



Guild Update

This week's update
from the Guild

Find a Pharmacy

WITH so many Australians travelling domestically during the Easter holidays, it's a fair bet some will find themselves in search of a pharmacy in unfamiliar territory.

That's when the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's consumer-focused www.findapharmacy.com.au website will come in handy - especially if they brought their laptop!

Findapharmacy.com.au is a pharmacy locator service featuring Guild member pharmacies.

Customers can use the website to locate your premises, view your opening hours, see what services you provide and even find out the languages spoken within your pharmacy.

The findapharmacy.com.au service also enables patients to print out a map and driving instructions from their front door to yours.

This is particularly useful for travellers who are seeking a pharmacy while on the road.

Findapharmacy.com.au is an invaluable resource for not just consumers, but also the Pharmacy Guild, as we use it to compile data and pharmacy statistics that are of use when speaking to politicians and bureaucrats.

The key to ensuring the website provides you and our organisation maximum value is making sure that your information is up to date.

This is especially important in an election year, when the Pharmacy Guild needs to be able to clearly and easily demonstrate the outstanding value pharmacies provide their communities through a range of highly valued professional services.

To locate your pharmacy and check that we have your details correct, log into www.eguild.com.au and select the 'FindaPharmacy' option under the 'Membership' tab in the navigation on the left hand side.

When the findapharmacy tool opens simply enter your suburb and State into the search box.

If you have any additional questions contact us at support@findapharmacy.com.au or call 1300 137 608.

Please note, this service is only available to members of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, and is just one of the many benefits of Guild membership.



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

New osteoporosis guidelines

THE Royal Australian College of General Practitioners is urging that postmenopausal women and older men maintain a diet high in calcium, as well as "adequate but safe exposure to sunlight as a source of vitamin D" under new guidelines for the management of osteoporosis.

However the document says there's "mixed evidence" on how effective calcium and vitamin D supplements are for prevention of bone loss, adding that there may be "some benefit" for those with inadequate levels.

The guideline covers general osteoporosis information and statistics, and provides guidance on

Codeine changes

THE Pharmacy Guild is reminding pharmacists that the new codeine schedule changes are set to come into effect from 01 May - not 01 Apr as incorrectly reported last weekend in the Sydney *Sun Herald* newspaper.

Prison for pharmacist

A PROMINENT British pharmacist, Professor Charles Butler, has been jailed for three years in the UK for defrauding the government of around £149,000 by claiming non-existent assistants.

Professor Charles Butler was awarded an MBE in 2004 after practicing pharmacy for nearly 30 years, Awarded and MBE in 2005, Butler had practiced pharmacy for nearly 30 years,

Court documents claimed he had been defrauding the government for six year and a half years in total, perpetuating the fraud by claiming tax write offs and fees for employees in a practice that he had sold years earlier.

Upon the fraud's discovery, police raided a flat Barker owned and found substantial supplies of cocaine, ecstasy, methamphetamine, marijuana resin, gamma-hydroxybutyric acid, rohypnol, temazepam, diazepam, ketamine and midazolam.

"The message must go out very clearly by way of deterrent that those people in public positions of trust, who breach that trust, will be dealt with by way of a severe sentence," said trial justice, Judge Gledhill when sentencing Baker.

risk factors incl pre-existing fractures, low bone mineral density, age, calcium and vitamin D status, genetic history, gender and race, falls, smoking, physical activity, alcohol intake, drugs and loss of height and body weight.

See www.racgp.org.au/guidelines/musculoskeletaldiseases.

CSL under US fire

CSL Limited is facing allegations of anti-competitive behaviour in the US, with the prestigious Mayo Clinic lodging a court action accusing CSL's wholly owned blood plasma offshoot CSL Behring of colluding with other industry bodies to "publicly and falsely deny supply shortages".

CSL is denying the claims and said it would "vigorously defend" the allegations in court.

Pharmacist vaccination

PHARMACISTS in the Canadian province of Nova Scotia may soon given the ability to administer vaccines, under amendments to legislation currently being considered.

Designed to alleviate pressure off the already stressed GP system, the move would also see pharmacists given the right to monitor patients' drug therapies.

"This is part of expanding the health-care team ... and giving them (pharmacists) a greater scope of practice in order to help patients," said Health Minister Maureen MacDonald.

Pharmspace is back!

RAVEN'S Recruitment has announced that it is bringing back its online Pharmspace trade show for 2010 - but this year the site will be firmly focused on jobs for pre-registration pharmacists.

Last year's Pharmspace operated for just a month and included "virtual booths" where online visitors could learn about various pharmacy products.

This year Pharmspace will operate from April to October and is being billed as a "Pre-Reg Careers Fair," providing both students and prospective employers the opportunity to connect via an online job board free of charge.

Raven's said Pharmspace has an "incredible reach," covering over 95% of all fourth year pharmacy students, and providing them with the "largest selection of job opportunities available in one place at one time."

"Pharmspace gives employers access to just about every graduating student in the country ensuring employers can find the candidate whom is the perfect fit for their business," said Raven's Recruitment md Adam Bell.

Face to face Pharmspace presentations are currently under way at every pharmacy school in Australia, with Ravens saying it's had a "phenomenal response".

The Pharmspace job board is open now and prospective employers can register their positions for free at www.pharmspace.com.au.

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EU guides adopted

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has adopted eight new European Union guidelines for use in Australia.

