

Pharmacy DAILY

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PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

Obesity "chronic"

THE FEDERAL Parliamentary Inquiry into Obesity has urged that the condition be recognised as a "serious, chronic disease".

The committee says GPs and other health professionals should diagnose and treat obesity like other chronic diseases such as diabetes and arthritis.

Prof John Dixon, who's head of the Obesity Research Unit in the Dept of General Practice at Monash University, has applauded the move, saying it acknowledges problems associated with obesity including that "there are many people within the community who are not being looked after, that there are substantial costs involved, and that cost savings can be made with treatment.

"This recognition will help to legitimise it as an illness and stop its stigmatisation," he said.

The committee estimated that obesity cost the Australian economy more than \$8 billion last year.

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Victorian pharmacist alert

THE Acting Chief Health Officer of Victoria, Dr Rosemary Lester, yesterday issued a special 'Pharmacists Alert' to help the state's pharmacists answer questions from the public regarding the swine flu outbreak.

This morning the Federal Health Department said there were 502 confirmed cases of influenza A (H1N1) across Australia, with the vast majority (395) in Victoria.

Guild job loss warning

THE Pharmacy Guild's submission to the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (PD Mon) has warned that more than 4000 jobs in community pharmacy could be lost as a result of the proposed new national award which is due for introduction from 01 Jan 2010.

The Guild said that this will lead to a "dramatic reduction in the professional and clinical services provided through community pharmacy" with the submission including a number of testimonials from members saying they will be forced to reduce trading hours, particularly on weekends and public holidays as a result of the changes.

Instead the Guild is asking the AIRC to change the definitions of permanent part time and casual workers, to alter penalty rate provisions and to include Guild Super as one of the default superannation funds in the award.

New Menevit study

A NEW Australian study published in this week's *Journal of Reproductive Medicine Online* has found that the male pre-conception supplement Menevit has caused a "significant improvement in sperm DNA quality" after three months.

Menevit is an oral capsule containing antioxidants and minerals, and has previously been shown to improve the viable pregnancy rates of couples experiencing difficulty with fertility.

The ADAM study examined Menevit's effect on a number of sperm parameters, with Dr Anne Clark of the Fertility Society of Australia saying the study suggesting the improved outcomes are "most likely due to...reduced sperm DNA fragmentation and a decline in 'free radical' initiated sperm death."

Australian Pharmacy's biggest event of the year...

ps pharmspace09

CAREERS FAIR & EXPO 1ST - 31ST JULY

www.pharmspace.com.au

Cairns lecture

PSA Qld will host lecture on Antipsychotics at The Doctors, 318 Mulgrave Rd Westcourt, Cairns next Tue 10 Jun from 7.30pm.

It's free for PSA and SHPA members; more information from mandyc@psaql.org.au.

TGA Europe pact

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has established a new cooperative agreement with the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicine & Healthcare of the Council of Europe (EDQM) for the "sharing of non-public information between the two authorities associated with the regulation of therapeutic goods."

The TGA said the arrangement will help with the participation of both authorities in a pilot project involving US, European and Australian regulators aimed at rationalising international Good Manufacturing Practice inspections.

"The information to be exchanged includes information relating to the manufacture of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients and Excipients used in the manufacture of therapeutic goods," the TGA added.

The authorities have undertaken to protect any non-public information received, which is provided on a confidential basis.

WIN A PACK OF LITTLE FING'RS NAILS

CONGRATULATIONS to Dr Rebekah Moles of the Sydney University Faculty of Pharmacy, who was the winner of yesterday's competition.

The Little Fing'rs range offers a wide variety of nail products including artificial nails, self-adhesive nails, nail art and accessories for young girls.

Little Fing'rs has teamed up with *Pharmacy Daily* to give subscribers the chance to win a pack of Fing'rs self-adhesive nails everyday this week.

This fun range of nail products is best suited for girls and includes nails in small sizes, quick drying glues and many self-adhesive nails, which are great for younger buyers.

The Fing'rs range of nail art is the easy way to create individual nail looks for all occasions.

