



Knowledge please!

AUSTRALIANS with terminal cancer want doctors to tell them about expensive drug treatment that could add a few months to their life, even if they cannot afford to take them.

A recent survey showed that more than 40 per cent of cancer specialists do not tell their patients about new unsubsidised drug treatments, most of which cost at least \$5,000 a month.

The information is withheld often for fear of distressing sick people about options financially out of their reach.

But a new Australian study has found that more than 90 per cent of people would want to be informed, even though only 50 per cent said they would be willing or able to pay for the drugs.

Win a copy of Travelling Well!

CONGRATULATIONS to Sue Turner of Queensland Health and Rebekah Hodson of IMS Health who were both the quickest off the mark yesterday to tell us that Dr Deb's clinic is located in Adelaide St, Brisbane.

Each day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving subscribers the chance to win one of two copies of Dr Deborah Mills' amazing book *Travelling Well*.

The book, valued at \$24.95 is a must have guide to a safe and healthy journey, with detailed advice about pre-trip preparation, how to look after yourself while away and what to do if you get sick.

Dr Deborah Mills, widely known as "The Travel Doctor" is one of Australia's leading travel health care providers, and has over 20 years experience in the field.

To enter today, we're asking you to email in your answer to the following question to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au:

Name one of the symptoms of motion sickness?

This fantastic prize will go to the first two correct responses, so for your chance to win, make sure you send your entry in NOW!



Pharmacy role in strategy

THE Pharmacy Guild has welcomed the appointment of Tasmanian National Councillor, Judy Liauw, to the new Primary Health Strategy Reference Group announced by Health Minister Nicola Roxon (PD yesterday).

Benrimoj honour

PSA NSW branch president Charlie Benrimoj has been awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

RPSGB Fellowships are awarded to members who have made a "distinguished contribution to the profession."

Just 600 Fellows have been awarded in the 167 year history of the Society, with newly elected president Steve Churnow saying that Benrimoj's "research and development work in professional program delivery is truly cutting edge; blazing a path in Australia and around the world."

Teenagers sleep

TEENAGERS who do not get enough sleep may be at increased risk of developing emotional and behavioural problems including attention deficit hyperactivity disorder according to US research.

The study of about 880 students found that almost half slept less than eight hours a night, well below recommended levels, and that ADHD was associated with a lack of sleep.

Guild President Kos Sclavos said the appointment "acknowledges the vital role community pharmacy will play in achieving the objectives of the National Primary Health Care Strategy."

The Pharmaceutical Society has also backed the strategy, with PSA President Brian Grogan saying "the pharmacy profession has long argued there should be a greater focus on primary health care and prevention."

"Australia's health policy has for too long underplayed the vital roles of quality primary health care and preventive efforts."

He said the Society hopes that members of the Reference Group "can look beyond the current interests and assumptions that have hindered the development of a truly seamless approach to integrating all health professionals in the provision of primary care."

Influenza kit

THE Pharmacy Guild distributed its 2008 Seasonal Influenza Education Kit to member pharmacies earlier this week.

The kit aims to educate consumers and pharmacy staff about how they can prevent, limit and manage seasonal influenza.

Guild President Kos Sclavos said the Guild had decided to provide additional resources to assist pharmacies this year because "the 2007 influenza season was one of the worst in recent history."

HOT Travel Deals

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* new travel feature.

Each week we plan to highlight a couple of great travel deals which we're sure will be of interest to everyone in the pharmacy industry.

- If you're thinking of taking a mid year break, DriveNow are offering some fantastic off peak prices throughout June, with a range of Campervans at the same price as rental cars, from just \$31 per day. For more info go to www.drivenow.com.au/home/campervan-hire.

- For a luxury getaway Garuda Indonesia is offering a package at Bvlgari Hotel in Bali, flying business class, with 4 nights accommodation from \$3943pp. The hotel is one of only two Bvlgari hotels worldwide, located near the village of Pecatu with spectacular ocean

views and a 1.5km beach accessed only by the resorts inclined elevator. For bookings contact your travel agent or Garuda on 1300 365 331.

- From June 18 to Sept 7 the 16th Biennale of Sydney will transform the city and harbour into a giant canvas. The Sofitel Sydney Wentworth is offering a French Revolution package to provide a base to explore the exhibitions. Priced from \$449 per room per night the package includes accom in a luxury room, parking, guided tour of exhibits on Cockatoo Is. and more. Call 1800 676 960 for info.

DISPENSARY CORNER



A MAN declared dead by French doctors last year woke up in a Paris hospital just as surgeons were about to remove his organs for donation.

A probe into the incident by the Paris University Hospital ethics committee reported that the 45-year-old had failed to regain consciousness after suffering a heart attack.

Doctors provided heart massage for 90 minutes while waiting for organ harvest surgeons to arrive, but once they began cutting him open he began to breathe, his pupils became responsive and he reacted to a pain test.

"After a few weeks of serious complications, the patient is now walking and talking," the report concluded.

OUCH.

A US not-so-handy man is recovering in hospital after shooting himself in the head with a nail gun while he remodelled his deck.

60-year-old George Chandler ended up with a 5cm-long nail embedded in his skull, saying "the gun went off, and I just felt a little sting."

He went to Overland Park Regional Medical Center in Kansas with his hat nailed to his head, where instead of an operation a quick thinking doctor removed the nail with a claw hammer from the hospital's maintenance department.

Health professionals said he narrowly avoided a traumatic brain injury, as the nail barely missed "vessels tied to his eyesight, speech and physical movement."

EUROPE'S oldest man celebrated his 112th birthday last Fri.

World War I veteran Henry Allingham was born in 1896, and commemorated the anniversary by blowing out a cake with 112 candles and then watching a fly-past of vintage British warplanes from his wheelchair.

He claims a lack of stress had contributed to his longevity.