

CHF questions GMiA

THE Consumers Health Forum of Australia has raised concerns about proposed financial penalty rates set out in the Generic Medicines Industry Association draft Code of Practice which is currently under consideration by the ACCC.

In a submission to the Commission's enquiry into the proposed code the CHF said it noted that "the financial penalties set out in the Code were very low in comparison to those in the Medicines Australia Code of Conduct.

"CHF questions whether these penalties are sufficient to discourage further breaches of the Code," the organisation added.

Temozolomide recall

THE UK Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency has issued a warning of a patient level recall of Temozolomide Hospira Capsules.

According to the MHRA the recall of the anti-cancer medicine is due to reports of the capsules splitting and leaking powder.

UK pharmacists are being advised to contact all their patients currently taking Temozolomide and have them return it for quarantine.

Aspen lowers Sigma offer

SOUTH Africa's Aspen Pharmacare this morning confirmed a formal takeover proposal for Sigma Pharmaceuticals - but at 55c per share - about 8% lower than its original indicative approach.

The proposal (PD breaking news) is subject to 11 conditions including an extension of the current exclusivity arrangements to 02 Aug,

Training funds

THE Federal Government has committed to providing \$4.5m to train 250 additional medical, nursing and allied health students per annum by 2013.

"We are increasing the numbers of doctors and nurses and improving training for doctors, nurses and allied health professionals," said the Minister for Ageing, Justine Elliot.

"It will help support our additional 1200 GP training places and 1,100 nurses," Elliot added.

NPS clarification

THE National Prescribing Service's collaboration on the Medicines Line (PD yesterday) is a partnership with healthdirect Australia.

provision of finance for the deal, ongoing lending arrangements for Sigma, shareholder and court approval for a scheme of arrangement, and no material adverse change from 30 Jun.

The Sigma board issued a statement saying it was considering the proposal, and recommended that shareholders take no action at this stage.

"Sigma expects to make a further announcement in relation to the proposal in due course," the directors said.

The news saw Sigma's shares surge by more than 10% to 45c each, indicating that while investors see the proposal as a positive step they're still cautious about whether the takeover will proceed.

Aspen has been looking at Sigma for more than five weeks now.

PAC10 Forum news

THIS year's PAC10 Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy Accredited Pharmacists' (AACP) Forum is titled *Clinical and Practical Skills for MMRs: Building your Portfolio* and will take place on 28 Oct from 9am - 5pm.

Focusing on providing pharmacists with the most up-to-date clinical presentations, therapeutic updates, clinical controversies and practice pointers the Forum will include presentations from Michael Woodward, Medical Director of Aged and Residential Care Services at Austin Health speaking on the subject of *Insomnia in the Elderly*.

Christine Culhane of the Victorian Psychotropic Drug Advisory Service will also be in attendance discussing *Medication Use for Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD)* and *The Use of Chemical Restraint in Aged Care Facilities*.

Dr. Peter Tenni will also address the Forum on the *The Odium of Low Sodium* whilst Dr. Geraldine Moses will also continue her series of presentations on eye health with a talk entitled *Ophthalmic Effects of Systemic Drugs/Systemic Effects of Ophthalmic Drugs*.

Other speakers in attendance include Debra Rowett from the Drug and Therapeutics Information Service and Debbie Ray.

For info see www.pac10.com.au.

Diabetes listing

GALVUS (vildagliptin), a new type 2 diabetes medication, will be available on the PBS from 01 Aug.

The medication works in combination with metformin, a sulfonylurea or pioglitazone to effectively reduce blood glucose levels, and has been found in combination with metformin to deliver significant HBA_{1c} reductions compared to metformin plus placebo in patients not controlled on metformin alone.

From 01 Aug Galvus will be on the PBS as an Authority Required (Streamlined) item for dual oral combination therapy.

Possible pseudo laws

A NEW committee formed in the US state of Indiana is set to study the regulation of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine in OTC cold and flu products over the next few months, to decide whether they should become prescription-only medications.

According to reports legislation for the change-over has already been drafted up, however opposition to the bill is strong with a strong contingent of retailers pushing for the use of electronic tracking rather than restriction.

"We appreciate the concerns expressed by law enforcement, but to suggest you make it by prescription only is more complicated than they realise," said Grant Monihan of the Indiana Retail Council.

New Lipitor approval

THE European Commission has approved a new chewable version of Lipitor for children aged ten years or older suffering from high levels of LDL cholesterol and high triglycerides.

WIN A PURE SPA PACK



Pharmacy Daily is once again giving readers the chance to win an All Pure Spa® baby pack every day this week, courtesy of Aromababy.

