

THIS week's edition of South Australia's Repatriation General Hospital Pharmacy E-Bulletin covers the use of fenofibrate which has been shown in clinical studies to be better than statins at reducing levels of triglycerides, but not total cholesterol and LDL.

It's available at no charge from [chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au](mailto:chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au).

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## Asthma still a problem

ASTHMA prevalence and death rates in Australia remain high by international standards despite declines, according to a report released this week.

Asthma accounted for 402 deaths in Australia in 2006, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report revealed.

Although lower than New Zealand and the UK, this death rate in Australia is almost three times the rate in Europe.

The report also showed that hospital admission rates for asthma have declined since 1993-94, by 45% among adults and by

42% among children.

Professor Guy Marks, Director of the Australian Centre for Asthma Monitoring, said the prevalence of asthma in children is plateauing, if not declining.

'In the long run, this should reduce the overall burden of asthma in Australia,' he said.

### Label feedback

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia says it will be interested to hear the views of pharmacists and consumers on the new alternative version of Cautionary Label 15, which has been released alongside the NPS *Generic Medicines are an equal choice* campaign (PD yesterday).

The new label is provided as an alternative to the existing label 5 in the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary and Handbook.

NPS said the new-look label "emphasises the importance of, and encourages pharmacists and their staff to discuss, the active ingredient name on the label."

It's bigger than the existing label to increase readability and includes an area to write the name of the active ingredient.

The APF Editorial Board will be including this label as Label 15b in the 2009 edition of the APF. PSA president Warwick Plunkett said he believes education such as the NPS campaign will "bring definite benefits for health consumers."

### Booze and bongos

ALCOHOL and cannabis are still the top two concerns for people seeking drug treatment services, confirms the latest report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

But for younger people (aged 10-19 years) the pattern was reversed, with cannabis the most common principal drug of concern (47% of treatment episodes), followed by alcohol (29%).

The report profiles 147,325 treatment episodes from 633 government-funded alcohol and other drug treatment agencies across Australia.

Counselling was the most common form of treatment provided (38%), followed by withdrawal management or detox (17%) and assessment only (15%).

## Win a Collagen Booster

EACH day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving you the chance to win a Collagen Booster from Naked Kiss, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

This chap stick not only gives you healthy lips, but it also plumps and gives you a full smile with no irritation.

All natural ingredients and Maxi Lip formula build on to your natural collagen to give you a luscious pout.

For a chance to win, send your answer to the below question to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**What car is mentioned in the description for the product?**

The first person to answer correctly each day will win.

**HINT:** Go to [www.tbn.com.au](http://www.tbn.com.au) and click on the Naked Kiss logo at the top of the page.

**Congratulations to Yasmin Wiltshire of Pharmacy Assist who was yesterday's lucky winner.**



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## Vale Elizabeth Perks

THE Australian pharmacy community is this week mourning the death of Elizabeth Perks, who died on 15 Oct.

Perks had a distinguished career as a hospital pharmacist, and was the Deputy President of the NSW Pharmacy Board, having been appointed by the NSW Health Minister in 1996.

She completed her Bachelor of Pharmacy in 1968 at the University of Queensland, and was first registered as a pharmacist in 1970.

As well as being a director of pharmacy at various Sydney hospitals she practiced in London, in community pharmacy in Hobart and Brisbane and helped establish an HIV/AIDS project at Bangkok's Bamrasnaradura Hospital.

NSW Pharmacy Board registrar Kym Ayscough said: "Liz made a significant contribution to the pharmacy profession and the community it serves."

## Two pages today

TODAY'S *Pharmacy Daily* has two pages, including our regular Health, Beauty and New Products feature on page two.

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## Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy! Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au).

### Weightless and wavy

Garnier Fructis Silky Waves range eliminates frizz and keeps curls, kinks or waves in shape with soft, supple spirals. The new, weightless formula, with active fruit concentrate, detangles disobedient and wayward waves, while strengthening and defining wavy hair to help it stay full of movement.

RRP: \$5.79 to \$10.39

Stockist: Garnier

Tel: 1300 659 259



### Smells like teen scent

Love Sixteen is a new fun French fragrance release from Estelle Vendôme Paris, exclusively made for teenagers and pre-teens. The soft oriental blend of fantastic fruity freshness is perfectly coupled with the free gift with purchase of a 10g strawberry-scented flavoured lip gloss, which is essential for every teenager's bag.

RRP: \$29.95

Stockist: Parfumerie Simes

Tel: 1800 672 464



### Natural approach to ageing

Burt's Bees Naturally Ageless range reduces the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles while improving skin's firmness. The range's potent formulas combine the antioxidant power of pomegranate with other natural anti-ageing ingredients to benefit skin. The range is free of petrochemicals and potentially harmful synthetic ingredients and is not tested on animals.

RRP: \$64.95 to \$94.95

Stockist: Burt's Bees

Tel: 1300 855 478



### Affordable and fun

These funky, patterned and brightly coloured Manicare Fashion Nail Shapers are perfect to slip in the handbag for busy beauties. Each nail shaper comes with an individual PVC pouch for longer lasting quality.

RRP: \$1.95

Stockist: Manicare

Tel: 1800 65 11 46



### Summer colour delights

The Estee Lauder Pure Color Delight makeup collection includes five new summery looks—berry, candy, mint, vanilla and honey. They are inspired from the floral, gourmand, confectionary blend of Pleasures Delight fragrance to create a collection of summer looks that is at once colourful and playful.

RRP: \$36 to \$64

Stockist: Estee Lauder

Tel: 1800 061 326



### DISPENSARY CORNER

A PERTH woman is finally getting the support she needs, having been diagnosed with a rare genetic condition after 30 years of smelling like rotten fish.

The *Sydney Daily Telegraph* reported that the 41 year old had first consulted a doctor about the problem at the age of 17, and then repeatedly over the next 20 years but all of them dismissed her complaints.

She's now been diagnosed with trimethylaminuria, which adversely affects the smell of breath, sweat and urine.

The incurable condition is also known as 'fish malodour syndrome' and the patient has been able to seek support and counselling from other sufferers.

The University of Western Australia's Prof John Burnett said patients typically "experience shame and embarrassment" and "fail to maintain relationships."

THIS could come in handy for global bankers this month.

A psychologist in Britain has created what he's calling "the most relaxing room in the world."

Professor Richard Wiseman of the University of Hertfordshire created the room as the culmination of years of scientific study of relaxation.

As well as soft matting, gentle music and diffuse green light the room has the scent of lavender, with the scientist saying it's a "must have" to cut stress in businesses and schools.

"People have looked into all these different elements before, but no one has put them all together," he said.

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