

PAGE 1 Editor: Bruce Piper email: info@pharmacydaily.com.au

## Analgesia toolkits

THE National Prescribing Service is developing more toolkits to help pharmacists achieve Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) in aged care facilities.

A new Drug Use Evaluation toolkit on analgesia will be released via the NPS website later this year, complementing the current DUE kits focusing on hypnotics (benzodiazepine and non-benzodiazepine) and antipsychotic drugs. Further toolkits on other topics will also be developed with practical information on how to undertake a DUE.

## Asthma bubble ball

THE Asthma Foundation of Victoria hopes to blow people away with its annual fundraising event, The Bubble Ball, at Crown Palladium on May 9.

In its third year the event is double the size, with live entertainment, a three-course dinner and auctions, including the chance for guests to win a Fiji holiday worth \$17,500.

All proceeds to go towards supporting the Foundation's community education, training and research programs.

See [www.bubbleball.com.au](http://www.bubbleball.com.au).

## Pharmacy E-bulletin

THIS week's edition of the Repatriation General Hospital Pharmacy E-bulletin deals with the use of anticonvulsants in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Medications covered include recent research into valproate, topiramate and other drugs.

The bulletin is available at no charge by emailing [chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au](mailto:chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au).

## Natural Therapies & Natural Health Expo

Riverside Receptions,  
New Farm,  
Brisbane

13-14 March 2008

[www.naturaltherapyexpo.com.au](http://www.naturaltherapyexpo.com.au)  
phone 1300 789 845

REGISTER NOW

## HIP weight loss export

HEALTH Corporation has announced an export distribution agreement which could see Health Information Pharmacy's range of weight loss products sold in the Middle East.

The deal, with Melbourne based

### 88% of Symbion

PRIMARY Health Care is inching closer to its 90% target shareholding of Symbion Health, this morning advising it now holds 88.35% of the company in its takeover bid which closes 11 Mar.

Primary also said it's received a "number of expressions of interest" in relation to Symbion's Pharmacy and Consumer businesses from both domestic and international parties.

The company said it's proactively exploring the opportunities and "will consider supporting a transaction if it believes it will optimise shareholder value."

OTCO Global, covers countries such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar, with the HIP Health e-Weight products complementary to OTCO's existing distributed range of health and beauty products.

HIP ceo Ken Lee said the development of the weight loss products gave the firm a point of difference in the pharmacy market, and the new deal gave the firm a potentially strong new distribution channel.

### Omega from krill

IT'S not just for whales.

Krill is the special ingredient of a new source of Omega-3 that contains unique phospholipids.

Available here from Apr, OmegaGen contains patented Neptune Krill Oil which has been shown in clinical trials to reduce arthritic inflammation and be beneficial for patients with hyperlipidaemia.

## Pharmacy superman set to cross Sahara desert

AUSSIE pharmacy expert (and avid *Pharmacy Daily* reader) Trent Morrow has set his sights on an ambitious goal.

Morrow, who's worked on the OTC supplier side of the pharmaceutical industry for some years, including stints at Key Pharmaceuticals, Phytologic and Pharmicare, has signed up for the "toughest footrace on the planet" - the Marathon des Sables, which takes runners across the Sahara Desert in Africa.

The 243km race takes six days, and Morrow says he's one of 700 international competitors.

Through his participation he's hoping to raise support for an organisation called "Facing Africa" which works to battle a debilitating disease called Noma, affecting malnourished children and with a 90% mortality rate -



despite being easily treated with inexpensive antibiotics.

Morrow is calling himself the "Marathon Man" (and even has a special costume) and is holding a fundraising dinner next week at Sydney's Star City Casino.

More information on the event is on page 2 and also see the site at [www.marathonman.com.au](http://www.marathonman.com.au).

## DISPENSARY CORNER



PHARMACY is in the news again today, with the revelation that former "sexiest man of rugby league Ben Ross" is off the market after proposing to his pharmacist girlfriend Renai Sola.

The *Courier-Mail* reported that the Cronulla "pin-up-boy" first met Ranai when he was picking up painkillers for a knee injury from a pharmacy in Cronulla.

Apparently he filled an entire hotel suite with flowers and champagne to set the mood before popping the question.

"LESS than ten percent of the money spent on curing baldness is spent on fighting malaria."

That's what the richest man in the world, Bill Gates, told a University of Chicago audience last week, urging a major shift in medical research priorities.

"Malaria kills 1 million people a year; baldness hasn't killed anyone yet," he said.

Pro-alopecia pundits pointed out that Gates does sport a full head of hair.

A MEDICAL certificate was clearly required for a 21-year-old man in the USA, who asked a friend to shoot him so he could have a day off work.

Daniel Kuch was apparently keen to avoid taking a drug test at the office, and instead took a bullet in the shoulder and claimed he'd been a victim of a drive-by shooting while jogging.

Detectives called to the medical centre where he presented for treatment eventually unravelled the truth.

NEW

### No need to SMOKE™

Program for Pharmacy

Click here

# MARATHON MAN

Putting the Fun into Fundraising...

## Gala Event 2008

- A huge night of fun and live entertainment including Australia's premier illusionist Sam Powers
- Sumptuous 3 course dinner & drinks
- Live & silent auction of unique sporting, movie and music memorabilia as well as Motorola phones, jewellery, designer watch, holidays, spa treatments and much, much more...

**BE A STAR AND SUPPORT THE MARATHON MAN IN HIS BID TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PLIGHT OF THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS WHO SUFFER THE EFFECTS OF THE TERRIBLE DISEASE KNOWN AS NOMA**



**Thursday 13th March - 6.30pm**

*Star Room*

**Level 6, The IMAX Theatre Complex  
Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour**

**10% Discount for  
tables of 10 or more**



**Purchase your tickets online today!  
Go to: [www.marathonman.com.au](http://www.marathonman.com.au)  
Tickets only \$125 - Great Value!**

For enquiries contact Trent Morrow • mobile 0421 421 035 • email [trent@marathonman.com.au](mailto:trent@marathonman.com.au)