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Staged Supply record

THE Pharmacy Guild's GuildCare suite of software tools has been enhanced with a new Staged Supply Recording Service.

The addition has been developed in response to "loud pharmacist requests that GuildCare should offer software efficiencies for this historically frustrating and poorly systemised pharmacy service".

It automatically works out a dosing schedule within a few clicks, integrating the patient's medicines profile to stipulate the quantity, interval and frequency of dosing for the staged supply medicine.

The result is a printed template complete with a schedule of dates alongside the remaining quantities which can be used to record all future supplies.

The new Staged Supply Recording Service will be provided at no cost as part of the GuildCare bundle, and pharmacies already using GuildCare will have it added in the coming weeks.

The enhancement means that GuildCare now covers five out of the six Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement practice incentive areas. More info 1300 647 492.

ASMI earlybirds

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry has issued a reminder that earlybird registration for its annual conference on 16 November will expire on 09 September.

Themed *Promoting Self Care Literacy*, there is also still a number of limited opportunities available for exhibitor places during the event - see www.asmi.com.au.

UTS raises pharmacy profile

THE recently launched Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Technology Sydney (*PD* 11 Aug) is set to gain exposure through an upcoming public address by UTS head of Pharmacy, Professor Charlie Benrimoj, as part of the UTSpeaks lecture series.

Dubbed 'A Medicated Nation', the free lecture on 13 Sep will feature "leading UTS researchers in pharmacy" who will take a "critical

Spain generics by law

THE Spanish government has this week passed new legislation which requires doctors to prescribe medicines by their generic name rather than by brand.

Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said the bill aimed to save the government €2.4 billion (A\$3.5b) a year.

Scripts must be written with only the active ingredients of the medicine, and pharmacies will be required to provide the cheapest available versions of each medication.

The change only affects drugs which are out of patent, but also makes it illegal for doctors to even tell patients what the originator brand name for their prescription is.

"The interests of the big drugs companies must give way to public interest, and what matters is reducing the deficit and lowering the drugs bill for millions of people who use public health services," said Josu Erkoreka from the Basque Party, which backed the legislation.

look at how medications are prescribed and consumed in Australia".

Speaking alongside Benrimoj will be Associate Professor Mary Bebawy who specialises within the fledgling faculty in the "role and regulation of the xenobiotic cascade in drug disposition and in cancer multidrug resistance".

The lecture will examine whether the Australian community is getting value for money from medicines, and "whether new approaches to the responsible use and explanation of medicines could be adopted".

More info 02 9514 1734.

Firazyr FDA approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Shire Human Genetic Therapies' Firazyr (icatibant) injection for the treatment of acute attacks of hereditary angioedema.

15000 sign petition

THE National Pharmaceutical Services Association says it's received over 15,000 signatures on a petition to the House of Representatives calling for a ban on the exclusive supply of medicines to community pharmacies.

A special website supporting the anti-Pfizer direct campaign is online at nomonopolyonmedicine.com.au and pharmacists are utilising this to download new forms.

An NPSA spokesperson told *PD* that the organisation has had representatives in Canberra over the last two weeks, where they have been "well received by members of the government and opposition" as well as by the Department of Health and Ageing.

The NPSA continues to collect case studies from pharmacists highlighting the impact of exclusive supply on patients, which are being shared during the meetings.

"There is a growing recognition in Canberra and across the country that exclusive supply is detrimental to the affordable, timely and reliable supply of medicines to community pharmacies," the NPSA spokesperson said.

Business plan launch

THE 2012 National Student Business Plan Competition was soft launched this week by the Pharmacy Guild, with electronic copies of the competition booklet distributed to universities and the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association.

A formal launch will take place in Jan at the NAPSA Congress, with a formal timeline inviting submissions by 18 May 2012.

The competition is open to all students studying pharmacy in Australia, with the aim of encouraging teams to "use their ideas, talents and energy to create innovative new business ideas in community pharmacy".

Principal sponsor is Blackmores, with continued support in 2012 from Gold Cross Products & Services and Pharmaceutical Defence Limited.

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CHC board member

THE Complementary Healthcare Council has emphasised that Paul Mannion of Health World is taking up a position on the CHC Board (PD yesterday), not replacing the role of Executive Director Wendy Morrow.

