

Indian dye recall

AN IMPORTER of cosmetics from India, including a range of hair dye, has issued a national voluntary recall after the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission raised concerns about incorrect ingredient labelling.

The products, including Godrej and Emami branded dyes, were imported by Continental Marketing Pty Ltd and have been on sale in Australia since Sep 07.

"Proper ingredient labelling of cosmetics lets consumers identify those products with ingredients which may irritate, or cause an allergic reaction," said ACCC chairman Graeme Samuel.

He said the standards also apply to products supplied via the internet, with the ACCC concerned about a recent increase in the number of online traders found to have been supplying products not complying with mandatory standards.

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Another pharmacy robot

FURTHER competition is emerging in the dispensary automation business in Australia, with former Willach Australia head Mark Bouw now promoting the Gollmann "second generation of robotic dispenser".

Bouw is now gm of Brisbane-

PBS calendar online

THE Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme calendar has been added to the industry subsite of www.pbs.gov.au, making public such information as listing and submission deadlines, PBAC and PBPA meetings and the closing date for the new facility under which consumers can comment on PBAC agenda items (PD 25 Sep).

The deadline for comments for the previously published Nov PBAC agenda is next Tue 08 Oct.

Teens need sleep

SLEEP deprivation has been identified for the first time as a likely cause of obesity, in the first large-scale Australian study of children's sleeping habits.

Overweight children are known to sleep less, but researchers suggested shorter sleep times may trigger appetite-stimulating hormones.

Study leader, Professor Tim Olds, said teenagers were sleeping an average of one hour less every night during the school week due to socialising and homework.

Lack of sleep was also a possible source of future problems with depression, anxiety and increased susceptibility to illness, Prof Olds said.

The findings were presented at yesterday's Australasian Sleep Assn conference in Adelaide.

based Pharmedecks, and told PD the system has already been sold to a number of Aussie pharmacies which are set to have it installed over the next few months.

He said the Gollmann dispenser differs from 'channel machines' such as Consis and Robopharma in that it offers automation of 100% of dispensary stock.

Gollmann systems also integrate directly with POS to track stock on hand and expiry dates as well as linking with all major dispensing systems, Bouw added.

Vic updates wanted

THE Pharmacy Board of Victoria has reminded pharmacists and interns to ensure the Board has up-to-date records of personal details in the lead-up to the upcoming registration renewal period, with details able to be updated by logging in at www.pharmacybd.vic.gov.au.

Duro-Tuss winners

INOVA has announced the six lucky major prizewinners for its Diffiam Duro-Tuss Search & Rescue Pharmacy Training Program, who will all fly to Hamilton Island at the end of this month to play off for the chance to win \$100,000.

The major winners were: Ashleigh Baldwin of Quality Pharmacy, Burwood Vic; Athina Podrigues from Parade Pharmacy, Williamstown Vic; Alana Jurga of Flinders University Pharmacy, Redford SA; Kelly Mitchell from Moama Pharmacy, Moama NSW; Bernadette Applegarth of Northlands Pharmacy, Toowoomba Qld; and Hoda Sleiman from Community Pharmacy in Drummoyne NSW.

Feedback on CMLs

A NUMBER of *Pharmacy Daily* readers have responded to comments by Australian Pharmacy Council president Elizabeth Frost (PD Mon) who said she's concerned about pharmacies not providing Consumer Medicine Information despite receiving an incentive payment of 10c per subsidised script.

One very experienced Qld pharmacist told PD the issue is a "symptom of the system" and with a typical pharmacy dispensing say 150 scripts a day, often in frantic bursts, there isn't always time for adequate patient counselling.

"I have absolutely no problem with the principles of QUM...but I do have issues with how these things are paid for. We need to be able to afford more qualified staff so that these programs can be properly implemented.

"The average pharmacy...is probably receiving an extra \$15 per day by way of all those 10 cents and that certainly is not going to go too far when it comes to implementing the programs proposed under QUM," he added.



DISPENSARY CORNER

A SERBIAN chef has published what he claims is the world's first guide to cooking testicles.

Dubbed "The Testicle Cookbook - Cooking with Balls," recipes include testicle pizza and battered testicles as well as fancier dishes such as calf testicles in red wine sauce.

Author Ljubomir Erovic also discusses the health benefits of the unusual foodstuff, and says "the tastiest testicles probably come from bulls, stallions or ostriches."

LISTENING to "power songs" can genuinely boost one's capacity for exercise, according to a researcher at Bristol University in the UK.

Dr Costas Karageorghis tested 30 volunteers on a playlist of specially selected tracks, and found their endurance rose by an average of 15% when they listened to particular songs.

He said the best music tends to have a tempo between 120 and 140 beats per minute, such as Queen's 'Don't Stop Me Now'.

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