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PHARMACY ALLIANCE
Freedom to choose

Skin cancer stop signal

RESEARCHERS at Monash University have discovered a gene that helps protect the body from squamous cell cancer of the skin. Published in *Cancer Cell*, it is hoped the research will lead to new treatments in the next five years, as drugs already in clinical trials for other cancers may actually be effective in treating SCC.

"This means that a number of the usual hurdles in getting therapies to trial have already been cleared, so patients could be reaping the benefits of this research in under 5 years," said study head Professor Stephen Jane.

Warehouse take on Guild

CHEMIST Warehouse is calling on consumers to sign a petition against the recently announced changes to the pharmacy location rules (PD 27 Sep).

Labeling the changes as a "clandestine deal between the Pharmacy Guild and the Federal Government that will restrict Australians' access to discounted medicines" Chemist Warehouse has launched the petition into its national network of 200 stores.

The petition calls on Members of Parliament to condemn and vote against the changes.

"These changes will not only threaten our business but will also restrict the access of Australians to discounted medicines," said

Chemist Warehouse group Commercial Manager Damian Gance. "These changes have forced us to shelve plans for new stores in areas of community need, including in growth corridors and in the bush. "20 per cent of our stores would not have opened under these new rules," he added.

The petition will be available to consumers in all Chemist Warehouse Stores and online at www.chemistwarehouse.com.au.

Pharmacy reductions?

A NEW Scottish study has found that pharmacist consultations do not reduce the mortality or hospitalisation rates of heart failure patients.

The Heart Failure and Optimal Outcomes from Pharmacy Study looked at 1,090 heart patients who had consultations with pharmacists in collaboration with their GPs, as well as 1,074 patients who only received GP care, and found that over a five year period both groups had around the same rate of mortality and hospitalisation for heart failure.

The benefit however for the group with additional pharmacist care was an increase of patients taking recommended heart failure drugs, as well as much better medicine compliance rates.

"This could be an important intervention in health systems with a low number of patients receiving recommended heart failure drugs," said lead researcher, Richard Lowrie.

Health grants open

A NEW grant system has launched this week, streamlining 159 smaller programs into 18 larger funds.

Applications for six of the grants are now open, including for the Chronic Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Fund.

See www.health.gov.au.

FOR SALE

PBS APPROVAL

NUMBER

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Ready to go!

\$300,000 + GST

Contact: Graham Wriggles

Pharmacy Broker

0403 374 301

wriggs.g@bigpond.net.au

Bupa is born

THREE of Australia's largest health insurance brands HBA, MBF and Mutual Community Mutual Community have joined this week under Bupa.

To celebrate the launch, all babies born across the nation yesterday will receive a Bupa baby basket worth approx \$150, filled with gifts including a personalised and dated bear and infant health products.



PHARMACIES FOR SALE

RECEIVER & MANAGERS APPOINTED

- Chemist Depot Grand Market Bankstown
- Chemist Depot Appian Way Bankstown
- Priceline Pharmacy Bankstown
- Chemist Depot Top Ryde

For sale by expression of interest closing
Friday 4 November 2011 at 4.00pm.

For a copy of the information memorandum please
contact Sean Roffey (PBS Pharmacy Brokers)

PBS-Pharmacy Brokers

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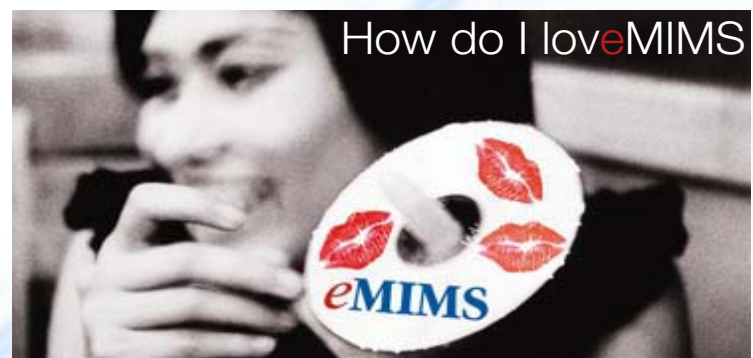
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Guild Update

This week's update from the Pharmacy Guild

APP2012

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is planning another spectacular and memorable Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP) in 2012.

