

Cosmetics winner

THANKS to everyone who entered last week's Designer Brands competition.

Congratulations to Renae Arnold of Guardian Pharmacies, who was the first PD reader on Fri to tell us that *Designer Brands Perfect Satin Finish Foundation is long wearing yet easily removed.*

Renae will be sent cosmetics, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Prostate month

PROSTATE Cancer Awareness Month kicks off today, with the goal being to encourage men to check themselves for any changes and to have annual check-ups with their GP.

AMA Queensland President Dr Chris Davis said: "September is the ideal time for men to become more proactive about their health and in particular to become more aware of the risks of prostate cancer."

PBAC under microscope

THE first ever public report on Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Activity Indicators was released today.

To be published annually, it gives greater transparency of the decision-making process of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, which assesses the cost effectiveness of new drugs before they are PBS-listed.

Ian Chalmers, chief executive of Medicines Australia, welcomed the report as it will "enable patient groups, pharmaceutical company sponsors and members of the public to follow trends in PBAC outcomes".

"For example, whilst the data shows that last year 55% of major submissions seeking PBS new listing of medicines were recommended, another 41% were not successful," he said.

GPs losing fat fight

GPs are struggling to tackle childhood obesity and feel there is a lack of support for their role and a lack of interest from parents, according to a survey in western Sydney.

Only a third of 85 GPs surveyed said they used NHMRC guidelines such as BMI percentile charts, with most diagnosing obesity based on height for weight charts and their own impressions.

While most GPs screened obese children for type 2 diabetes, few screened children for other complications such as hypertension, said researchers.

Writing in the *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, researchers said many doctors felt obesity management was 'a lot of effort for little reward.'



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Assistant finalists

THE NSW and ACT finalists of the Pharmacy Guild/GSK Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award were announced on Friday at the state finals dinner in Darling Harbour.

Melissa Payne of Braidwood Pharmacy, and Amanda Miller of Capital Chemist Charnwood, both won a trip in Oct to compete in the national finals at the PA08 conference on the Gold Coast.

More than 80 assistants, pharmacists and friends attended the finals dinner and the inaugural NSW Pharmacy Assistant Conference on Saturday.

Organisers from the Guild said the weekend was such a success that planning is underway for larger events next year.

Today's issue of PD

PHARMACY Daily today features two pages including a full page of photos from last weekend's Pharmacy Women's Congress in Melbourne.

Pharmacy training

PHARMACY professionals are being offered a new option to further their management education with a new pharmacy-focused option being made available through the Chifley Business School next year.

Enrolments for the Graduate Certificate of Management for Pharmacy Professionals will open on 27 Oct 08, with Chifley ceo Neil Edwards saying the flexible program will "enable professionals from science and technology-based backgrounds to study at their own pace while balancing work and family demands."

It made them sick

TWO garbage collectors in New York USA have been treated with oxygen by paramedics after being made ill by rubbish they picked up from outside a pharmacy.

The pair experienced eye and throat irritation after their truck's compactor crushed a pack of sulphur mixed with talcum powder.



DISPENSARY CORNER

A NEW natural product is coming to pharmacies to help manage osteoarthritis - in dogs!

Agility Encapsulated Joint Care Powder, from Pure Animal Wellbeing, provides nutrients to make new cartilage and reduce joint pain and inflammation.

Perna 128, an active source of green-lipped mussel, is also said to benefit joint health and "can help relieve your dog's arthritic symptoms."

MAYBE French women do get fat!

The French government seems to have acknowledged that the old paradox that "French women don't get fat" no longer applies, announcing that they're considering a sales tax on a number of fatty foods.

The fat tax would catch traditional tasty treats including croissants, foie gras and cheeses, as well as pizzas, hamburgers and soft drinks.

Two-thirds of French men and half of all women aged between 35-74 are said to be overweight.

The idea of increasing the sales tax on extra fatty, salty or sugary products from 5.5% to 19.6% has been introduced as a potential measure to combat growing childhood obesity.

Previous attempts to flatten the bulging bellies have included signs suggesting subway riders use stairs instead of escalators.

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WIN A WINE BOOK FOR FATHER'S DAY



EACH day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving you the chance to win a copy of the Gold Book, *Australian Wine Vintages*, just in time for Father's Day this weekend.

Valued at \$34.95, the 26th edition lists Australia's top quality wineries, gives accurate prices and value at retail and auction and details when the wine should be drunk.

To enter, email your answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Today's question is -

Name one of the authors of the book.

The prize will be awarded to the first correct response.

Owners - need a locum or permanent staff?
Pharmacists - need a job?



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2008 Pharmacy Women's Congress a huge success!

HUNDREDS of delegates from across Australia turned out for the 2008 Pharmacy Women's Congress in Melbourne over the weekend. In its fifth year, the Women's Congress had something for everyone including a trade exhibition, educational sessions and social activities. *Pharmacy Daily* was also present as a proud sponsor of the event and snapped the following photos from the weekend.



ABOVE: Ranbaxy was major sponsor of the 2008 Pharmacy Women's Congress.

Steve Zafiriou, Ranbaxy; Toni Reilly, Chair - Pharmacy Women's Congress 2008 and Francesca Commisso, Ranbaxy.



ABOVE: All smiles for iNova Pharmaceuticals.

Kathrina Doran, National Sales Manager and Kristen Heilman, Product Manager with Anna Michael and Melessa Bone from APhS QLD.



ABOVE: A quality PGA (VIC) team offering quality care.

LEFT: Maurice V. Sheehan and Ann Dalton of the PGA.



RIGHT: Pharmacists networking over lunch. Voula Amassah, Pulse Pharmacy Rockdale NSW; Nicole Destro, Bonnyrigg Plaza Pharmacy NSW; Pamela Jenkins, Beaumaris Pharmacy VIC; Sue Muller, The Pharmaceutical Locum Co and Wendy Morton, Auspharm.net.au VIC.



ABOVE: The lovely ladies from Catwalk Glamour! Grace Condello, GM and Sussan Condello, PR Manager.

BELOW: Here...try our new Slim Choice Shake.

Lisa Robertson, Alex Shipp and Sally McGuinness from Symbion VIC.



ABOVE: Looking pretty in purple. Rebecca Doyle and Megan Spielvogel from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia (VIC) speak to Pharmacist Bev Baxter.



ABOVE: The gold stars of Gold Cross. Bronwen Haywood, Haywood & Robinson Pharmacy, VIC; Anne-Maree Thomas, Marc Clavin Pharmacy, VIC with Trevor Clarkin and Karen Ross from Gold Cross.