

## Guild Update

### This week's update from the Guild

Are you proud of your community pharmacy?

Is the way you manage your business especially effective?

Have you developed an innovative approach to or resource for running your pharmacy?

Or, do you make an extra effort to connect with your customers and the local community?

If you answered yes to any, or even all, of the above then the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Quality Care Pharmacy Program would like to hear about it.

The Guild is searching for the highest standards of quality in community pharmacy, with entries for the 2011 Pharmacy of the Year Awards now open.

Underpinned by the QCPP, the awards will recognise excellence in pharmacy across three categories: (1) Business Management, (2) Innovation and (3) Community Engagement.

Each category will be awarded to a different community pharmacy, with the overall Pharmacy of the Year for 2011 being selected from these three finalists.

The overall winner will be the pharmacy that stands out among the finalists and can demonstrate achievements across each of the three categories.

Winners will share in a cash prize and also receive a stylish trophy to display in their pharmacy, a professional in-pharmacy photo shoot to be used in subsequent promotions, and media coverage.

All travel and registration costs to attend the award ceremony at the Australian Professional Pharmacy (APP) conference on the Gold Coast, 17-21 March 2011, will be paid for category winners.

This year an innovative online form has been created to help streamline the entry process for all pharmacies that would like to participate.

For further information, visit [www.guild.org.au/pharmacyoftheyear](http://www.guild.org.au/pharmacyoftheyear).



The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia

## Cold medication rescheduling

THE TGA is seeking submissions on proposed amendments to the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons* which would see changes to the scheduling of a wide range of cough and cold medicines.

The changes would see medicines containing any of the 19 substances move into Schedule 4 for use in children less than 2 years of age; Schedule 3 for use in children aged from 2 to 6 years of age and Schedule 2 for use in children and adults aged over six.

The substances included in the line-up are: brompheniramine, carbapentane, chlorpheniramine, codeine, dexchlorpheniramine, dextromethorphan, dihydrocodeine, diphenhydramine, doxylamine, ipecacuanha, oxymetazoline (excluding for nasal spray use), pheniramine, phenylephrine, pholcodine, promethazine, pseudoephedrine, senega, triprolidine and xylometazoline (excluding for nasal spray use).

The rescheduling move is based on recommendations put forward during the June 2010 meeting of the NDPSC, with other proposals being considered including the deletion of the current Appendix H entry for pseudoephedrine.

The NDPSC is also seeking feedback on a proposal to include preparations containing 3% or more of diclofenac for the treatment of solar keratoses in S4.

The deadline for submissions is 29 October, and they can be sent to [SMP@health.gov.au](mailto:SMP@health.gov.au).

MEANWHILE rescheduling is also in the news in the UK, where the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency has advised that

oral liquid cough medicines containing codeine should not be used in children and young people under 18 years of age.

The MHRA says a UK review of scientific evidence "has concluded that the risks associated with over-the-counter oral liquid cough medicines containing codeine outweigh the benefits in children and young people under 18 years".

The MHRA has ordered that all of the medicines be restricted to adult use, and has also mandated that all OTC oral liquid codeine medicines should be supplied in child-resistant containers.

All products containing codeine indicated for cough in the UK are already sold or supplied under the supervision of a pharmacist.

## TGA sponsor notice

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued a notice to sponsors regarding the 2010-11 annual charges - low value turnover exemption applications.

Due to the large number of sponsors experiencing difficulty in lodging their Low Value Turnover applications by the due date of 02 Sep, the TGA has once again extended the due date from its previous extension of 01 Oct 2010 to 31 Oct 2010.

The TGA has also said that sponsors who were unable to lodge their LTV application by the previous date of 01 Oct, and have paid the 2010-11 annual charge, but want to claim the LTV exemption can still do so by close of business on 31 Oct, for a refund.

The TGA stressed that from next year no extensions will be granted on or after 02 Sep 2011.

## Dodgy lifestyle concerns

A FIVE year study undertaken by researchers at Aberdeen University has found a link between the increasing rates of young people being diagnosed with mouth, throat and "food pipe" cancer and the rise in unhealthy lifestyle choices.

Researchers looked at 350 patients under 50 years old suffering Upper aero-digestive tract cancers and 400 people who did not and found that nine out of 10 of the cancers in the former group were caused by drinking and a lack of fruit and vegetables in the diet.

"Our study aimed to determine whether smoking, alcohol consumption and low fruit and vegetable intake remained the most significant risk factors for UADT cancers in this age group, or whether other "novel" factors including genetics and infection could be relatively more important," said study leader, Professor Macfarlane.

"The results of our study further emphasise that the message we need to be communicating to the public remains the same - that smoking, drinking and diet are the major triggers of these diseases at all ages," Macfarlane added.

According to the study, tobacco is considered the biggest mouth cancer risk factor, with those that both smoke and drink more than 30x more likely to develop the condition than those that did neither.

One third of cases were also linked to an unhealthy diet, with researchers suggesting upping the intake of Omega 3, nuts, seeds, whole wheat and brown rice as a way to cut the risk.

## Pharmacist opportunity

MOH Holdings, the holding company for Singapore's public sector healthcare providers, is currently conducting a recruitment drive for registered pharmacists seeking career opportunities in Singapore.

Opportunities for pharmacists range from hospital, clinical, research and practice settings.

Interested pharmacists can register, or find out more information by emailing [apply@mohh.com.sg](mailto:apply@mohh.com.sg).

