

Pharmacy DAILY

Thursday 24 Feb 2011

PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

Aged care boost

AGED care services in South Australia have been granted a boon, with the announcement of \$12m worth of state funding to aid older residents stay in their own homes, for details see - www.health.gov.au.

Free online training

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has developed a free online preceptor training program for PSA preceptors nationwide.

"The critical role that preceptors play during the intern year of pharmacists sets the foundation for their future career and development, and as such is one of the most valued roles in pharmacy," a statement from the PSA said.

"PSA is well aware that to maximise the benefits of the preceptor system, training is essential and so the new course sharpens the training skills of the preceptor, while also adding to their knowledge base," said PSA President, Warwick Plunkett.

The online Preceptor Training Course is now available at forum.psa.org.au/ and PSA members can use their Members logon.

Non-PSA members were provided with a preceptor logon when they received their PSA NITP Preceptor Guide

Pharmacists can offer a lot

PHARMACISTS have an integral role to play in Medicare Locals, according to the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

The comments come on the back of the release of the guidelines for the establishment of Medicare Locals (**PD** yesterday).

Developed as part of a consultation process, which included the PSA, the Medicare Locals project aims to improve disease prevention and management and also to improve access to health services.

"This is a role pharmacists have long undertaken as part of their everyday professional work," said PSA National President, Warwick Plunkett.

"Often their expertise in the provision of primary health care has been overlooked but with the establishment of Medicare Locals that contribution can now be integrated more consistently in team-based care," he added.

Plunkett also said that because pharmacists are the most accessible community health care

providers, they can also bring to the Medicare Locals table a more immediate view of health issues in local areas.

"Consumers walk in and speak to pharmacists about health issues, often before they speak to other health professionals, which enables pharmacists to provide immediate care or refer as necessary to other members of the health-care team," he said.

"With the expertise of pharmacists combining with that of other health professionals, Medicare Locals will herald a new era in health care in this country," he added.

Mammograms needed

A RECENT study conducted by researchers at the University of Sydney has highlighted the need for healthcare professionals to urge women with a history of cancer to get a mammogram.

The cohort study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, looked at mammograms from 19,078 women who had previously been diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer, as well as mammograms of 55,315 women who had no such history, and found that women with a personal history of cancer had double the cancer rates as those without.

Alumni nominations

NOMINATIONS are being sought by the Pharmacy Alumni Association for its two annual awards, the Pharmacy Alumni Award for Achievement, and the Pharmacy Young Alumni Award for Achievement.

Nominees must have graduated from pharmacy degrees at university, with both awards covering community, international, voluntary and professional achievements by the nominee within or outside of the professional area.

Nominations are confidential, and the closing date for submissions is 01 April.

To download a nomination form, see www.sydney.edu.au/pharmacy/alumni.

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Crossmark changes

CROSSMARK has restructured its executive team, and has created two Managing Director positions for Australia and New Zealand.

As such, the company's current Director of Client Service, Retail Marketing, Polly Yule, will be appointed to the newly-created position of MD for Australia, whilst Talent 2 has been engaged to search for a MD for New Zealand.

Natural partnership

NATURE'S Own has partnered with the worldwide charity, Vitamin Angels, in a collaboration which will see a percentage of funds from each pack of Nature's Own multivitamins sold in Australia donated to the organisation.

Vitamin Angels spans 43 countries and is focused on reducing child mortality by providing nutrients to children under five years of age.

"79 per cent of Nature's Own multivitamins are sold in pharmacy and there are many wonderful things about our partnership that will ensure everyone within the pharmacy trade can get involved," said Luke Fitzgerald, Director, Sanofi-Aventis Consumer Healthcare, makers of Nature's Own.

To support the partnership, Natures Own will launch an advertising campaign, as well as on-pack messaging and point of sale collateral.

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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature.

Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals which we're sure will be of interest to everyone in the pharmacy industry.

BOKISSA Private Island Resort in Vanuatu has released a family friendly special that is valid all through the school holidays and Easter.

The deal includes one free night for everyone travelling, plus all children under 12 staying and eating for free.

