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## PAC posters wanted

THE organisers of the upcoming Pharmacy Australia Congress are inviting submissions by 15 Aug for the Poster Displays at the event, which will be held at the Sydney Hilton Hotel 15-18 Oct 09.

The Poster session at PAC gives an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to share their research findings with attendees - details at [pac2009.com.au/pages/posters.html](http://pac2009.com.au/pages/posters.html).

## Milk good for kids

CHILDREN who eat lots of dairy foods can expect to live longer, according to a UK study.

4300 British children born in the 1930s were studied 65 years later, with the journal *Heart* reporting that those who had high dairy and calcium intakes as children had suffered less strokes and other cardiovascular incidents.

## Don't touch PBS, says MA

PEAK manufacturers' body Medicines Australia says the absence in this week's National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission report (PD Mon, Tue) of recommendations about changes to the PBS means the government should allow the current PBS reforms "to run their course."

MA ceo Ian Chalmers said: "The principles of PBS reform - namely delivering savings while ensuring universal access to new medicines - remain critically important.

"I applaud the Commission for recognising this," he said, adding that MA had argued strongly for the maintenance of current funding arrangements for the PBS.

He also said it was important that the pharmaceutical industry was engaged in the implementation of

the recommendations "to ensure that patient access and choice is maintained and enhanced."

MA also welcomed the recommendation to implement a national e-health system.

## Chemsave payment

CHEMSAVE says the first cheque has been written under its new membership structure, which officially launched at APP in Apr.

CEO Michael Dixon said the new arrangements reward members with "significant quarterly rebates", adding that before the end of this financial year more than \$1m will have been distributed.

"We are very excited to be able to reward our members that support the initiatives of the group," he said.

"By performing as a united group, we are able to obtain trading terms and other benefits from suppliers that otherwise cannot be obtained," he added, such as the 7% discount for members on PBS products ordered daily through wholesalers.

As well as buying benefits, the group also offers buying, marketing and banner options, with fees from \$295 per month.

Chemsave now has 85 members across the country, and is growing at four new members a month, Dixon said - 0432 515 717.

## Patent knockback

HOSPIRA'S bid to have patent laws changed to allow export of generics to other markets before they can be sold here has been denied by Innovation Minister Kim Carr, who said the proposals "had ramifications for the nation's economy, as well as the system of intellectual property protection and our international trade obligations."

He said the govt was aiming to create an environment which encourages pharmaceutical company investment in Australia.

## Cymbalta approval

THE TGA has announced the approval of the serotonin noradrenalin reuptake inhibitor Cymbalta (duloxetine) for the treatment of diabetic peripheral neuropathic pain.

The new indication adds to previous approvals for Cymbalta for use as an anti-depressant, for which the medication is also PBS approved as a restricted benefit.

## RB responds on ibuprofen whammy

RECKITT Benckiser has issued a statement saying that at non-prescription doses and when taken for short term pain relief, NSAIDs such as ibuprofen are "unlikely to interact with prescription medications such as ACE inhibitors and diuretics."

The company was responding to a warning issued earlier this week by Kidney Health Australia (PD Mon) which raised the possibility of the so-called "Triple Whammy" effect in which the combined medications could increase the risk of kidney failure.

"To ensure appropriate use, people should always read the label on the pack and take ibuprofen only as directed," said RB head of ANZ Regulatory and Medical Affairs, Janie Heywood.

RB said all Nurofen packaging clearly says patients should seek advice before taking the product if they're taking medication regularly or are aged 65 years or over.

## WIN A REGISTRATION TO PHARMACY WOMEN'S CONGRESS

Bernadette Applegarth, a pharmacist at Westridge Night and Day Pharmacy in Toowoomba (who's due to have her first baby in Nov), sent in the following entry in this week's competition offering a place at the upcoming Pharmacy Women's Congress:

*"Before my brain turns to baby brain in November, I would like to be reminded, refocused, re-energised on my future in pharmacy."*

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and The Pharmacy Guild of Australia are giving subscribers the chance to win a full conference registration at the 2009 Pharmacy Women's Congress, valued at \$495.

The congress will be held from 14-16 August at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa, Gold Coast.

The event will bring together female pharmacists from around Australia to discuss the future of pharmacy, and will focus on personal and professional development based around the Congress' theme, 'Gaining Knowledge, Sharing Experiences, Building Futures'.

For your chance to win the full conference registration which includes entry to all sessions; morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas; a Welcome reception ticket; a Congress dinner ticket; a breakfast session ticket and a Congress satchel and handbook, simply send your answer to the question below to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au).

Please also include details of where you work in pharmacy!

In 25 words or less, tell us why you would like to attend this year's Pharmacy Women's Congress.

