



Guild Update

This week's update
from the Guild

Due diligence

Pharmacists are reminded to carry out due diligence when buying a pharmacy.

The Guild is aware of some prospective pharmacies being offered for sale before the PBS approval process has been finalised, although that may not be evident to a potential buyer. Advertisements listing pharmacies for sale may include estimated sales figures and environmental factors such as the number of doctors in the area or local support for the pharmacy. While claims from a vendor may prove accurate, prospective buyers should seek their own business and environmental analyses.

Pharmacists should be especially prudent when buying a start up pharmacy business, and check that it has received full approval from Medicare Australia. It is advisable to familiarise yourself with the Medicare Approval Number process. The Australian Community Pharmacy Authority (ACPA) is the body that considers applications for new pharmacies or pharmacy relocations, based on the Pharmacy Location Rules.

However, the ACPA does not issue PBS Approval Numbers to enable the supply of PBS subsidised medicines. The ACPA assesses the application and makes a recommendation to Medicare Australia if the application satisfies the criteria of the Location Rule under which the application was made. A recommendation by the ACPA does not constitute approval to supply PBS subsidised medicines. Medicare Australia will consider the recommendation by the ACPA and issue the final approval to the pharmacist.

The Guild's resource *Buying and Selling a Pharmacy: 7 steps to a highly effective sale or purchase* provides insightful advice on establishing and running a viable pharmacy business.

The guide includes up-to-date information and links to a range of pharmacy professionals and other organisations associated with the buying of a pharmacy.

See <http://www.guild.org.au/buyingandsellingapharmacy/> for further information.



TGA to publicise complaints

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced that effective 01 Nov it will publish the outcome of "certain investigations into complaints about advertising" which have been referred by the Complaints Resolution Panel.

The TGA says the move aims to provide guidance to advertisers on how the Regulations are interpreted "and also act as an information resource for advertisers, consumers and the media on decision making and actions taken by the TGA in advertising casework".

Currently the outcome of complaints are listed in a register at www.tgacrp.com.au, and where a person fails to acknowledge or act on a determination by the panel, the complaint may be referred to

the TGA for follow-up action.

So-called 'Regulation 9 Orders' by the TGA make the advertisers withdraw advertisements and publish a retraction or correction, and in future they will be detailed on the TGA website at www.tga.gov.au.

Urgent Apotex recall

APOTEX has announced an urgent Class I consumer-level recall of several batches of its APO-Perindopril 2mg tablets in blister packs of 30 tablets, because some cartons may contain 8mg tablets - four times the 2mg strength.

Batches 24967 and 24979 (expiry Apr 2013) as well as 25180 and 25184 (expiry May 2013) are affected, with the product distributed across Australia.

Class I defects are the most serious types of recall, described by the TGA as "potentially life-threatening or could cause a serious risk to health".

Consumers taking affected tablets are urged to return them to their pharmacy as quickly as possible to arrange for a replacement.

Gardasil for men

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved the extension of the indication for the Gardasil HPV vaccine to now include males aged 9 to 26 years for the prevention of external genital lesions and infection.

WIN A TRAVEL PALETTE



Every day this week, *Pharmacy Daily* is giving readers the chance to win a Travel Palette from the Perfect Presents range, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Designer Brands Travel Palettes are the perfect, portable make-up companion!

The mineral formulation contains skin nurturing ingredients like Aloe Vera and Vitamin E, and the long lasting formulas provide a fabulous finish every time.

Complete with the essential shades for your eyes and lips, this kit is a must-have for this Christmas.

For your chance to win, simply send through the correct answer to the daily question below:

What are the 3 hues that
are available?

Email your answer to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

The first correct entry received will win!

Hint: Visit www.dbcosmetics.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: Caitlyn Adsett from Jadin Chemist Group. The correct answer was: Three.

Post-natal preparation

REPRODUCTIVE health provider Marie Stopes International has released new statistics showing that more than a third of Australian women are not considering contraceptive options until more than three months after the birth of their child - despite the majority engaging in sex within the first 12 weeks after delivery.

The group's National Clinical Advisor, Jill Michelson, says that after childbirth women need to consider contraceptive options as soon as, and preferably before, they re-engage in sexual intercourse, saying Marie Stopes often sees women in their centres who have accidentally fallen pregnant soon after birth thinking they can't get pregnant if they are breastfeeding.

See www.mariestopes.org.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

SHOPLIFTING rates at a Christchurch shopping mall in New Zealand have plummeted after the introduction of classical music piped through the centre.

In Jun 2009 the managers of the City Mall installed speakers to play Mozart in public areas, and since then the number of "anti-social incidents" attended by security guards has plummeted from 77 per week to just two on average this year.

A spokesperson for the local business association said that initially the mall planned to play Barry Manilow, but found that the classical music was more calming.

ALMOST ten weeks underground hasn't dampened the fitness of one of the recently rescued Chilean miners, who overnight finished the New York City Marathon.

Edison Pena managed to finish the 42km course in just under six hours - walking over the finishing line on a gammy knee.

The 34-year-old said that he had spent his time 700m underground by jogging several miles each day through subterranean tunnels.

"I want to inspire others to run, especially children," he said.