Dharmacy DAILY -

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Primary wants Symbion disclosure

PRIMARY Health Care this morning called on Symbion Health to provide more information about its revised Healthscope takeover proposal, with Primary saying it's concerned that assumptions underpinning the deal are "flawed".

The proposal values Symbion shares at betweem \$4.23 and \$4.43, but Primary says this assumes the sale of Symbion's pharmacy and consumer divisions, which is "highly unlikely" given that 20% shareholder Primary plans to vote against the deal, which needs 75% approval.

Symbion has "categorically rejected" allegations from Primary that the valuation is misleading, and its board continues to recommend both the diagnostics sale to Healthscope and the separate scheme of arrangement which would see the consumer and pharmacy divisions sold to Ironbridge and Archer Capital.



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White, R., Cooper, R. and Molan, P. (2005). Honey: A moder product. Wounds UK Limited. Aberdeen. United Kingdom.





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Bayer withdraws Trasylol

BAYER last night announced it would temporarily suspend worldwide marketing of its Trasylol (aprotinin injection) heart medication.

The move follows the cessation of a Canadian trial conducted in high-risk cardiac surgery patients, due to data analysis which found reduced bleeding but an increase in all-cause mortality.

Prebiotics claimed to cut infections

NEW data reported last week in the Journal of Nutrition showed a "significant reduction in the incidence of childhood coughs and colds in the first six months of life" in babies bottle-fed using formula supplemented with Nutricia Prebiotics, compared to non-prebiotic formulas.

The study found a total of 45% less total infections, and 71% fewer recurring infections, with the prebiotic substances known to be a protective factor in breast milk leading to a "dominance of healthy bacteria in the gut".

Nutrica prebiotic-enriched formulas are on sale across the country, except in NSW where authorities have taken exception to the approval process undertaken for the prebiotic ingredients.

Nutricia md Toni Brendish told PD court action is pending in NSW and it's understood that Food Standards Australia New Zealand is also working on a national proposal for the compounds.



Available from Tri-Med Australia under the TGA's Special Access Scheme.

Contact Dr Mendis 08 93881444 www.trimed.com.au

Bayer said although it believes available data continues to support a favourable risk-benefit profile for Trasylol, it would wait for further analysis before deciding its next move.

Urgent recalls

THE TGA has announced an urgent recall of VPX 'No Shotgun' and BSN 'Cell Mass' body building powders because they contain the prescription drug coumarin.

There's also a Class 1 recall of Physio Care Lida Dai Dai Hua Jiao Nang Slimming Capsules (found to contain sibutramine) and Dymatize Nutrition Anabolic Meth-X 100 capsules (found to contain Ipriflavone).

Listeria warning

FOOD Standards Australia NZ has reissued its advice on Listeria in food after a University of Wollongong study found that 57% of pregnant women surveyed weren't aware of all foods that are potentially high risk.

FSANZ said Listeria bacteria are found widely in nature and maybe present in pre-prepared uncooked foods or pre-cooked foods which have been stored for some time.

There's a free brochure available on Listeria from info@foodstandards.gov.au.

Prasugrel study

ELI Lilly is hailing the results of a study released last weekend at the American Heart Association conference in Florida which provided a head-to-head comparison between its investigational antiplatelet agent prasugrel and clopidogrel.

The phase III TRITON trial found that prasugrel produced a "highly significant" 19% reduction in relative risk for heart attack when compared to Plavix/Iscover (clopidogrel) in the treatment of coronary patients.

However there were also indications that prasugrel patients were more at risk of bleeding.

More than 13,000 patients were studied in the 15 month trial.

Eli Lilly said it plans to submit the prasugrel dossier to the Therapeutic Goods Administration during the first half of 2008, and hopes to receive approval for Australian use from 2009.

DISPENSARY CORNER

AUTHORITIES at a hospital in northern Malaysia have agreed that it was a mistake to flush a boy's severed finger down the toilet.

The New Straits Times said a statement issued by the hospital said that the disposal of the unattached digit was "against procedures," and the fingertip should have been returned to the boy's family.

Apparently the 11-year-old accidentally sliced into the finger while cutting a coconut.

PHARMACIES in the UK city of Liverpool are thrilled at a new study which showed their local women are Britain's vainest.

The poll studied females from across the UK, finding that those from Liverpool checked their appearance in a mirror as much as 71 times a day.

The Liverpudlians were also found to re-apply make-up 11 times per day.

A DENTIST in the USA is being sued by a woman, who claims he nearly drilled into her eye socket while dancing to the 70s classic song Car Wash.

31-year-old Brandy Fanning claims the dentist was grooving to the beat when his drill slipped, its 3cm-long bit piercing her sinus cavity and lodged next to her eyeball.

She underwent emergency surgery after the ironically named dentist George Trusty was unable to remove the implement from her skull.

Fanning is seeking damages of about \$800,000, with her lawsuit alleging Dr Trusty was "performing rhythmical steps and movements to the song Car Wash which was on the radio".

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