

### Guild Update

This week's update  
from the Guild

### Bowel Cancer

Bowel cancer is the second most common cause of cancer related deaths in Australia, claiming over 70 lives each week.

While it kills more Australians each year than breast or prostate cancer, with early detection through bowel screening programs, it can vastly improved survival rates.

BowelScreen Australia™ is a pharmacy based bowel cancer awareness, education and screening program for the Australian community using a clinically proven, sensitive and reliable immunochemical faecal occult blood test.

It is a collaboration between Bowel Cancer Australia and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, with the support of Enterix Australia\*.

You, as the most accessible health care provider, are ideally placed to take an active role in the delivery of preventative health and are strongly encouraged to participate in this important screening program.

Annual bowel cancer screening is recommended for *Average Risk Patients*.

These include men and women:

- 50 years and over
- With no symptoms
- With no personal or family history of bowel cancer or polyps

BowelScreen Australia™ will be launched nationally on 4 June 2010 in anticipation of the Bowel Cancer Awareness Week 6 - 13 June.

To help prepare for this launch and to deliver this important program in your pharmacy, order your BowelScreen Australia™ screening test kits by phoning Susan Zheng on 02 9887 5335 or email her at

[Susan.Zheng@enterix.com.au](mailto:Susan.Zheng@enterix.com.au).

\*Manufacturer and accredited pathology lab for the InSure<sup>®</sup> immunochemical test



The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia

## TGA backs rotavirus vaccines

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued a statement reaffirming that Rotarix and RotaTeq are both suitable for use for the prevention of infection with rotavirus, including in babies aged 2-6 months.

The move follows a similar statement by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA yesterday), with authorities looking into the vaccines after manufacturers confirmed the presence of DNA fragments from porcine circovirus type 1 (PCV1) in some batches.

The TGA said it had convened an expert panel of paediatricians, immunologists and vaccine specialist which had agreed that the evidence supports the ongoing use of the vaccines as "strongly in the public interest."

"Having considered all the

### Boots kicks goal

EUROPEAN pharmacy group Alliance Boots has posted a profit of more than £1.07 billion for the year to 31 Mar, making it only the third British retailer to ever record a result surpassing the £1b mark.

The company employs 115,000 people and said it expected to continue to fight off competition from supermarkets by adding more new own-brand products.

Innovations in the last year include Boots No7 Protect & Perfect skincare range, as well as the Oct introduction of the BootsWebMD healthcare information portal.

Boots also offers the Boots Employee Wellbeing Service to corporate clients, allowing them to combine online health assessments of staff with pharmacy-based services such as blood pressure monitoring and cholesterol tests.

### Willach pushes drawers

PHARMACY automation specialist Willach says the new codeine scheduling requirements introduced this month have created the opportunity for pharmacists to "better prepare their business for the future".

Willach director of Australian operations, Mark Warburton, said the company's FAMA drawers are "a fantastic way to store S3 medications compactly and professionally" - more info at [www.willach.com.au](http://www.willach.com.au).

relevant scientific information the TGA has concluded that the continued use of both vaccines is strongly supported by the weight of current evidence and the long history of safe use of the products," the TGA said.

### Feel like a change?

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has announced a series of education and training sessions "to support pharmacists as they navigate the changing communication needs in community pharmacy".

The Practice Change Program aims to boost the confidence of pharmacists in the area of communication, people and interaction skills, to help improve the delivery of professional services to the community and build relationships with patients and other health care professionals.

In most States and Territories the course will be run over two 2.5 hour sessions, from the end of this month, with attendance free for courses operating before 30 Jun.

The program is funded by the Health Department as part of the Fourth Community Pharmacy Agreement - details and regos on 02 9431 1114.



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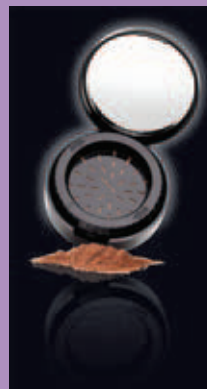
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## WANT YOUR SKIN TO LOOK FLAWLESS?