Pharmacists attending the PAC10 Conference will also be able to visit the team at their booth at the Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre between 28-31 Oct.

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## Herceptin approval

**HERCEPTIN** has been approved by the TGA for the treatment of advanced HER-2-positive gastric cancer, with the approval based on the phase 3 trastuzumab in gastric cancer (ToGA) study which found that Herceptin in combination with standard chemotherapy prolonged the lives of patients.

## PSA CDV management

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has released details of yet another special session at its PAC10 conference, titled 'Screening and Early Detection Services in Pharmacy in Australia – What We Can Do Now in Cardiovascular Disease'.

"There is much evidence from Australia and internationally to demonstrate that community pharmacists can deliver effective interventions for many individual risk factors, as well as early detection and awareness," said session presenter Kevin McNamara from Monash University.

"In recent years, a holistic approach involving the concurrent assessment and management of multiple CVD risk factors is increasingly acknowledged as best practice.

"Pharmacists have demonstrated their capacity to deliver similar holistic approaches in diabetes and secondary CVD prevention, but there is less evidence to demonstrate their potential for primary CVD prevention," he added.

McNamara also said that the session would focus on new evidence for the role of primary CVD prevention programs, as well as the feasibility of implementing these services in Australian pharmacies, see [www.pac10.com.au](http://www.pac10.com.au).

## Pharmacy Daily Pharmacy Job of the Day!

Jobs4Careers is Australia's leading source for pharmacy jobs ... click here to find out more and see the Pharmacy Daily Job of the Day ...

[jobs4careers.com.au](http://jobs4careers.com.au)

## ACCC allergy attack launch

**THE** Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has initiated legal action against five companies and four individuals over alleged false and misleading claims regarding allergy treatments.

Proceeding on the fast track list for Melbourne's Federal Court, the ACCC action claims the "false and misleading" representations are in breach of the Trade Practices Act.

The allegations stem from the claims made by both the companies and individuals that "they could test for and identify a substance to which a person is allergic and successfully treat, cure or eliminate a person's allergy".

Defending the charges are the companies: Renew You Centre For Wellbeing & Longevity Pty Ltd; Newlife Publishing And Marketing Pty Ltd; Willesee Healthcare Pty Ltd; Theoliza Pty Ltd and Theta Line Pty Ltd.

Individuals also set to face the charges include: Bojan Schianetz, Dzung Kieu Price, Maria Teresa

Colosimo and Sophie Lee-Anne Georgonikas.

In addition, Renew You, Newlife, Price and Schianetz also face allegations that they misled parents into believing they could learn how to test for their child's allergy, and then treat, cure or eliminate that allergy.

As part of its suit, the ACCC is requesting various orders including declarations, injunctions, corrective advertisements and costs, whilst it is also seeking civil pecuniary penalties against Renew You, Newlife, Price and Schianetz for representations it claims they made after 14 Apr, "taking advantage of recent amendments to the law".

To cap off its case, the ACCC is also asking the Federal Court to put in place measures which would prevent both Schianetz and Price from managing corporations for a period of three years.

Due to its fast tracking, the hearing of the allergy action is scheduled to kick off on 23 Nov.



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**OVER 50** and seriously grumpy!

A new survey of 2,000 British citizens has turned up a trend which suggests that after 52 years of life people begin to get the grumps.

According to the poll people over 52 laughed far less than their younger countrymen.

The survey also found that along with a lack of laughter Brits over 52 also upped their level of complaining.

Infants, according to the poll, laughed on average 300 times a day, a number which tragically was found to drop to just six chuckles a day in teens and two and a half laughs for sullen Brits over the age of 60.

A further interesting fact dug up in the survey was that, in general, British men were whingier than British females.

**STRAYS** save lives.

Next time you consider buying a pet, you may want to visit the pound instead of a pet store, to pick up a potential super pet.

This week The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals announced the winners of its Annual Dog and Cat Awards, with two former strays taking out the respective Dog and Cat titles.

A four-year old dumped labrador, adopted by the LA County Fire Department was crowned as king of the dogs after he helped to save the lives of twelve people in the wake of the horrific Haiti earthquake, whilst a stray kitten named Henry, found injured and hungry on the streets of San Diego took the top Cat position.

According to the judges, the kitten, once rescued, underwent an operation to remove one of its legs in order to save its life.

Its story of survival against the odds was then turned into a line of hugely popular children's books designed to inspire children worldwide, which has raised around US\$500,000 for animal causes since its release.

## WIN AN ORGANICS PAMPER KIT



Certified Organics are great and even better when buying them in a gift set, the perfect Christmas present for all ages.

This week **PD** is giving readers the chance to win an Organics Pamper kit, one of the great gift bags from the NEW Organic Collection.

**Designer Brands Organics** provides intense moisturising protection for hair and skin, leaving it soft and supple for complete head to toe hydration. With the launch of Designer

Brands Organics, certified organic skin care no longer means having to pay the price for purity. This paraben-free, urea-free, SLS-free, artificial colour-free range is certified organic, dermatologist tested and is biodegradable. Good for you and the planet!

Based on the healing and nurturing power of organic Aloe Leaf Juice, this is beauty without boundaries when it comes to skin and hair loving benefits and affordability.

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

**What is the name of the other kit in the Organics range?**

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

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

**Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Dina Rainbird from The Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital.**