APP2012 will be held from 8-11 March at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The event will feature a diverse educational program covering a range of issues reflecting the conference theme: Pharmacy solutions for primary health care.

The largest pharmacy trade show in Australia, APP2012 will showcase over 250 stands allowing you to meet with all your industry suppliers under the one roof.

Earlybird registration is now open!

Registrations can only be made online by using the Online Registration Form -

www.vision6.com.au/ch/551/2ddkcbj/1554258/48f6c181cb.html.

For further registration information or to view the full program, download the Registration Brochure (www.vision6.com.au/ch/551/2ddkcbj/1552997/48f6cct33.pdf) or visit the APP website - www.vision6.com.au/ch/551/2ddkcbj/1544654/48f6chq1p.html.

To book your accommodation, download a copy of the Accommodation Booking Form

(www.vision6.com.au/ch/551/2ddkcbj/1544655/48f6c8zqs.pdf) and return to Organisers Australia at the details provided.



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

Pharmacy helps smokers quit

A NEW project aimed at helping smokers quit for good will investigate just how effective ongoing support from pharmacists in the quit smoking process is.

Led by Monash University researcher and qualified pharmacist Dr Johnson George of the Centre for Medicine Use (CMUS) and Safety, the Give Up For Good study will offer patients targeted individual programs, taking into account their addiction, motivation, barriers, concerns and quitting history.

"For example, if a patient was worried about gaining weight after quitting, we would organise for them to see a dietitian or a physiotherapist," said Dr George.

The quit program will commence in-hospital, and when patients are discharged will see their pharmacists and GP's provide them with ongoing program support, including regular phone calls.

"Pharmacists, being medicines

experts with a clear understanding of the physiological mechanisms of addiction, would be able to offer the kind of support necessary for patients who wanted to quit smoking," said Dr George.

"The health benefits of quitting smoking, for people of any age, are clear and we've found considerable interest among in-patients with a smoking history in starting a smoking cessation program."

"Research indicates that a hospital visit is an ideal time to commence a quitting program and we want to capitalise on this," he added, saying that although Victorian hospitals are now smoke free, "the support given to patients is often limited to the provision of nicotine replacement products, such as patches or gum".

It is hoped that if successful the program will become a routine service offered by hospitals.

Results of the trial are expected in late 2013.



WIN A KIDDIE BOTTLE



Pharmacy Daily has teamed up with Kiddie Concepts this week and is giving five lucky readers the chance to win an Adaptable Kiddie bottle, valued at \$27.95.

Kiddie Concepts, an eco-friendly company based in Melbourne, Australia, has launched its safer, healthier alternative to the plastic children's 'sippy' bottle.

Practical, stylish and safe for kids the Adaptable Kiddie bottle allows you to simply change the top as

your child grows. The Adaptable Kiddie bottle can change from a nipple teat to sippy top (Phillips AVENT™ Sippy Top supplied with bottle) and finally can convert into a sports bottle - the perfect three-in-one bottle!

For more information, visit www.kiddieconcepts.com.au.

To win, simply be the first person to send in the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Can the top of Kiddie Concepts bottle be changed depending on a child stage of development?



Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, Lynda Carter of Flinders Medical Centre.



DISPENSARY CORNER

EXAM cheats exposed.

In a bid to crack down on exam cheaters one school in Wuhan, China, has come up with a simple solution: make pupils take exams in the open air.

According to reports, prior to the open air class rooms, the school was plagued by organised rings of cheats, but since placing the teens at desks on its massive playground cheating has all but been extinguished.

Now pupils sit at least six feet apart on all sides from each other, whilst a troop of teachers patrol the playground looking for signs of foul play (pictured below).

A group of teachers also position themselves on the "high ground" of the playground enabling them a view of the whole exam class, where they can look for sneaky signals and signs.



STRIKING can harm your health.

A disgruntled builder chose to strike singlehandedly by having a nap on-top of a roof frame seven storeys high.

The two hour sleep was in protest over unpaid wages, with the worker telling his bosses he would not come down off his perch until he and his co workers had been paid their rightful wages which had stopped in July.

His bosses turned up with around \$15,000 in cash to try and lure him off the roof.

The man however refused, and was only ousted from his possie when firefighters managed to scale up the roof and take him off.



Taking a breezy nap with a view