



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

This week's update from the Guild

New Professional Pharmacy Services

The new Professional Pharmacy Services, funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing under the Better Community Health Initiative of the Fourth Community Pharmacy Agreement, continue to gain momentum.

Managed by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, the programs are starting to achieve a number of important milestones.

The Dose Administration Aids (DAA) Program has achieved 82 per cent registrations, with 2800 of those pharmacies having now provided their baseline data.

That means there are a lot of registered pharmacies that are still due to provide baseline data, which they will need to do to continue participating in and benefiting from the program.

The Patient Medication Profile (PMP) Program, meanwhile, has seen 45 per cent of pharmacies register with 2100 of those having already provided the baseline data.

A further 1700 participants have also submitted their first biannual data report.

It is NOT too late to register for either of these programs!

Last but not least, the Guild has so far received 400 applications for the Diabetes Pilot Program: Diabetes Medication Assistance Service (DMAS).

There are still spaces available in the program, so visit www.guild.org.au/pps for further information.

Alternatively, you can contact the Guild's Professional Pharmacy Services section by e-mail at professional.programs@guild.org.au or by phoning 02 6270 1888.

Don't miss out!

E-prescribing progress

FRED Health has today announced a new initiative called eRx Script Exchange which will see it build a "national electronic prescribing platform."

The deal also involves backing from Microsoft and NZ firm Simpl and will create an encrypted secure gateway for doctors and pharmacies to exchange scripts.

Fred Health ceo Paul Naismith said his firm is committed to ensuring there is an open national platform for all doctors and pharmacies, and urged other IT

vendors to participate.

Guild president Kos Sclavos said the Guild is keen to back the new initiative, with support including the previously announced purchase of the first 10 million transactions for Guild members.

Naismith said the new system was due to launch Australia-wide by the middle of 2009.

USyd students win

PHARMACY students from the University of Sydney have won this year's National Student Business Plan Competition.

The Sydney students beat teams from the University of Queensland and Griffith University in last weekend's final at the Pharmacy Women's Congress in Melbourne.

The team, comprising captain Daniel Rifkin and team members Jane Xie, Anjana Rao, Daniel Galanos, Lisa Kouladjian and Eva Ling, were praised for an innovative proposal that focused on environmentally friendly business practices.

The students and university will share \$6000 in prize money.

RGH E-Bulletin

THIS week's RGH Pharmacy E-Bulletin examines the association between proton pump inhibitors and increased risk of osteoporotic fractures.

It's available at no charge from chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

SLIP me some skin!

A unique artwork has just changed hands for a whopping \$258,000 and will be shown in Singapore and Shanghai starting from next week.

The image of the Virgin Mary is remarkable because it's actually a tattoo on the back of Swiss man Tim Steiner, who sold the art with the stipulation that it only go "on display" three times a year.

As well as being restricted to the thrice-yearly exhibition, the other stipulation is that the tattoo can be removed from Steiner's skin when he dies and handed to its owner.

AN OBESITY crisis has emerged in the British police force, with the finding that some officers are so hefty that they can only transport one suspect at a time in their vehicles.

A recent survey found that some cars carrying two generously built policemen are within 120kg of legal weight limits, meaning that if they had to arrest two people they would have to call for another vehicle.

HOT wax sprayed everywhere in Newcastle last night after a beauty salon caught fire.

Fire brigade officials said the blaze broke out at about 8.40pm at The Studio Skin and Body Care shop and suspect that an electrical fault overheated two pots of wax.

A subsequent explosion of other chemicals knocked the building off its foundations and could be felt blocks away.

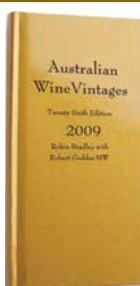
Sept PBS listings

NEW listings on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from this month include the liquid form of clarithromycin for the treatment of pertussis and atypical Mycobacterium infections, and an additional brand of blood glucose tests strips for diabetics.

The listing of liquid clarithromycin (Klacid) will offer patients more choice of treatment for whooping cough and infections caused by mycobacteria, particularly for those who have difficulty swallowing tablets.

On-Call Plus test strips will offer more options to people with type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

WIN A WINE BOOK FOR FATHER'S DAY



CONGRATULATIONS to Debbie Rigby of DR Pharmacy Consulting who was the winner of yesterday's copy of *Australian Wine Vintages*.

Each day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving you the chance to win a copy of the Gold Book, 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 -

How many wines are featured in the Gold Book?

The prize will be awarded to the first correct response.

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