Prescribing Information

28 tablets containing oestradiol valerate 2 mg; the last 12 also containing levonorgestrel 75 micrograms. Indications: Hormone replacement therapy for the treatment of the climacteric syndrome. Dosage and administration: Menopausal patients begin treatment on the 5th day of menstruation. Other patients may start at any time. One tablet daily continuously. Contra-indications, warnings etc. Contra-indications: Pregnancy, severe disturbances of liver function, jaundice or general jaundice of pregnancy, Dubin-Johnson syndrome,Rotor syndrome, existing or previous thromboembolism, sickle-cell anaemia, suspected or existing hormone-dependent disorders or tumours of the uterus and breast, congenital disturbances of lipid metabolism, a history of herpes gestationis (also known as pemphigoid gestationis), osteoporosis with deterioration during pregnancy. Warnings: Side-effects: Hormonal contraception should be stopped. Reported symptoms include anxiety, increased appetite, bloating, breast symptoms, cardiac symptoms, depressive symptoms, dizziness, dyspepsia, leg pains and swelling, altered libido, nausea, rash, vomiting and altered weight. Cholestasis is possible in predisposed patients. Carefully monitor multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, diabetes, hypertension, porphyria, tetany and osteoporosis. Precautions and special
A BREATH OF FRESH AIR FOR ALLERGY SUFFERERS.

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Allergens which normal suction cleaners just redistribute into the atmosphere. As these particles are a known contributor to allergic reactions, a Nilfisk Allergy Vac could be your best prescription for sufferers. For an information pack including a medical test report and poster for your surgery, call us free on 0800 252 296.

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**17 18 19 March, 16 17 18 June & 27 28 29 October 1993**

**Venue:** RCGP

A three day course in medical audit for those who teach it. The course is designed to present the subject of medical audit and to examine three related topics: standard setting, the collection and analysis of data and the management of change within the practice while also considering how to present and teach these subjects to colleagues. PGEA for 3 days - one day each of Service Management, Disease Management and Health Promotion & Prevention of Illness or zero-rated Section 63.

#### DATA HANDLING FOR MEDICAL AUDIT

**28 29 April, 22 23 September & 1 2 December 1993**

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A two day course training in the technical skills involved in collecting and digesting medical audit information. The course is suitable both for interested general practitioners and their staff and for those working with Medical Audit Advisory Groups. PGEA has been granted for 2 days under Service Management.

For full details of 1993 dates and fees contact RCGP Conferences on 071-823 9703

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Quoting: Ref 3
Precription for giving value for money

Government Health Ministers – and the Treasury – are reported to be concerned about the continuing increase in prescribing costs incurred by Britain’s family doctors. The main reasons for this are as follows:

* As people get older they require more medicines. There have been significant increases in the numbers of people living beyond 75 and, in particular, beyond 85. A recent survey showed that of a 51 million increase in prescriptions written by GPs over a ten-year period, more than 49 million (i.e. 96 per cent) were for patients of pensionable age.¹

* The Government, as part of its reform programme for the NHS, has encouraged GPs to set up clinics to help identify patients requiring preventive medicine – treatments for high blood pressure and late-onset diabetes for example. More people requiring medicines have been identified; but the costs will be more than offset by longer-term savings. The future need for hospital care will be reduced because heart attacks, strokes or blindness in literally thousands of patients will be prevented.

Advances in scientific knowledge have led to more effective and safer medicines. But, as the chart demonstrates, the major element in the rise in the NHS Medicines Bill is due to increased volume – not to price rises or the use of newer more expensive products.² And the UK spends less per head and easily the least amount on new medicines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Volume</th>
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<td>£87</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The underlying purpose behind the NHS Reforms was to provide a wider and more cost-effective service to patients. Extra costs incurred today will yield far greater savings in the future.

That is giving real value for money

² Growth in prescription medicines expenditure – an international comparison, ABPI, 1992. Publications available from ABPI, 12 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DY
New FELDENE MELT* breaks the mould of traditional tablets and capsules. When placed on the tongue FELDENE MELT dissolves in seconds to provide 24 hour control of symptoms. In this way patients can benefit from a pleasant way of taking medicine, you may find many of your patients prefer FELDENE MELT to conventional capsules or tablets. Try them and see.

Prescribing Information For FELDENE MELT (piroxicam)
Indications: Adults: Rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, acute gout and acute musculoskeletal disorders. Elderly: As with other NSAIDs elderly patients should be closely supervised. Children: FELDENE MELT is not recommended in children. For treatment of juvenile chronic arthritis (JCA) please see oral data sheet. Dosage: Rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis — normal starting and maintenance dosage 20mg once daily. Long-term use of 30mg daily or more carries an increased risk of gastrointestinal side-effects. Acute gout — 40mg daily in single or divided doses for up to 7 days. Acute musculoskeletal disorders — 60mg daily, in single or divided doses, for the first 2 days, 30mg daily for the remainder of the 7 to 14 days’ treatment. Contra-indications: Active peptic ulceration or history of recurrent ulceration. Hyperactivity to FELDENE, aspirin or other NSAIDs. Warnings: Pregnancy, lactation. Precautions: Significant renal, hepatic or cardiac insufficiency. Patients with phenylalanine — each Melt tablet contains 0.14mg phenylalanine. Drug Interactions: Monitor patients on concurrent anticoagulants, fibrinolytic or diuretic therapy. Concurrent use of aspirin or other NSAIDs is not advised. Side-Effects: Gastro-intestinal symptoms; if peptic ulceration or gastro-intestinal bleeding occurs withdraw FELDENE. Edema, mainly edema. Skin rash, CNS effects, including headaches and dizziness. Rare case of renal and hepatic abnormalities have been reported. Haematological reactions including trombocytopenia and anaemia and hypersensitivity reactions such as bronchospasm and angioedema have been reported very rarely. Package Quantities and Basic MHS Cert. FELDENE MELT tablets 20mg, pack of 30, 40, 60, 90 (P 0057/0025). Full information on request. References 1. Data on file Pfizer Limited. 2 Boessneck F et al. Eur J Rheumatol Infirn (1983); 6 (1): 73-83.

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RELIEVES PAIN FOR 24 HOURS.1,2

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