Entries must be in by Friday and the lucky winner will be published in next Monday's *Pharmacy Daily* issue.



Pharmacy Women's Congress

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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).



### DISPENSARY CORNER

**AN AMCAL** pharmacy on the Gold Coast was the victim of an attempted robbery earlier this week, with one of the bumbling thieves apparently trying to disguise himself by wearing a pair of underpants on his head.

Security footage from the Upper Coomera pharmacy recorded the pair breaking in, with their faces clearly visible despite the not-so-strategically placed pair of Y-fronts.

A police spokesman said the perpetrator's nose, eyes and mouth were easily identifiable "through the leg-holes".

It's believed the robbers were attempting to steal money and pseudoephedrine-based drugs, which had been removed from shelves and placed in a safe.

The *Gold Coast Bulletin* put it aptly when it said the pair "escaped with nothing but a thumbs down from the fashion police".

It was the 15th attempted Gold Coast robbery of a pharmacy since 01 May.

**INTERNATIONAL** cancer experts have announced that tanning beds are now in the most dangerous cancer risk category, meaning they're deemed as deadly as poisons such as mustard gas and arsenic.

Previously ultraviolet radiation was rated as a "probable carcinogen" but a new analysis of about 20 other studies has concluded that the risk of skin cancer increases by 75% in people who start using tanning beds before the age of 30.

**"SWINE** flu made me do it."

That was the novel defence presented in a New Zealand court this week, where a Wellington woman appeared on a drink driving charge.

She told the judge that the three glasses of wine she had consumed before driving were probably "more potent" because she was recovering from the virus.

The judge didn't agree, banning her from driving for six months.

### Hottest Spring shades at your fingertips...

Mode Cosmetics has launched a collection of fresh nail colours to celebrate the Spring season. The range features 10 vibrant new shades to suit every occasion and outfit, and the special quick-dry formula and flat-edged brush ensures glossy, enduring coverage with just one coat. The products will be available from August.

RRP: \$2.45

Stockist: Creative Brands Pty Ltd

Tel: 1300 650 981



### Captivating couture colours...

Red Earth is welcoming the warmer weather with the launch of its colourful new Cocktail Couture Collection. The Spring/Summer 2009 range features a variety of great products, in particular, two exclusive eyeshadow palettes that combine sparkling metallic shades with subtler solid tones for ultimately alluring eyes. Available in bright "Blue Lagoon" and majestic "Melon Dream", these limited edition palettes are versatile, pigment enriched and silky smooth for effortless application. The perfect addition to your cosmetic closet.

RRP: \$29.00

Stockist: The Heat Group

Web: [www.heatgroup.com.au](http://www.heatgroup.com.au) Tel: 1800 181 040



### Goat's Milk - Nature's skin drink...

The latest in treatment options for sufferers of nasty skin ailments including psoriasis, dermatitis and eczema is now available thanks to the new range of products developed by Australian-owned and operated company, Billie Goat Soap. Featuring a soap, moisturiser, body wash and bath soak, each component of the all-natural selection is formulated using fresh goat's milk, which is said to be extremely effective in relieving irritation and soothing sensitive skin due to its similar pH level. So for an *unbillie-vable* alternative that guarantees great results, go for the goat!

RRP: Soap (\$8.95); Moisturiser (\$19.95); Body wash (\$13.95); Bath soak (\$10.95)

Stockist: Billie Goat Soap

Tel: (02) 4389 3455 Web: [www.billiegoatsoap.com.au](http://www.billiegoatsoap.com.au)



### Yes to Carrots!

This unique new skincare range from Key-Sun Laboratories is the ultimate way to indulge your skin and ensure maximum protection from the harsh effects of winter weather. Each product in the Yes to Carrots collection employs a special combination of the powerful anti-oxidant Beta-Carotene and nutrient-rich Dead Sea mud along with a selection of minerals to cleanse, purify and moisturise your body from head to toe. The variety of fragrances means your customer's face, hair and body will feel and smell good enough to eat!

RRP: From \$5.95 to \$22.95 (depending on product)

Stockist: Key-Sun Laboratories

Tel: 1800 791 381 Web: [www.keysun.com.au](http://www.keysun.com.au)

### Boost your circulation for better mobility...

High Tech Health is giving away the new Circulation Booster MOBILE free with every Circulation Booster purchased in pharmacies nationwide as part of a winter promotion. This innovative product represents the latest in preventative treatment for Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) as well as other conditions triggered by poor circulation. The Circulation Booster MOBILE is more effective than regular compression stockings and flight socks, but also more comfortable - so it really is the ultimate travel companion!

Stockist: High Tech Health

Tel: 1800 505 108 Web: [www.hightechhealth.com.au](http://www.hightechhealth.com.au)

