

Pharmacists raise \$18k for burns unit

THE NSW Chemist's Golf Association, sponsored by instigo, had a great day last month at St Michael's Golf Course in Sydney and helped raise \$18,000 for the Concord Hospital Burns Unit.

Instigo (formerly Flannery Integrated Management Services) md Michael Flannery said "We set out to have a great day, play a little bit of golf, and help a good cause. The Burns Unit is thoroughly deserving - the work the unit does in helping burn victims become burn survivors is exemplary and we are happy to be able to help."

NSW Chemist's golf meets regularly at golf courses around NSW and often incorporates fundraising into the events.

Instigo offers solutions for the pharmacy industry incl loyalty, people, retail and merchandising solutions - and golfing tips!

More info www.instigo.com.au.

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iNova to target growth

THE new chief executive of iNova Pharmaceuticals has signalled that the company plans to expand its product range through acquisitions and new licensing initiatives.

The company has appointed former IMS Health Asia-Pacific president Andrew Howden as its new ceo, replacing iNova's first ceo Tony Martin who's retiring.

iNova was formed last year when 3M sold its Asia-Pacific pharmaceutical business to Australian private equity firms Ironbridge Capital and Archer Capital - the same investors who were ultimately unsuccessful in bidding for Symbion Health alongside Healthscope this year.

Howden has a long pedigree in the pharmacy industry, having also worked for 20 years at AstraZeneca, finishing there as Asia Pacific regional vp.

"iNova has the flexibility and infrastructure for a diversified investment approach including new product acquisitions and licensing initiatives to accelerate growth, while expanding its existing core business within the Asia-Pacific," Howden said.

Martin will remain actively involved with iNova as a non-executive director.

iNova supplies a range of leading consumer healthcare and prescription brands in more than 10 countries in the Asia Pacific and South Africa, with a portfolio encompassing analgesia, allergy, dermatology, cardiology, respiratory, sexual health and weight management products.

Prostate conference

THE Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia will convene a conference on the Gold Coast 16-17 Nov to raise awareness of the disease here.

Hundreds of prostate cancer survivors will attend as well as consumer advocates and medical researchers, with the conference expected to issue a communique on Mon 17 Nov outlining key steps to better management of prostate cancer in Australia.

"We aim to provide a real 'wake up call' to governments... about the extent to which prostate cancer impacts the community, and needs to be made a health priority in this country," said Prostate Cancer Foundation ceo Andrew Giles.

Cairns CPD

THE PSA will host a continuing professional development seminar on 'Common and Commoner STDs' at the General Practice Cairns Boardroom 7.30pm Wed 05 Nov, presented by Dr Darren Russell, who's director of sexual health at Cairns Base Hospital.

PD comp winner

CONGRATULATIONS to Melissa Wigginton of Keppel Plaza Amcal Pharmacy in Yeppoon, Qld who was the lucky winner of a Naked Kiss Collagen Booster in our competition last Fri.

Top pharmacy cricketer

THE annual cricket match between the pharmacists of the city and the pharmacists of the country was played yesterday in Orange in regional NSW.

Playing for the first time was a Charles Sturt University student, Divya G-K (pictured) who has an outstanding cricket CV.

She's played for Singapore in the first Women's International Cricket Match against Malaysia in April 2006.

The Singapore team, captained by Diviya last

year also won the Asia Cricket Council Tournament.

Diviya played in the pharmacy match for the Country team, which also included a number of male students from CSU Orange.

The cricketers also heard from former Wallaby, Marty Roebuck, who was guest speaker at a special dinner on Sat night.



DISPENSARY CORNER

HEY, that elevator's glowing and it's not even powered up....

Health authorities in France have initiated a major recall of elevator call buttons after some were found to have potentially dangerous levels of radioactivity.

The French Nuclear Safety Authority said the contaminated pushbuttons were manufactured using materials containing cobalt-60 from a factory in India, and estimated they had been installed at up to 500 locations across France.

"The most important point is that the lift buttons do not represent any risk to people's health," insisted an unnamed spokesman for elevator manufacturer Otis.

BETTER keep that deodorant behind the counter.

Police in the USA have arrested a man who allegedly used a toy air pistol to help make his getaway after stealing deodorant from a shop last week.

Staff at the supermarket spotted the man shoplifting several cans of deodorant spray, but when they challenged him he pulled out what looked like a black handgun and made off.

Police were alerted and cordoned off the area, with dogs and a helicopter to help with the search, eventually recapturing the man with the air pistol and the missing cans of deodorant.

However they won't be able to resell the cans, because apparently the now sweet-smelling miscreant had used them while on the run.

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