

Drug info resource

AN updated guide on how to find reliable drug information on the internet and in written resources has been published by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

Written by Rosalind Tindale, this third edition of the guide, *Drug Information*, is presented as an electronic book on CD with links in the text to direct the user to search engines and websites.

To order, fax (02) 6285 2869 or email: books@psa.org.au.

Clinical trials compete

SPONSORS seeking increased numbers of patients for clinical trials has resulted in fierce competition to attract and enrol volunteers, according to new analysis by Citeline.

According to a report in the January issue of *GCPJ*, the target enrolment for type-2 diabetes industry-sponsored Phase II and III trials in 2007 averaged 752 patients, compared with 271 patients in 2000; and in non-small cell lung cancer trials, average target enrolment has risen from 561 to 895 patients.

Travelling Well comp is back!

EACH day this week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving you the chance to win one of two copies of Dr Deborah Mills' latest book, *Travelling Well*.



The book is a must-have guide to a safe and healthy journey, with detailed advice about pre-trip preparation, how to look after yourself while away, and what to do if you get sick.

Dr Deborah Mills, widely known as "The Travel Doctor" is one of Australia's leading travel health care providers, and has over 20 years experience in the field.

To enter today, send your answer to the following question to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What type of dressing (moist or dry) is best used for an open wound?

This great prize will go to the first two correct responses, so for your chance to win, make sure you send in your entry NOW!

ASMI: Mouthwash is safe

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry (ASMI) has reassured consumers about the safety of antiseptic mouthwashes, following a report that they may increase the risk of cancer.

A review article, published in the *Australian Dental Journal*, explores a speculated link between oral cancer and mouthwashes that contain alcohol.

But ASMI says the paper does not reflect the full body of scientific evidence and adds no new scientific data regarding antiseptic mouthwashes.

In a letter to the editors of the journal, Professor Laurence Walsh, Head of the School of Dentistry at the University of Queensland, criticises the paper for drawing on a "small and selective group of studies" and points out there is no established, causal relationship between oral cancer and mouthwashes.

According to Professor Walsh, careful reading of the entire body of literature on the topic does not

suggest that the use of antiseptic mouthwashes containing alcohol increases the risk of oral cancer.

"A wide range of critical and systematic reviews, over many years, have failed to show any statistically significant association between mouthwash use and oral cancer. There is certainly nothing in the current paper to change our thinking in that regard," said Professor Walsh.

He said mouthwashes continue to play an important role in improving dental hygiene "when used appropriately."

Aveda solar switch

AVEDA has committed to "clean power" with the installation of a photovoltaic solar power system at its distribution centre in Los Angeles.

The system, which will provide power for 85% of the facility's needs, complements the beauty company's 100% wind energy program at its manufacturing centre and corporate offices.

Fellow (HC) for Trevor Clarkin



PRESIDENT of the Australian College of Pharmacy Practice and Management (ACPPM), Trevor Clarkin, has been awarded its highest honour at the Annual Queensland Fellows' Dinner.

Mr Clarkin, already a Fellow of the College, was elevated to 'Fellow (Honoris Causa)'.

The Board noted: "Trevor's service to the College over many years, several of them very difficult years, has been

outstanding. He has unstintingly given his time, energy and experience to progressing the College and, in particular, to furthering the strategic rationale for the creation of the merged entity [with the Australian Institute of Pharmacy Management in 2004]."

Trevor is pictured here accepting his Fellow (HC) certificate from PGA national president, Kos Sclavos.

Pharm IT is an independent provider of Pharmacy IT software and hardware sales, support and training. The difference will surprise you. www.pharmit.com.au



sales service support
1300 554 694



DISPENSARY CORNER

AN eye for murder.

A Missouri woman is being charged with first-degree assault, after allegedly trying to kill her husband with half a bottle of Visine eye drops.

The woman laced, what *PD* assumes was a very bad cup of tea, with the drops.

It is unclear whether the solution was the allergy, red eye or standard drops, but when they failed to do the job, the mastermind shared her plans with a co-worker, who then informed the police.

SMOKING is not only bad for health, but also bad for art!

The Moscow Art Museum narrowly avoided destruction when a drunk electrician working in an engineering building next to the main gallery fell asleep - with a lit cigarette.

The fire thus created, destroyed technical equipment, but was caught before it reached the gallery.

EVER tried to move objects with the power of your mind? (come on admit it, when the TV remote control is just a little too far out of reach - you've tried).

Well now your kids can!

Mattel is bringing out a brainwave bio-feedback toy, retailing at US\$80 (A\$114).

Simply put, users don head sets, and think really, really, really hard, in order to power tiny fans which move icons.

O.K., so it sounded a lot more fun before it was described, but think of the possibilities - TV remote anyone?

Tell your pharmaceutical friends about *Pharmacy Daily*

They can sign up for a free subscription at

www.pharmacydaily.com.au

Click here