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CPD tracking for everyone

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has announced that it will open up its online CPD points recording system to all pharmacists - not just its membership base.

The move is certain to be welcomed by many across the pharmacy sector, with PD receiving a number of enquiries in recent weeks from readers concerned about keeping track of their CPD once it becomes compulsory under the new national registration scheme from 01 July.

Under the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) all registered pharmacists will be required to complete continuing professional development which is relevant to their scope of practice.

Initially 20 credits will be required for the period ending 30 September 2011, increasing to 30 credits over the next year and then 40 for the 12 months to 30 September 2013.

The national Pharmacy Board of Australia will annually audit compliance with this requirement, with the online tool at psa.org.au set to be available to all

pharmacists so they can ensure they correctly comply.

In addition, members and non-members attending PSA functions will have their points recorded automatically.

PSA National President, Warwick Plunkett, said the Society had decided to open up the system to non-members "because of the importance of accurate recording of CPD points under the NRAS.

"PSA feels it is in the best interests of the profession as a whole to enable all pharmacists, whether members or non-members, to utilise the specially designed PSA tool for this purpose.

"The NRAS marks an exciting new era for pharmacy and PSA is proud to be able to help ensure that its implementation is effective and beneficial to the whole pharmacy profession," Plunkett said.

Jackson on new GMIA code committee

PSA director John Jackson is one of five independent members appointed to the new Code Complaint committee established by the Generic Medicines Industry Association under its code of conduct which is currently the subject of an ACCC probe.

The committee will also include three representatives from GMiA member companies, with the other independent members including competition and consumer lawyer David Lieberman as chairman, Dr Shane Carney of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Judith Maher nominated by the Consumer Health Forum, and Susan Coates from the TGA.

GMiA member companies include Sigma, Alphapharm, Apotex, Hospira and Genepharm.

Drugs in R&D open

PUBLISHER Wolters Kluwer Pharma Solutions has announced that its Adis journal *Drugs in R&D* will be available at no charge, moving from its previous subscription-based model.

Originally launched in 1999, it's the first Adis journal to make its content publicly accessible and free for all.

The publication is now freely accessible on the internet at www.adisonline.com/drugsrd.

Supplement guide

A NEW edition of the popular *Herbs & Natural Supplements - an evidence-based guide* has been launched, with information on the 130 most popular supplements used across Australia and NZ.

More details on **page three**.

Cancer's Masterchef

CHANNEL Ten's immensely popular Masterchef presenter George Calombaris has joined Lara Bingle as one of the faces of Bowel Cancer Australia.

Both Aussie icons were approached to represent the organisation because they have been personally affected through family members having the disease.

"We are very excited to welcome George," Julien Wiggins, ceo of Bowel Cancer Australia told PD.

As part of his new role George has agreed to represent Bowel Cancer Australia at functions, as well as during TV and radio interviews and at fundraising events.

Pandemic preparation

PHARMACIES across Australia will this month receive a range of resources as part of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Program, which the Guild has dubbed the 'Kung Flu Fighter' campaign.

The free kit contains materials highlighting the importance of good infection control and other measures, building on the knowledge and experience gained during last year's swine flu scare.

"Equipped with relevant training and practical tools, community pharmacies will be better prepared and able to ensure that the vital supply of medicines continues to operate effectively during a pandemic," said Guild President Kos Sclavos.

Pandemic preparedness training courses are available online or in workshops during June and July, with CPD points on offer for taking part in the program.

The campaign will also see all community pharmacies receive a free 60-day supply of surgical face masks for staff, and pharmacies can also sign up for a free 12 month subscription to an online product called ContinuityCoach which helps owners and managers to create a business continuity plan.

Subscriptions for the program close on 30 Jun - more info at www.pandemicprepared.org.au.

WIN AN AROMABABY PACK



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

The pack contains Aromawipes®, Moisturising Nappy Cream (250ml) and Natural Floral Water (125ml).

Valued at over \$40, this gift from leaders in luxe, organic baby skincare, is formulated for sensitive skin and babies with eczema.

For more information visit www.aromababy.com and whilst you're there, take a moment to sign up for the FREE e-newsletter for great natural baby care tips that you can use as a health professional!

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Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: **Samantha Andersen** from **Symbion Pharmacy Services**.

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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

A HEALTH scare at fast food chain McDonald's has led the company to recall twelve million special promotional drinking glasses which are on sale across the USA to help market the new Shrek movie.

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission has warned consumers to immediately stop using the glasses, because the designs painted on them contain small amounts of cadmium.

The fast food giant said it was initiating the recall "out of an abundance of caution," with a spokesman saying the company believes the glassware is safe for consumer use.

However there's a possibility that small amounts of cadmium could come to the surface of the glass, with McDonald's and the CPSC saying the leaching could lead to long-term exposure to low levels of the toxic element.

THE senses of passing motorists are being aroused in the USA by a new billboard which promotes a North Carolina steakhouse.

The advertisement features a gigantic piece of meat on a fork - but to extend the experience it's also fitted with a gigantic fan which blows the aroma of beef, black pepper and charcoal across the highway.

