

quirements, she said.

For their part, state medical boards are feeling pressure from the public in light of rapidly changing science and technology.

And the current requirements, which vary but generally include some continuing medical education, don't match up with public expectations, she said.

If the maintenance of licensure policy is accepted by the FSMB House of Delegates, it still would be a model policy only, Ms. Clothier said.

It would be up to individual states and territories to decide if they wanted to adopt, revise, or ignore the model policy. And that decision and its timing is likely to vary widely based on the politics involved in each state, she added. ■

F Y I

Lupus Clinical Trials Resource

The Lupus Foundation of America's Center for Clinical Trials Education is a resource to learn about and join lupus clinical trials. The Center's Web site has extensive information about clinical trials and participation in them, as well as a trial-locating service. The Center offers community education programs on clinical research offered through the Foundation's chapters. For more information, log on to the Web site at www.lupus.org/clinicaltrials.

Quality Reporting Portal

A new self-service look-up tool on the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative portal allows eligible professionals at the Tax Identification Number level to see if their 2007 PQRI Feedback Report is available. If it is, physicians can register for an account in order to view the report. Visit the Web site online at www.qualitynet.org/pqri. Eligible professionals also can call the QualityNet Help Desk at 866-288-8912 to learn if their feedback report is available.

Postmarket Drug Safety Information

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has created a Web page with a wide variety of safety information about prescription drugs for health care professionals and consumers. The Web page, www.fda.gov/cder/drugsafety.htm, includes links to information in these categories: drug labeling, professional labeling, and patient package inserts; drugs that have Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS); and press announcements and safety sheets with the latest risk information.

Disability Etiquette Booklet

The United Spinal Association has published a booklet, "Disability Etiquette," covering basic principles of interaction that apply to most people with disabilities as well as detailed information on mobility and sensory impairments, developmental and psychiatric disabilities, Tourette's syndrome, HIV/AIDS, learning disabilities, and others. To download the free 36-page illustrated booklet, go to the United Spinal Association's Web site at www.unitedspinal.org/publications.

E-Prescribing Incentive Web Site

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has a new E-Prescribing Incentive Program section page, which gives information about the program. The web site has links to a fact sheet as well as to related information on the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative. Visit the page at www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/03_EPrescribingIncentiveProgram.asp#TopOfPage.

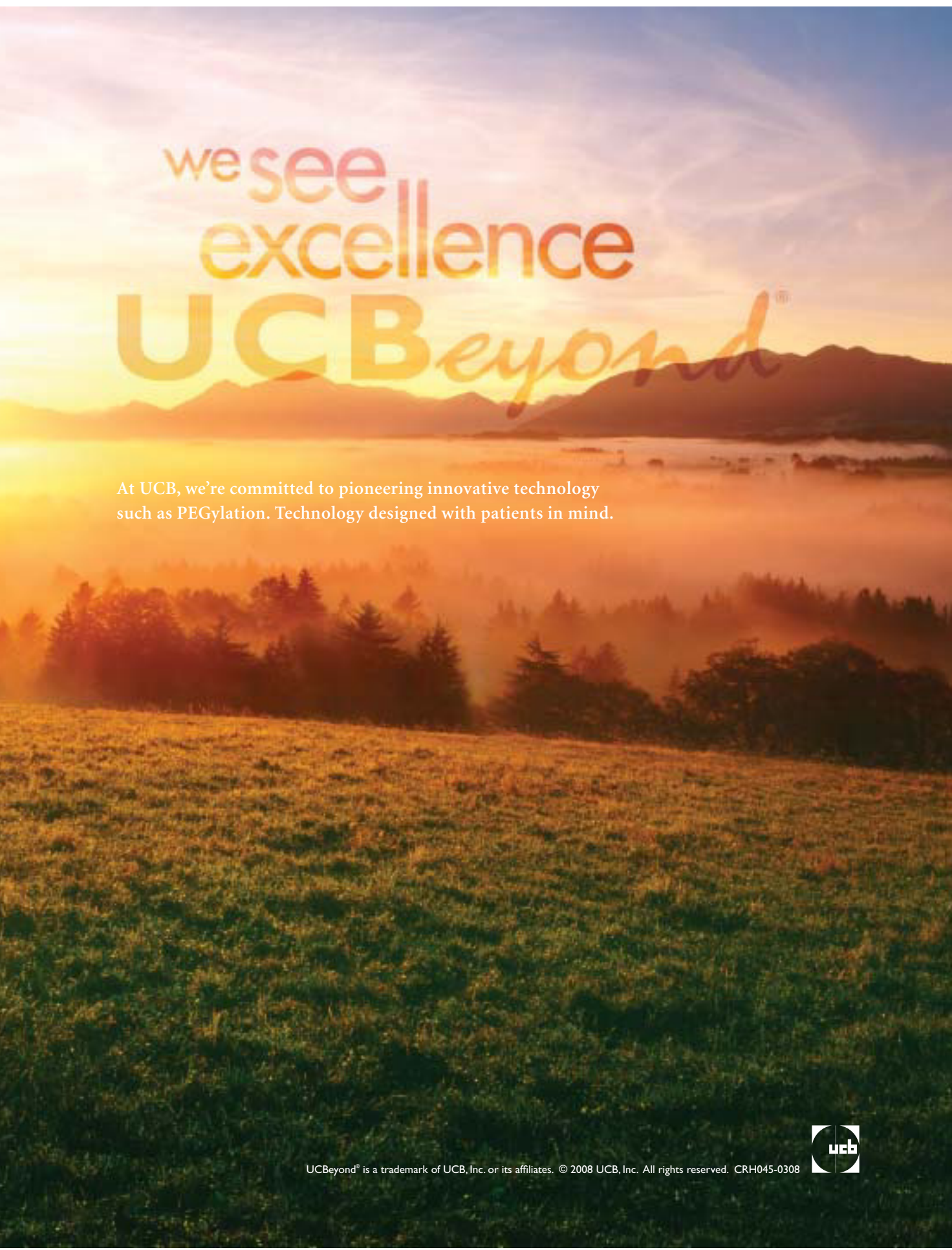
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INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Actelion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	
Tracleer	10a-10b
Amgen and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	
Enbrel	25-28
Bayer HealthCare LLC	
Citracal	17
Centocor, Inc.	
Corporate	7
Remicade	14a-14d, 15-16
Ferring Pharmaceuticals Inc.	
Euflexxa	13-14
Genentech USA, Inc. and Biogen Idec Inc.	
Rituxan	3-5
McNeil-PPC, Inc.	
Tylenol	9
Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.	
Corporate	18-19
UCB, Inc.	
Corporate	22-23



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