In addition, children's transfers are also free of charge.

Prices for Bokissa start at \$515 per couple per night.

For details contact your local travel agent or the Bokissa Australian Sales office on (02)44488885.

SOUTHERN Italian Tours is offering a 15-day 'IL Bello Del Sud' tour from Naples to Palermo from \$5,260pp.

Departing on 06 June, 18 July and 12 September this year, the tour includes a visit to Pompeii and the Valley of the Temples of Sicily, as well as stops at Unesco world heritage listed sites of the Sassi in Matera, the Trulli in Alberobello and Villa Casale in Piazza Armerina.

For details call, 1300 885 173.

WOTIF.COM is offering a Clarion Suites Gateway with L'Occitane Spoil Pack in Melbourne from \$184 per couple. Visit www.wotif.com.

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Pharmacists lend a hand

THE New Zealand Pharmacy Council is rallying support for the earthquake stricken city of Christchurch, calling for community pharmacists who are able to assist in the Canterbury region at short notice to register with the Canterbury Emergency Relief Pool.

To aid in the efforts, the Council has said it will issue an Emergency Practising Certificate (valid for six months) to pharmacists who wish to help but do not currently hold an Annual Practising Certificate, but have held one at anytime in the past three years.

Meanwhile, pharmacists in New Zealand have also been given authority to dispense emergency

supplies of medicines to patients without prescriptions.

Rules for the dispensing of emergency drugs, as outlayed by the NZ Ministry of Health and Pharmacy, stipulate that pharmacists need to be satisfied that the patient requires emergency supply (i.e. that they have been affected by the earthquake and can't see their GP) and that the medicine name and dosage is appropriate for the patient's medical history.

In addition to dispensing to locals, the emergency dispensing ruling also covers international visitors whose medication was originally prescribed outside of NZ.



DISPENSARY CORNER

IMAGINE the medical bills!

An Indian man, Ziona Chana, is vying for the largest family title, having 39 wives, 94 children and 33 grandchildren all living under the same roof.

"I once married 10 women in one year," said 66-year old Chana.

"Even today, I am ready to expand my family and willing to go to any extent to marry," he added.

With that many mouths to feed, Chana told reporters that the troupe consumes around 200lb of rice and 130lb of potatoes every day (most of which comes from their own family farm).

SNAKE causes health concerns.

An American woman, Melissa Moorhouse, is facing a hefty fine, after her metre long boa constrictor escaped her clutches whilst travelling on a train through Boston.

According to reports, the adventurous Boa, which was travelling draped around Moorhouse's shoulders, slithered away and hid out in the carriage for weeks before finally being located by transport authorities.

Upon hearing of the escape, many concerned commuters wrote into the train company with "health concerns".

As a result of the costs incurred in locating the snake, as well as cleaning and sanitising the carriage where it hid out, Moorhouse is set to pay up around US\$650.

ICE burn!

In what is possibly the coldest competition on earth, 30 naked Germans gathered for this year's Naked Sledding Championships.

Witnessed by 17,000 onlookers, the nude racers sledded at breakneck speed down an icy 90 metre piste.

According to the race organiser, Tobias Wannemaker, over 400 applied to race, but only 30 were selected!

PD suspects more than one freezing naked German rushed to their local pharmacy post-sled for cold and flu meds!

WIN A HISSYFIT PRIZE PACK



Every day this week, **PD** is giving away exciting prize packs, courtesy of **Hissyfit**.

Each pack is valued at \$59.90 and contains 2 Hissyfit products: Body Luxe and Body Bronze.

Hissyfit offers the ultimate in hybrid beauty, with an advanced range of multi-benefit products for the face, body, hands and lips, all designed to:

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The Hissyfit focus on sophisticated textures, gorgeous colours, beautiful fragrances and results-driven ingredients, has led to an innovative range for super-smart girls who want to fast-track to flawless natural-looking beauty.

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

How many shades are available of Be Cheeky Cheek and Lip Tint?

Hint: Visit www.hissyfit.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Karen Mailo** from **Hinterland Pharmacy, QLD**.

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