"It smells like grilled meat with a nice pepper rub on it," said a spokesman for the company behind the idea, ScentAir.

A TWO-YEAR-OLD chain-smoker in Indonesia has managed to cut back to 15 cigarettes a day, after undergoing "therapy focused on playing".

Toddler Ardi Rizal attracted worldwide attention (and condemnation for Indonesian health regulators) when a video showing him puffing away surfaced on YouTube last month.

Child welfare workers have stepped in, and as well as the 'play therapy' they also said: "The boy likes singing songs so we tell him that if he continues smoking, he won't be able to be a singer one day, and it works".



Nutraceutical support for ageing

Longeve-T from Orthoplex is a scientifically formulated nutritional supplement with important nutrients, herbs, vitamins and minerals known to support healthy ageing and optimal health and vitality. Nutrients include resveratrol, curcumin, selenium, ginkgo biloba, brahmi, grapeseed, Vitamin E and Vitamin C, with the product being a Practitioner-Only supplement which can be prescribed once consultation and assessment of requirement is performed by a qualified health practitioner.

RRP: \$51.80 (60 tabs)

Stockist: Bio Concepts, 07 3868 0699

New Choice for dehydration

Symbion has extended its Pharmacy Choice range of private label products for independent pharmacies with the addition of Pharmacy Choice Oral Rehydration Salts. The product extends the brand's digestive category range, with the orange-flavoured salts containing glucose to treat and prevent dehydration caused by diarrhoea and traveller's gastroenteritis in both children and adults. Symbion says it's a high quality product in attractive packaging and "provides consumers with a great alternative to the market leaders".

RRP: \$10.95

Stockist: Symbion 1300 774 000



Stretch marks have a new enemy!

Avado's Stretch Mark Creme is designed to reduce the likelihood of getting stretch-marks by promoting skin elasticity and keeping it soft and supple. Created from Vitamin A, C and E, rich avocado oil, as well as a plethora of essential oils including camellia oil, evening primrose oil, bergamot oil, calendula oil, rosehip oil and rosewood oil as well as sunflower extract, shea nut butter and cocoa butter the creme is super rich and thick and may need a few minutes to soak in before putting clothing on over it - to avoid it getting on and sticking to fabrics.

RRP: \$11.75 (100ml)

Stockist: Avado Organics 03 6225 4098

Decongestant comes with pain relief

Sudafed PE Sinus + Anti-Inflammatory Pain Relief is a new pharmacy-only product which combines phenylephrine hydrochloride and ibuprofen 200mg. It offers a non-drowsy fast-acting formula which relieves nasal congestion as well as targeting sinus pain caused by inflammation. It's available in packs of 24 or 48 tablets, and the launch is being supported with a \$2m marketing campaign including a new TV commercial as well as in-store displays. J&J Pacific says the double-action product "provides pharmacy customers with superior relief from winter's most common culprits".

RRP: \$15.95 (24-pack) and \$25.95 (48-pack)

Stockist: Johnson & Johnson 1800 029 979



Revive those tired legs

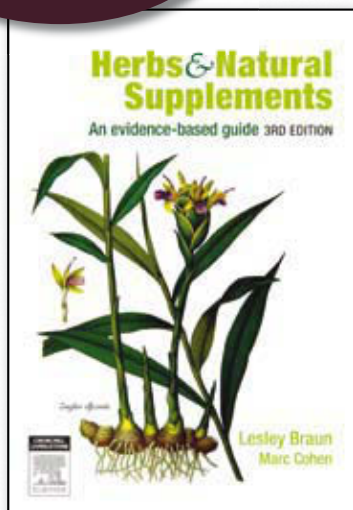
High Tech Health has released a new 'Reviving' Foot & Leg Gel to help combat dry skin which plagues many people during the colder months. The product is ideal for use with the Circulation Booster, and is a hydrating non-greasy gel with a menthol base. It is used to revive tired feet and legs and enhance the conductivity of the electrical waves to the skin.

RRP: \$12.49

Stockist: High Tech Health 1800 505 108

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April 2010

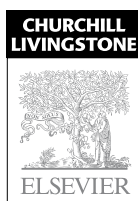
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Herbs and Natural Supplements: An Evidence-Based Guide 3e presents evidence-based information on the 130 most popular herbs, nutrients and food supplements used across Australia and New Zealand. Organised alphabetically by common name, each herb or nutrient listed includes information such as daily intake, main actions/indications, adverse reactions, contraindications and precautions, safety in pregnancy, and more. The new edition has been expanded with 2 new chapters (Pregnancy and Wellness) and 10 additional monographs (Arginine, Dunaliella, Elde, Goji, Pelargonium, Prebiotics, Red Yeast Rice, Rhodiola, Shatavari and Taurine).

This book was identified as "high quality" (Tier 2) in the NPS *Review of the Quality of Complementary Medicines Information Resources Report*, released March 2009.

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- clear and comprehensive tables including Herb/Natural Supplement – Drug Interactions and Pharmacological Actions of all Herbs and Natural Supplements listed
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