Valued at \$45, Pure Spa® offers a simple choice in pure and natural baby skincare and an easy way to care for your precious baby and yourself the way Mother Nature intended.

To win an All Pure Spa® baby pack, simply send in your answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What size does the Relaxing Nursery Spray come in?

The first correct entry received wins!

Hint! Visit: www.purespa.com.au.

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: **Janenne Wilson** from **The Pharmacy Guild of Australia**. The correct answer was: **jojoba and sunflower oils**.

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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.



DISPENSARY CORNER

THIS grandma must be on super glucosamine!

A 77-year old woman from UK, has proven age is no barrier to kicking-butt.

Standing at just five foot four inches tall, mild mannered grandmother Ena Mallet beat out her younger competition to become the first woman to ever win a 7th dan black belt in Spirit Combat International ju-jitsu.

Originally picking up classes in karate in 1979 as a way to stay active and fit, Ena became a fully qualified instructor in 1987 and has even used her skills to apprehend a teenage shoplifter with a wrist kick as he tried to steal a packet of mints!

Following her triumphant win, Ena told local media that she has no plans to give martial arts up and that she did not see "why I should put my feet up."

ANIMAL testing?

A Russian man has taught his faithful dachshund, Boniface, to scuba dive, after having built him his very own canine scuba suit.

Although exploring underwater worlds with his dive-instructor owner seems unnatural for a pup, Boniface is said to bark with excitement whenever he sees his suit, and enjoy his time spent in many an octopus' garden.

PHARMACIST'S sweet revenge.

A thief who robbed a US pharmacy has had an unexpected surprise after the pharmacist replaced all the stocks of hydrocodone tablets with M&M's before leaving for the night.

The Clinic Pharmacy had previously been the victim of multiple after hours robberies, and according to local media police responded to an alarm at around 5.30am, to find all of the stores of hydrocodone had disappeared - along with all traces of the thief.

Minutes later the proud pharmacist stepped onto the scene and explained his trick.

As yet the disappointed burglar has not been found.

Pain relief in a simple patch

Dencorub has released a new ache and pain relief product, **Dencorub Pain Relieving Heat Patches**. Designed to temporarily alleviate minor muscle and joint discomfort associated with backache, sprains and strains, the Pain Patches' active ingredients include menthol, camphor and methyl salicylate. The Patches come in packs of three and have a very simple application method for on-the-go relief.

RRP: \$9.99 (3 pack)

Stockist: 1800 222 099



Fly without the dry

Lanolips 101 Ointment and Rose Balm Intense for Dry Hands and Nails now come in travel sizes to revive dry and flaky skin whilst in the air. Perfect for travellers who are looking to offset the effects of in-flight air conditioning, the 101 Ointment is a clear emulsion made from medical grade lanolin that can be applied directly to lips, rough patches and cuticles just after take off to protect skin for up to eight-hours. A small dollop of 101 Ointment can also be added to any usual mosituriser to help protect the face and neck in flight as-well.

RRP: \$17.95 Lanolips 101 Lip Ointment 17.5ml, \$15.95 Lanolips Rose Balm Intense 50ml
Stockist: 02 9663 4277

All male haircare

Specifically designed for male haircare needs, the new **Headgear** product range offers all Australian "salon quality" male haircare solutions based on botanically derived and naturally renewable ingredients. **Headgear's** hair range include *Matte Shaper, Molding Mud, Cruel Clay, Memory Glue, Rush Hour Head & Body Wash, Rehab Healthy Hair & Scalp Shampoo and Chill Out Mint Infused Shampoo & Conditioner*. The products are said to provide superior shape without breaking down or turning greasy.

RRP: \$14.99 (all products)

Stockist: Headgear 02 9882 2405



Get all washed up

Witch Hazel, Rosemary and Calendula are the key ingredients in Ulittlebeauty's All Washed Up Foaming Cleanser. A truly great self-foaming pump action cleanser, the product is both soap and fragrance free, leaving the skin both clean and soft to the touch. All Washed Up also maintains the skin's natural oil and despite being a self-foaming product, it does not ever leave skin dry or with that tight feeling.

RRP: \$24.95

Stockist: 1800 791 381



Vitamins and fresh breath all in one

Vitamints are a new range of mints from all Aussie company Vitacea, that combine the breath freshening benefits of mint with the health benefits of vitamins. Available in portable mint tins, each product in the Vitamint range combines a selection of vitamins, minerals and micro nutrients targeted to a particular health outcome. The range features eight mint tins including Vitamints Multi for Women, Vitamints Multi for Men, Energy, Focus, Active, Immune, Recover and Calm.

RRP: \$9.90

Stockist: 1300 424 445