To receive your pack for FREE, simply be the first to send through the correct answer to the following question:

What colour are Fing'rs nails packets?

Send your answers into comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.
Hint! Visit the website at www.fingrs.com for answers.





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.



DISPENSARY CORNER

THESE illicit drugs weren't concealed inside the luggage - they WERE the luggage.

Police in Chile have arrested a 26-year-old woman departing on a flight to Spain, after finding that her two suitcases were actually made out of cocaine.

The drugs had been combined with resin and glass fibre, and officers said the bags were actually heavier than their contents.

They said the cocaine could be separated out from the bags using a "chemical process".

A FUN day at the beach turned into a medical emergency in China this week when a man's hand was ripped off at the wrist during a tug-of-war contest.

30-year-old Shi Ping of Shenzhen was part of a team of five, and took the role of the anchorman, wrapping the rope around his wrist.

His match was headed for a stalemate, until onlookers started helping both teams to end the draw without noticing Shi's hand trapped in the rope.

"I called on people to stop, but my voice was too quiet to be noticed," he said.

However the competition was eventually stopped when the competitors noticed him holding up his severed limb.

The hand has been reattached in a five hour operation, but it's not clear at this stage whether the surgery has been a success.

STRONG analgesics may be needed in space, according to Dutch researchers who have reported that 66% of astronauts suffer "exploding" headaches while in orbit.

In a paper published in the journal *Cephalalgia* the scientists propose that 'space headache' should be classified as an ailment in its own right, with astronauts saying the head pain was not a secondary symptom of motion sickness as previously thought.

They postulated that the aches were related to microgravity, which causes lower blood oxygen levels.

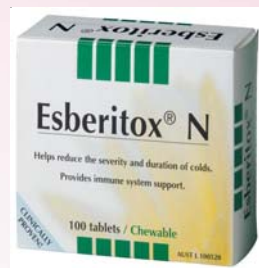
Something to make you tick

A safe and easy tick removing device which can be used on humans and pets has recently been made available in Australia. The V-shaped blade avoids the need to use twisting or jerky movements when removing ticks, minimising the risk of the tick salivating or regurgitating potentially infectious body fluids into the host. The TickBar allows timely removal of the tick and has been developed according to the most recent research on ticks.

RRP: \$19.95

Stockist: Finesse Global Trading

Tel: (02) 9929 6044



Fighting off the cold

Esberitox is a new medication said to be clinically proven to provide a more rapid recovery from common cold symptoms and promote the body's immune system. Each chewable tablet is pleasant tasting, formulated with two types of Echinacea and the immune enhancing herbs thuja and baptisia. Available in packs of 50 or 100 tablets.

RRP: \$20.95 for 50, \$29.95 for 100

Stockist: Sigma Pharmaceuticals

Web: www.esberitox.com.au

Dip your toes into this

PhytoNail is a brand new product for fighting Nail Fungal Infections (onychomycosis). It's designed to treat infected nails, nail-growth disorders and repair thickened, discoloured nails. Unlike creams or ointments, its patented "carrier" system enables the PhytoNail formula to rapidly penetrate the nails. Apply twice a day for two weeks for best results.

RRP: \$79.95

Stockist: bio Revive

Web: www.biorevive.com



Ultra Sensitive Shower Gel

The new Palmolive Hypoallergenic Shower Gel is great solution for those who love using shower gels but have sensitive skin. This new product is non-irritating, comfortable, gentle and 100% soap free and includes no Parabens, Alkali or Lanolin. Designed for daily use, simply apply a small amount to a wet sponge or cloth and massage into the body.

RRP: \$6.49

Stockist: Colgate-Palmolive

Tel: 1800 802 307

Feel free to smell good

Calvin Klein will launch its new men's fragrance, cK Free, in Australia this coming August. Said to be "inspired by the spirit of the modern, independent man" it's an aromatic warm woody fragrance with flavours of star anise, absinthe, jackfruit and juniper berry, as well as mid notes of suede, tobacco and coffee. It will also be available in a deodorant stick.

RRP: \$60

Stockist: Coty Australia

Tel: 02 9267 5500

