Pharmacy



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GSK pulls swine flu vaccine in Canada

GLAXOSMITHKLINE has announced a "voluntary hold" on one batch of its Influenza A (H1N1) vaccine in Canada, after a higher then expected rate of "severe allergic reactions" was reported.

The Public Health Agency of Canada is investigating six cases of anaphylaxis, from which all patients have fully recovered.

Almost all of the 172,000 doses in the batch have been administered but fewer than two anaphylactic reactions were expected.

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New pharmacy legal guide

understand more about Australian legislation governing pharmacy ownership, practice and the PBS can now avail themselves of a new book released this week which claims to be unique in the Australian marketplace.

Australian Pharmacy Law & Practice has been written by three pharmacy academics at James Cook University, Griffith University and Bond University, and aims to address the current issues surrounding pharmacy law and regulation in Australia.

National progress

THE chair of the new Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's Management Committee, Peter Allen, has announced that Chris Robertson is the new Director, National Boards Services and will take up his position in Jan.

John llott whas been appointed as AHPRA Director, Operations from next month.

Allen said the Agency Management Committee would announce the appointments of the State and Territory Managers in the near future, with the selection process for other key roles well underway and the senior management team on track for implementation on 01 Jul 2010.

The federal law which enables the administrative arrangements for the new national boards received Royal Assent yesterday.

Queensland, Victoria and NSW are all at various stages of considering the enabling legislation for the National Pharmacy Board.

Queensland has already adopted the national law as a law of Queensland from 01 Jul 2010, while NSW's Legislative Assembly passed the enabling bill on 11 Nov, meaning it still needs to be passed by the Legislative Council.

Victoria has introduced the bill into its Legislative Assembly but it's yet to be voted on at this stage.

The authors said that with the imminent debut of the new national legislation the pharmacy workforce is likely to become more mobile and it's never been more important to be aware of the legal situation underpinning pharmacy practice.

Topics covered by the book include ethics and professional conduct, practice standards and guidelines, pharmacist registration, pharmacy ownership in different jurisdictions, Medicare and the PBS and Commonwealth and State medicines registration and regulation, as well as occupational health and safety.

The book is available from Elsevier - for details see page 3.

Paracetamol study

PARACETAMOL is as effective as ibuprofen for pain relief in children with an acute bone fracture, according to a study published in the latest issue of Emergency Medicine Australasia.

The randomised controlled study covered more than 70 children aged 5-14 years conducted at the Children's Emergency Department of the Starship Hospital in Auckland.

The research was conducted over two periods: Oct 04 to Apr 05, and Mar-Aug 07 by Dr Michael Shepherd and Dr Richard Aickin.

They said there's little published information on pain experiences of children following acute fractures in an outpatient setting, with parents reporting their kids experience significant pain after discharge.

This is the first study to include child-reported pain experience after acute limb fracture, with the average pain score over the 48 hour period after the fracture when children took regular paracetamol or ibuprofen being less than 3 out

No differences in pain levels were identified between the group who took paracetamol and those who took ibuprofen, the doctors said.

Outdoor cancer alarm

AUSTRALIANS who work outdoors are more than twice as likely to develop skin cancer, according to a report into Occupational Skin Cancer released this week by mobile medical practice Skin Patrol.

Since 2004 Skin Patrol has completed over 40,000 skin checks on outdoor workers in Australia, with a random sample of 1000 subjects this year showing 2.5 times the national reported incidence of malignant melanoma.

Free self-checking guides are online at www.skinpatrol.com.au.

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TWC Westfield fight

THE Terry White Chemist in Geelong, Vic has been locked out of its Yarra Street premises in a dispute with shopping centre owner Westfield

The Geelong News quoted TWC franchise development manager Chris Swifte as saying the situation was "awkward" with the staff locked out on Melbourne Cup Day "for some amounts owing."

The pharmacy is currently under administration, with Swifte saying "unfortunately our store wasn't a success in the area and we are now having ongoing discussions with Westfield trying to get the best outcome for the concerned parties."

Travel Specials

WELCOME to Pharmacy Daily's

travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals which we're sure will be of interest to everyone in the pharmacy industry.

SINGLES travel specialist A Rendezvous for Singles is offering 10% off a range of summer escapes to Tasmania.

All of the trips are fully supported with professional guides and delicious meal, with each departure age-matched so you travel with like-minded adventurers.

Trips start at \$890 for a 3 day Cradle Mountain Walk - more details on 1300 653 692.

HOW about this for a WA accommodation bargain?

Perth hospitality group Seashells is offering a special Sunday rate of just \$20 at its range of 4.5 star apartments in Broome, Mandurah, Yallingup and Scarborough.

Guests who book a minimum 2 night stay will pay just \$20 to add the consecutive Sunday night, with the offer valid to 31 Mar 2010 - seashells.com.au.

Sponsored by Cruise Weekly



NZ pharmacy group profit

NEW Zealand's only stock exhange-listed pharmacy group, Life Pharmacy, yesterday reported a NZ\$1.16m profit for the six months to 30 Sep, down 1.9%.

It's the first consolidated result reported by the group since it merged with Pharmacybrands, creating a company representing 257 retail outlets across NZ.

Brands covered by Life Pharmacy include Unichem, Amcal, Life, Life Outlet and Care Chemist pharmacies, with the company having an ownership interest in 29 Associate Pharmacy companies and one 50/50 joint venture.

The company said abnormal costs associated with the merger amounted to more than NZ\$3m, but its underlying profit improved due to "a focus on cost savings in the franchise business".

