceutical industry. His career began in 1973 at Procter & Gamble, where he established drug-discovery programs for gastrointestinal and anti-inflammatory agents and generated two new compounds for clinical investigation. In 1980, he joined Merck, Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories as Director of Inflammation Research, starting with a staff of eight that evolved into 31. In 1985, he was appointed Assistant Director of Clinical Pharmacology to perform research and development.

He left Merck, Sharp and Dohme in 1988 to become Director of Ophthalmic Pharmaceutical Development for American Cyanamid Company. In 1991, he joined Block Drug Company, where, among other duties, he designed clinical protocols for phase I-IV studies. He was appointed Vice President for Clinical Pharmacology and Design in 1992.

From 1994 to 1999, Dr. Goldenberg served as an investigational drug administrator and as a P&T committee member at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York. Here he was responsible for reviewing all clinical protocols and patient consent forms for the Medical Center and its affiliated institutes and was an official member of The Mount Sinai Medical Center Institutional Review Board. He also served as acting antibiotic coordinator, working with the Infectious Diseases department, and as pharmacy coordinator for the AIDS Clinical Trial Group (ACTG) program for clinical

studies of drugs to treat HIV infection.

From 1999 to 2000, Dr. Goldenberg worked as Senior Director of Clinical Product Development for Managed Health Care Associates in Florham Park, New Jersey, where he was responsible for the medical writing and clinical education division of the company. He administered the company's continuing education (CE) provider programs, which included written articles on critical drug appraisals and live programs for Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) credits. He maintained the company's accreditation with extensive documentation and also wrote the CE programs.

Dr. Goldenberg received his B.S. degree in Pharmacy and Chemistry from Long Island University in Brooklyn, New York; his M.S. in Pharmacology/Toxicology from Temple University's School of Pharmacy in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and his PhD in Pharmacology/Biochemistry from the Medical College of Pennsylvania, also in Philadelphia. He has written more than two dozen articles for *P&T* during the last five years, and his work has also been published in *Clinical Therapeutics*. He has published more than 50 articles altogether and holds more than 25 scientific patents.

Marvelous Marvin has at least two other nicknames: “MM” (for obvious reasons), and “Speedy.” I call him Speedy because he's the fastest reviewer I know; he often provides detailed, constructive comments on manuscripts within 24 hours. He was one of the reviewers of four out of five feature articles in our October 2002 special geriatric issue. Speedy has a double meaning, though; the second meaning has to do with his affinity for exercise. Speedy Goldenberg has been known to burn upwards of 900 calories on an elliptical trainer or on the exercise bike. And, as luck would have it, he has found some customers for his pottery at the gym, which he visits daily.

If you would like to speak to Marvelous Marvin about his work for *P&T* or about his pottery, he would be happy to hear from you. His email address is mmgpotter@comcast.net.