



The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia

## This week's update from the Guild

### Pharmacy Expo 2009 is coming

THE Pharmacy Guild and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia are pleased to invite pharmacists and pharmacy staff to attend **Pharmacy Expo 2009** at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

Pharmacy Expo will be held Fri 12 June from 8.30am to 5pm, as well as Sat 13 June and Sun 14 June from 9am to 5pm.

This event is a one stop shop for ALL levels of pharmacy personnel.

Network with industry colleagues at the FREE Trade Expo and hear from some of Australia's leading experts presenting in the comprehensive Education Program.

The Expo's flexible format means there's something for everyone.

The Trade Expo will feature over 120 pharmacy-related products and services.

This is the perfect opportunity to identify new products and services, liaise with your current suppliers or pick up some great "Show Specials".

Meanwhile, Pharmacy Expo will once again host a wide range of clinical and business sessions to meet all your continuing education needs.

Held across five different theatres, the Education Program will include a combination of interactive workshops and short presentations.

Over 80 sessions (50 topics) will be presented over three days.

Review or download the Program Timetable [here](#) and the Program and Speaker Overview at [here](#).

**NOTE - Friday sessions MUST be booked in advance.**

**Weekend sessions are flexible and you can choose your preferred sessions on the day.**

**These sessions are presented twice to ensure no one misses out.**

With a winning combination of education and trade, it's easy to see why Pharmacy Expo is fast becoming one of the most popular pharmacy events in Australia.

Don't delay, register now!

## Urgent NDSS action needed

**PAYMENTS** to community pharmacies for establishing and running National Diabetes Services Scheme sub-agencies may cease at the end of next month.

The Pharmacy Guild yesterday confirmed that it had been advised by Diabetes Australia that the payments - \$2300 to help with start-up costs and a \$500 Sub-Agent Connectivity payment to recover technology costs - are now subject to approval by the Health Department "and as such cannot be guaranteed to continue after 30 June 2009."

The Guild is urging all pharmacies to complete a form about their NDSS status - even if they've previously applied for an agency.

"The Guild needs to have on record your commitment to providing these vital diabetes services," an official letter said, adding that the Guild is aware of previous applications from

pharmacies being rejected without explanation and the pharmacy details having been removed from an active list.

If applications are lodged before 30 Jun the Guild says it will ensure "as per other Government programs," that the payments will be honoured and the agency application honoured.

The feedback form can be viewed at [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au).

### Pharmacy E-Bulletin

**THIS** week's edition of the Repatriation General Hospital Pharmacy E-Bulletin gives an overview of metoclopramide and drug-induced movement disorders.

The bulletin is available free from [chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au](mailto:chris.alderman@rgh.sa.gov.au).

### Eye health cookbook

**THE** Macular Degeneration Foundation has launched a new *Eating for Eye Health* cookbook.

The book, which retails for \$24.95 through book stores and directly from the MD Foundation, provides a selection of everyday easy-to-follow recipes as well as nutritional information about eye-health-friendly foods, with the release in conjunction with Macular Degeneration Awareness Week.

More info 1800 111 709.

## RACP slams NT

**THE** Royal Australasian College of Physicians has joined peak pharmacy bodies in calling on the Northern Territory government to change its *Care and Protection of Children Act 2007* which controversially requires pharmacists to report any sales of condoms to people aged under 16 (**PD** 08 May).

The RACP said it's concerned that children will be at greater risk due to the legislation, with a spokesperson saying: "Mandatory reporting is likely to destroy young people's trust in health professionals."



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**PERHAPS** pharmacies could introduce this new weight loss incentive for their customers.

'Bet Dieting' is already gaining popularity in the US and UK and has reportedly produced good results for some people.

It involves betting on your own dieting success - making a commitment to lose a certain amount of weight over a defined period of time.

If dieters fail to meet targets money is automatically withdrawn from their credit card and paid to a charity of their choice.

Proponents of the idea said motivation was stronger if the charity chosen was one the dieter disagreed with, citing contentious issues such as global warming, abortion and gay marriage.

**JAPANESE** pharmacies are among stockists of a new type of toilet paper which comes complete with a horror story printed on it.

Manufacturer Hayashi Paper says each roll of the product contains several chapters of a new book by Koji Suzuki, who also wrote *The Ring* which has been made into scary movies in both Hollywood and Japan.

The new story is called *Drop* and is set in a public restroom, leading to bemused conjecture about the subject matter.

Hayashi Paper said the tale takes up about 90cm of a roll and can be read in just a few minutes.

It's being marketed as "a horror experience in the toilet."

## FDA approval

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has approved tolvaptan (Samsca) tablets for the treatment of hyponatremia, or abnormally low sodium levels.

Samsca is made by Japanese firm Otsuka Pharmaceuticals.

## WIN A COPY OF IGOR ON DVD



**Pharmacy Daily** has this week again teamed up with EseaCruising.com and Roadshow Entertainment, giving the pharmacy industry the chance to win a copy of the children's movie, *IGOR*, on DVD.

Starring John Cusack, Steve Buscemi and John Cleese, *IGOR* is the animated tale of an ambitious hunchbacked lab assistant who stands tall and dares to dream of becoming a

scientist and win first prize at the annual Evil Science Fair.

To enter, simply tell us in 25 words or less what is the best remedy (or potion as Igor would refer to it as) you've heard of to treat a child's cold.

**Congratulations** to yesterday's winner, **Mary Emanuel** of the **Australian Self-Medication Industry**. Her suggestion was:

*Best way to treat a child's cold is with a little chicken soup and lots of love, patience and good humour.*

The best entry each day will win a copy of the DVD and have their remedy published in **Pharmacy Daily**.

Send your entry NOW to:  
[comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