Overall revenue for the company was NZ\$6.7m, down 3.6%, primarily due to differences in the timing of contributions from suppliers to the group's marketing

program.

Life Pharmacy said the integration of the two businesses was now underway, led by the company's newly appointed ceo, Alan Wham, who was head of Pharmacybrands Limited before the merger.

The company's directors noted that if the acquisition had occurred on 01 Apr 2009, the estimated consolidated revenue of the combined organisation would have been \$10.5m, with a profit of \$1.35m before abnormal merger costs of \$3.4m.

2010 flu vaccine

THE Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee has released its recommendations for the composition of flu vaccine in Australia next year.

Components will include A (H1N1), A (H3N2) and B strains, each in 15ug HA per dose, meaning the vaccine will protect against both normal and swine flu.

DISPENSARY CORNER

DOING puzzles might help you burn kilojoules, according to a group which runs a "braintraining" website.

Rsearcher Tim Forrester from www.cannyminds.com said "Our brains require 0.1 calieries every minute simply to survive.

"When we do something challenging such as a puzzle or a quiz we can burn through 1.5 calories every minute," he said.

Forrester claimed that doing difficult crosswords or Sudoku puzzles means your brain needs more energy, with an hour of tackling puzzles burning more calories than are contained in many types of biscuits.

HERE'S another example of very healthy ageing.

A 77 year old Japanese man has just lost his title as the oldest ever person to climb Mount Everest, being pipped by 78-yearold Min Bahadur Sherchan.

Sherchan actually reached the peak a day before Japan's Yuichiro Miura, with the feat finally recognised this week by the Guinness Book of World Records.

Miura congratulated his rival, saying he had "helped expand the possibilities for people in an ageing society".

The Japanese climber then upped the ante by announcing a plan to climb the mountain once again in 2013 - by which time he will be 80 years old.

DIRT can be good for kids, according to a US research team who have reported that being too clean can make it harder for skin to heal.

Their study, published in Nature Medicine, found that normal bacteria living on the skin trigger a pathway that helps prevent inflammation when we injure ourselves.

The so-called "good bacteria" Staphylococci blocked a vital step in a series of events which led to inflammation, they said, backing the hygiene hypothesis which blames the upsurge in allergies to our obsession with cleanliness.

Win an A'kin Radiance Serum



Every day this week, A'kin is giving Pharmacy Daily readers the chance to win an [A'kin] Pure Alchemy Cellular Radiance Serum, valued at \$39.95 each.

Energise, brighten and revitalise your skin with [A'kin] Pure Alchemy Cellular Radiance Serum with pomegranate, seabuckthorn antioxidants and omega 9, 3 and 6. You can win this uniquely potent, pure dual-action serum packed with

nature's finest extracts, specifically chosen by scientists from [A'kin] to deliver immediate skin brightness.

Long term, your skin will look energised and fine lines and wrinkles appear diminished.

For your chance to win this great prize, simply be the first reader to email the correct answer to the daily question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

How many different facial mists do [A'kin] have?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner Amy Lange from Symbion, who correctly answered that A'kin is suitable for all skin types.

Check out the Purist website for hints at www.purist.com.



AUSTRALIAN PUBLICATION

AUSTRALIAN PHARMACY LAW & PRACTICE

John Low, PhC, MSHP, Cert4 AWT; Adjunct Associate Professor, James Cook University, School of Pharmacy and Molecular Science; Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Queensland, School of

Leatitia Hattingh, PhD, MPharm, BPharm, GCAppLaw, Cert4 TAA, AACP; Senior Lecturer, School of Pharmacy, Griffith University

Kim Forrester, Barrister at Law; PhD, LLM (Advanced), LLB, BA, RN, Cert Intensive Care Nursing; Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Science and Medicine, Bond University

Australian Pharmacy Law & Practice addresses the current issues surrounding pharmacy law and regulation in Australia. As the Federal Government moves to implement a national registration and accreditation scheme for pharmacists, the pharmacy workforce is set to become more mobile as a result. There has been no greater time than now for practising pharmacists and students to understand the implications of current legislation and legal provisions underpinning their area of practice.

This text provides a comprehensive analysis and discussion of the legislation and practice standards which are relevant to the practice of pharmacy. As well as covering specific pieces of legislation relating to the regulation of pharmacy practice and drug control, Australian Pharmacy Law & Practice includes important sections on legal concepts and the Australian constitution; the evolution of pharmacy practice and ethics; privacy legislation; occupational health and safety; and professional conduct including matters regarding investigation, discipline, and legal proceedings.

Australian Pharmacy Law & Practice is the first text of its kind to address pharmacy practice in all its facets in the unique context of the Australian legal framework. It will be a valuable resource to students and overseas trained pharmacists seeking registration in Australia, as well as to qualified practitioners who seek to better understand the laws and standards that govern the profession.

FEATURES

- unique in the Australian marketplace presently there is no publication dealing with pharmacy law and ethics specific to the Australian situation
- each chapter includes learning objectives, review questions and activities, and further readings
- the inclusion of quotation from case law provides an opportunity for readers to learn from history

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Legal concepts for health professionals
- 2 The evolution of pharmacy practice
- 3 Ethics and professional conduct
- 4 Practice standards and guidelines
- 5 Registration of pharmacists
- 6 Pharmacy ownership
- 7 Investigation, discipline and legal proceedings
- 8 Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
- 9 Privacy, confidentiality and consent
- 10 Commonwealth medicine registration and
- 11 State and territory medicines legislation
- 12 Occupational health and safety



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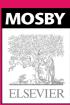
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