CPD Calendar

WELCOME to Pharmacy Daily's Continuing Professional Development Calendar, featuring upcoming events and opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

- 26-27 Aug:** SHPA Victorian Pharmacy Managers Meeting and Branch Summit, Parkville; online regos at shpa.org.au.
- 27 Aug:** SHPA WA Branch Symposium - Transplantation - info 03 9486 0177.
- 27-28 Aug:** NSW Pharmacy Assistants Conference, Four Points by Sheraton Darling Harbour Sydney - details at nswpharmacyassistant.com.au
- 30-31 Aug:** Third Joint Medicines Policy Conference in Canberra - details www.jmpc3.com.au.
- 15-17 Sep:** Pharmacy 2011 Management Conference, Fairmont Resort Leura NSW - pharmacyconference.com.au
- 17-18 Sep:** PharmacyLIVE! clinical information conference at Sydney Showground. More information 02 9431 1100.
- 06-09 Oct:** PAC11, Melbourne Convention Centre pac11.com.au
- 10-13 Nov:** SHPA's Medicines Management 2011 conference in Hobart - www.shpa.org.au.
- 13-15 Oct:** Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, Gold Coast - pharmacyassistants.com.au
- 14 Oct:** Australian Health and Fitness Forum, Brisbane Hilton-regos info@fitness.org.au
- 16 Oct:** 2011 Australian Self Medication Industry conference, Homebush NSW - details online at www.asmicconference.com.
- 27 Apr-03 May 2012:** 37th PSA Offshore Refresher Conference, Istanbul Turkey - 1300 139 293.

Chemmart joins BowelScreen

BOWEL Cancer Australia's BowelScreen program has received a "huge boost" with all 220 Chemmart pharmacies across the country coming on board.

Chemmart Pharmacy executive director, Jonathan Layton, said the group was urging patients over 50 to undergo annual screening, because around 90% of bowel cancers can be successfully treated if detected early enough.

The immunochemical screening test can be conducted in the privacy of your own home.

Bowel Cancer Australia ceo Julien

Wiggins said the expansion of the test's availability across the Chemmart network was great news for the community.

"The program helps fill a screening gap in the absence of a fully implemented government screening program, which is only available to people turning 50, 55 and 65 between January 2011 and December 2014," he said.

Plain packaging passes

THE government's "world-leading" cigarette plain packaging legislation has passed through the House of Representatives, with the move hailed by Health Minister Nicola Roxon as a "first courageous step" to removing the last remaining form of tobacco advertising in Australia.

The legislation will mandate plain packaging from 01 Jan 2012.

NPS CVD e-Audit

NPS Australia has launched a new software package for GPs to help them "quickly and easily target lipid-modifying therapy" for patients at increased risk of cardiovascular disease - details at nps.org.au.

DISPENSARY CORNER

A BRITISH woman is recovering after one of her breast implants exploded when she was shot in the chest during a game of paintball.

The incident occurred at one of 50 game centres operated by UK Paintball, which has now added new indemnity clauses to its standard waiver and insisting that women with implants wear additional chest protection.

According to a number of reports the woman initially thought she just had a painful bruise, but eventually consulted a doctor who confirmed that the implant had been ruptured.

"Part of the fun of paintball is that it hurts a bit when you get shot," said a spokesperson for UK Paintball, adding that the incident had been a "real wakeup call".

"It's worth remembering that having bigger breasts will make you an easier target for your enemies," he added.

A NEW American study has shown a strong correlation between obesity and marital status, with both marriage and divorce triggering weight gain.

More than 10,000 people were studied, with the first two years after a wedding being the key danger zone for packing on the pounds - particularly in women.

The results were the same even after adjusting for health, education, wealth, employment status and pregnancy, with a 48% higher risk of large weight gains (a 3 point or more body mass index increase).

Divorce was also a trigger for weight change, with 21% of men likely to get heavier.

"All marital transitions act as a weight shock, encouraging small weight gains regardless of the destination marital state.

"To some extent, marriages for women promote weight gains that may be large enough to pose a health risk," the report said.

WIN AN AUSTRALIS COSMETIC PACK



Pharmacy Daily has teamed up with **Australis** this week and is giving Paparazzi Perfect High Definition packs to five lucky readers.

Introducing Australis Paparazzi Perfect High Definition range! A revolutionary range containing an intelligent mix of light reflecting properties and skin balancing pigments which provide a flawless, smooth complexion under any light! Bring on the Paparazzi!

Each pack includes Blush in Poser, Foundation in Natural Beige, Eyeshadow in Snap Attack, Tinted Moisturiser in Med-Dark and Paparazzi Perfect Keyring Camera.

For your chance to win this exciting prize pack, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au:

Vitamin E and calendula oil are found in which Paparazzi Perfect High Definition products?

Hint: Visit www.australiscosmetics.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: **Kim Novak** from **Ayr District Hospital**.