The adoptions include guidelines on 'Similar Biological Medicinal Products Containing Monoclonal Antibodies'; 'Biotechnological/Biological Products Subject to Changes in their Manufacturing Process' and 'Clinical Evaluation of Medicinal Products Used in Weight Control'.

Other newly adopted guidelines cover 'Medicinal Products Intended for Treatment of Systematic and Cutaneous Lupus Erythematosus'; 'Products in the Treatment of Lipid Disorders'; 'Products in the Treatment of Hypertension'; 'Radiopharmaceuticals Based on Monoclonal Antibodies' and 'Transgenic Animals in the Manufacture of Biological Medicinal Products for Human Use'.

The 'Comparability of Medicinal Products Containing Biotechnology-Derived Proteins as Active Substance' guide has also been replaced by the 'Comparability of Biotechnological/Biological Products' which was adopted by the TGA in May 05.

NPS language workshops

OVER the next three months the National Prescribing Service is hosting a series of around 150 in-language workshops across Australia, designed to help senior citizens garner a better understanding of medicines use issues.

Conducted in Cantonese, Mandarin, Greek, Italian, Arabic and Vietnamese by bilingual health professionals, the free workshops will cover two topics; 'Safe and wise use of medicines' and 'Sleep and ageing'.

"We know that the risk of adverse events increases with the number of medicines people take, and it's further heightened for people with low English proficiency," said NPS ceo Lynn Weekes.

"The reasons for this include misunderstanding instructions given by a health professional, fear of or resistance to questioning the health professional, and cultural differences, which may include different definitions of what is a medicine.

"These workshops can prove invaluable for seniors with low

English proficiency," Weekes added.

Building on the knowledge base provided in the NPS 2008 series of senior workshops the 'Safe and wise use of medicine' provides current detailed information about safety and medicines, whilst the 'Sleep and Ageing' workshop covers the importance of sleep and explains healthy sleep practices and information regarding sleeping medications.

The workshops will be available to participants aged 50 years and up with low English proficiency.

For info on workshop dates and times call (02) 8217 8756 or email multilingualqum@nps.org.au.

Rogues on Facebook

THE Kenyan Pharmacy and Poisons Board has approved a plan to have customers use the Facebook social networking site to report pharmacists who sell counterfeit or sub-standard medications.

The move comes as part of the organisation's bid to clean up and regulate the nation's pharmacy industry and protect the general public.

The specially set up Facebook page will allow patients to report adverse drug reactions as well as refer counterfeit products and unregistered practitioners to the Board for disciplinary action.

Pharmacy certificate

THE Queensland branch of the Pharmacy Guild is offering senior pharmacy staff the opportunity to undertake a Certificate IV in Community Pharmacy.

The initiative, in conjunction with the state and federal govts, is part of the Productivity Placement subsidy scheme, allowing pharmacy staff to obtain the required training with a payment of just \$700.

Developed by pharmacy staff to meet the specific needs of their peers as well as the business and operational needs of pharmacies, the Certificate IV in Community Pharmacy covers leadership and management, pharmacy and pharmacist only medicine, sales service and delivery management, recruitment and merchandise management and store presentation components.

For more information see the Guild Training tab on the Guild's website at - www.guild.org.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

MAYBE he should have put down the bottle at say, the fifth beverage?

A 55 year old American citizen has reportedly been charged with public drunkenness after being busted trying to perform mouth to mouth and CPR on road-kill.

The good (albeit drunk) samaritan was approached by police in full CPR swing, and according to police was "extremely intoxicated".

Unable to revive the long passed possum, the man was taken to the local police station to cool his heels and sober up!

THE Jakarta Post this week published a detailed article on so-called "healthy smoking", urging officials to "find out how to grow healthy tobacco".

Written by former Australian diplomat, Murray Clapham, the story claimed that tobacco isn't to blame for many health issues.

"Let's ban unhealthy cigarettes and promote healthy smoking," he suggested, adding that this would mean that "pro-smokers can have their cake and eat it without fear, while anti-smokers are likely to have a new cheap readily-available healing tool".

A 30-year old woman in the UK suffering from an inoperable brain tumor is making the most of her last days by auctioning herself off for dates for charity.

Lisa Connell has set up a website at www.rentadateforcharity.com, where bidders can make an offer for a "date night" with her.

So far the enterprising Brit has raised an impressive £18,000 to be divided between several brain tumour charities, with reports saying that one generous Arabian prince bid £4000 for a date.

"Knowing I'm not going to be around for long has changed me," said Connell.

"I tell people what I want and how I feel...I haven't got time for games or for timewasters

"I've had some negative comments from some who say it's like prostitution without the sex...but I am so proud of it," she added.

NEON BRIGHTS NAIL POLISH UP FOR GRABS



Every day this week, **Pharmacy Daily** is giving readers the chance to win 1 nail polish from the latest Neon Brights range, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Exclusive to the Designer Brands Nail Care range is Neon Brights, a kaleidoscope of the hottest neon colours that are chip & fade-proof, quick drying and long lasting! Get a professional finish with the

exclusively designed brush for the perfect application.

For your chance to win a Neon Brights nail polish this week, simply send through the correct answer to the daily question below:

Name the two shades of blue in the
Neon Brights range?

Send entry to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

The first correct entry received each day will win.

Hint! Visit www.tbn.com.au.

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner **Tracey Walters** of **Mater Pharmacy Services**.

