

PA conference

LIMITED places are still available for the first ever NSW Pharmacy Assistant Conference, which will take place on Sat 30 Aug at the Novotel Rockford Hotel at Darling Harbour.

It costs \$95pp for the one day event incl lunch, product giveaways and the opportunity to win prizes of gift vouchers, gift packs and Guild Training Courses through the day - 02 9467 7130.

pharmacy women's congress



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24/4 pill comes to Australia

A NEW oral contraceptive with only four "sugar pills" will be available from Sep, providing pharmacists an opportunity to help women manage severe premenstrual symptoms.

YAZ (20ig EE + 3mg drospirenone) is the first and only contraceptive pill in Australia approved to treat the physical and emotional symptoms associated with the menstrual cycle.

Unlike all other pills available here, one cycle of YAZ has 24

Call for kids flu jab

EXTENDING the annual flu jab to infants may be an effective way of protecting the rest of the population, say UK researchers.

A team at the Health Protection Agency found vaccinating children aged between six months and two years could reduce infection by 35 per cent.

Its finding, published in the journal *Vaccine*, comes after the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation considered and rejected the idea in 2006, but said it was ready to consider new evidence.

Inovail success

NEW TV commercials for Inovail's OmegaGen Neptune Krill Oil will screen next week, with the company investing a further \$1m in "a range of direct to consumer initiatives and pharmacy training programs."

The company says 40% of consumers already recall and recognise OmegaGen advertising, which is a 'great start for a new product in what is also a new category in the Australian natural healthcare market.'

See www.omegagen.com.au.

hormone tablets, followed by four hormone-free tablets.

The 24/4 regime, as opposed to the 21/7 regimen, in which 21 hormone tablets are taken followed by 7 sugar pills, results in less hormone fluctuation during the cycle, in turn reducing acne, bloating and symptoms of premenstrual dysphoric disorder.

ASMI workshop

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry will hold an Internal Quality Audit workshop on August 29 at the University of NSW.

This workshop will cover the steps necessary to undertake a credible audit by facilitating in-class exercises and case studies that aid in the measurement of the efficiency of quality measurement systems.

Participants will learn the skills of planning, organising, auditing tactics and audit report writing.

ASMI says the workshop would benefit those responsible for the quality, efficacy and safety of products such as quality, product, and senior commercial managers.

MEANWHILE ASMI has also welcomed the NDPS decision not to reschedule Nurofen Plus as S8 (PD Wed), saying it was pleased that more consultation would take place ahead of any measure that could make it harder for consumers to purchase OTC medicines containing codeine.



DISPENSARY CORNER

HERE'S an unexpected consequence of high fuel prices.

Police are worried about what they describe as an "alarming rise" in the number of urine-filled plastic containers alongside a US highway.

This week as many as 300 plastic bottles filled with urine were picked up by a cleaning crew from the Oregon Department of transportation, alongside a notorious stretch of road called "Three Mile Hill".

Officers believe that truck drivers are driving very slowly through the area to save fuel, and are making up the time by avoiding stopping at rest areas or truck stops.

Instead they're relieving themselves into bottles which they then throw out the window.

GROUNDBREAKING canine research has found that pet dogs find yawns 'catching' - just like their masters.

"We gave the dogs everything: visual and auditory stimulus to induce them to yawn," said lead researcher Dr Atsushi Senju of the University of London.

The team found that 21 of 29 dogs yawned in response to a human yawn, saying the results show that canines therefore "have the capacity to empathise with humans".

WIN A COPY OF 'THE OTHER WOMEN'S MOVEMENT'

TODAY is your last chance to enter to win a copy of Dr Michael Levitt's book 'The Other Women's Movement'.

Congratulations to **Stephanie Bennett** of **Integrated Pharmacy Solutions** who was the first subscriber yesterday to tell us that the product which has been developed by Medical Specialists as a means of helping people maintain comfortable and healthy bowel function is called **Colocap Balance**.

Bowel specialist Dr Michael Levitt explodes the myths of good health in his book and shows by example how to overcome problems that affect women's life and health.

To enter, email your answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Myth or Fact?

Fibre will improve every case of constipation.

The prize will be awarded to the first correct response. Hint! Visit Dr Levitt's websites - www.michaellevitt.com.au and www.colocappharma.com