This week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving readers the chance to win a Natural Ground Minerals product, courtesy of **Total Beauty Network**. 100% Naturally Organic, with an in-built no waste grinder so make-up is protected from light, air and bacteria, it also contains ingredients that care for your skin such as Poly Peptides & Pomegranate.

Apart from a foundation there is a bronzer to give healthy, natural sun-kissed glow and a finishing Illuminator to set your make-up for an all day fresh finish. No nasties, no fuss application and suitable for even the most sensitive skin.

For a chance to win your very own Natural Ground Minerals product, simply send through the correct answer to the daily question below:

**What is the main ingredient of  
Natural Ground Minerals?**

Email your answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

The first correct entry received will win!

Hint: Visit: [www.tbn.com.au](http://www.tbn.com.au).

**Congratulations** to yesterday's lucky winner: **Julie Sage** from **Plunketts Chemmart Pharmacy**. The correct answer was: Twist.

# Pharmacy DAILY

Tuesday 18th May 2010

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 Guild

## Top end Guild gathering

LAST night the Pharmacy Guild's member update roadshow moved onto Darwin, with pharmacists who attended getting the full details of the Fifth Agreement from Guild President Kos Sclavos.

The roadshow rolls onto the Sunshine Coast in Queensland tonight, and then onto Sydney on Wednesday night.

Pictures on this page were taken in Darwin last night.



**ABOVE:** Pharmacy Guild Northern Territory Branch President, Nunzio Meta; Maria Giacon and Leigh More of Alice Springs Pharmacy; and Adam Bennett of Casuarina Village Discount Pharmacy.



**LEFT:** Mark George of Howard Springs Pharmacy; Judith Oliver, Pharmacy Guild NT Branch; Brad Coleman, Howard Springs Pharmacy; Sue Leitch, Pharmacy Guild NT Branch; and Steven Kong, Karama Pharmacy.

**RIGHT:** Adrian Marshall, Trower Road Amcal Pharmacy; Steve Large, Humpty Doo Amcal; Shelley Forester, UDV Palmerston; and Terry Battalis, Darwin Mall Discount Pharmacy.

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## Japanese drug deal

JAPAN'S second biggest pharmaceutical company, Astellas Pharma, has signed a US\$4 billion deal to purchase US company OSI Pharmaceuticals.

OSI makes blockbuster cancer drug Tarceva, and Astellas is hoping to boost its presence in the US market where it recently lost patent protection for its urinary medication Flomax and transplant drug Prograf.

## Metronidazole recall

SAGENT Pharmaceuticals in the US has initiated a nationwide voluntary recall of all lots of its metronidazole injection, which is an intravenous antimicrobial product supplied in a single dose container.

The company said it's discovered "non-sterility" in two batches of the product, which it said has the potential to lead to fatal infections, especially in patients who are immunocompromised.



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**THE** New Zealand Blood Service has launched a new campaign which uses vampires to encourage people to donate blood.

The joint promotion also aims to advertise the True Blood vampire TV series and the books upon which it is based.

Reprints of the True Blood novels by Charlaine Harris will include cover messages promoting blood donation.

The service downplayed suggestions that the promotion is in bad taste, with spokesperson Paul Hayes saying the "fun and quirky" idea aimed to encourage fans of the series to do something positive and worthwhile.

"We quite literally need new blood," he said.

**SMALLGOODS** manufacturers are likely to be quaking in their boots after a team at Harvard University found that eating sausages is more likely to increase the risk of heart disease than unprocessed red meats.

The researchers found that just 50g of processed meat each day boosted cardiovascular risk as well as diabetes - with the same effect not seen when eating even twice as much beef, lamb or pork.

The results were consistent even when both forms of meat had a similar fat content, with the study in the journal *Circulation* speculating that the differences were due to salt and preservatives.

**THE** body of a man who died more than a year ago will be exhumed in the US, after a court ruled that his head should be cut off and cryogenically frozen.

The Iowa Court of Appeals has upheld a request from the Alcor Life Extension Foundation, which had signed a contract with the deceased, 81-year-old Orville Richardson, some years before his demise in 2009.

Richardson paid US\$53,500 to have his head placed in cryonic suspension after he died, but instead his brother and sister had him buried after telling him they didn't want to go along with his wacky plan.