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CONTENT ALERT

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Self testing for STI

HEALTHSCOPE Pathology has launched a self testing kit for chlamydia and gonorrhoea, available for sale through pharmacies.

Your Testing Kit allows female patients to collect their own sample and then send it directly to the laboratory for testing, with the results forwarded to the doctor of their choosing.

The kit is registered on the ARTG and comes complete with info about chlamydia and gonorrhoea, instructions for use and everything required to take a sample.

The kits cost \$65 including the the pathology testing, or \$25 with pathology testing paid for separately by the patient (if they have a GP referral, the pathology is generally covered by Medicare).

Pharmacies can order kits in boxes of 10 by calling 02 9467 7132.

PSA promotes partnerships

THE Pharmaceutical Society says it's taking the "spirit of collaboration" further than the government had initially envisaged, providing strong support for the ongoing health reform agenda.

Speaking today at the opening of PAC11 in Melbourne, PSA National President Grant Kardachi said the organisation had embraced a range of initiatives concerned with primary and preventive health.

"At PSA we are building on the concept of collaboration through

the development of partnerships with other stakeholders and health organisations," he said.

Kardachi emphasised that the role of pharmacists was continuing to evolve, saying "more and more we are becoming clinicians whose provision of professional services is a major part of our day-to-day work."

"Part of this changing role is the need for pharmacists to emerge from behind the dispensary and out into the broader health-care world," he added.

MEANWHILE the PSA has also officially launched its new tools to help pharmacists implementing the Fifth Agreement Staged Supply and Clinical Interventions services.

Interactive online modules, which allow those who complete them to claim Group 2 CPD credits, are now available on the PSA website at psa.org.au/5cpaonlinelearning.

New PBS medicines

MEDICINES approved for listing on the PBS from 01 December have been posted on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme website.

The approval however does not necessarily mean that the drugs will be subsidised, as they still have to meet "numerous conditions".

A total of 28 drugs have been approved for changes, extensions or new listings in the Dec PBS incl: Asenapine (Saphris), Corifollitropin alfa (Elonva), Indacaterol (Onbrez), and Losartan (Cozavan).

Clark set to leave Merck

RICHARD Clark is set to retire from his position as Chairman at Merck in December this year, after a 40 year career with the company.

Clark stepped down from his position as Chief Executive Officer last year, and was replaced by current CEO Kenneth Frazier, who will also replace him as Chairman when he departs Merck.

Priceline heart push

PRICELINE is responding to worrying heart medication statistics by offering free heart health checks across its network this month.

The move follows research into Australian medication compliance which found that whilst the nation is spending around \$904m on heart prescription drugs, many people either stop taking them completely or have 'drug holidays'.

Priceline said it's also concerned that more than half of Australian women don't realise that heart disease is the number one cause of death, coming in ahead of cancer.

Skin condition App

A NEW phone application titled CARD, is making life easier for sufferers of skin allergies, by giving them instant access to information about chemicals, preservatives and fragrances in skin care products that cause allergic reactions.

The app also allows sufferers to create safe-shopping lists, save photos to share with their physician to improve diagnosis and treatment, create personal journals of any reactions and receive notification of product formulation changes.

Developed via a partnership between the Mayo Clinic and technology provider Preventice, the app gives consumers access to a world renowned allergy database, which features over 8,000 known ingredients found in more than 5,500 commercial skin care products.

The app can be found at iTunes using Preventice Card in the search.

new

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WIN MANICURE & PEDICURE KITS



KISS are giving away the complete set of manicure and pedicure professional quantity tools valued at \$35 to eight lucky *Pharmacy Daily* readers this week.

To win, simply be one of the first two people to send in the correct answer to the question below to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

The complete set of manicure and pedicure tools by KISS are the same quality as used by who?

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.

- 06-09 Oct:** PAC11, Melbourne Convention Centre pac11.com.au
- 13-15 Oct:** Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, Gold Coast - pharmacyassistants.com.au
- 16 Oct:** First Aid Certificate Course and CPR Re-accreditation; PSAQ, Level Three, Woolloongabba, QLD; call 07 3896 1900
- 22 Oct:** Workshop - Medication Management Review Stage 1; Pharmacy House, St Leonards, NSW; call 02 9431 1125
- 23 Oct:** Clinical Interventions In Pharmacy - ACT; PSA National Office, Pharmacy House, Deakin, ACT - www.psa.org.au
- 10-13 Nov:** SHPA's Medicines Management 2011 conference in Hobart - www.shpa.org.au.

Industry welcomes the axe

THE Pharmacist Coalition for Health Reform has welcomed the cessation of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's partnership with Blackmores and its Companions range.

"Our members were extremely unhappy with the deal, with a Pharmacist Coalition poll of close to 500 people showing that 94 per cent disagreed with the Blackmores' deal and believed 'it undermined the professionalism of pharmacists,'" said PCHR spokesperson and CEO of The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia, Yvonne Allinson.

"Pharmacists are one of the most trusted professionals in the community for a good reason and we are pleased that they are not going to be put in a position where their reputation could be damaged," Allinson added.

MEANWHILE NPS Australia has

also joined in the chorus, saying it was relieved that the endorsement arrangement has been withdrawn.

"NPS was concerned that pharmacists being encouraged to sell complementary medicines as companion products alongside prescription medicines would cause confusion about medicines, and possibly lead to adverse events," said NPS CEO Dr Lynn Weekes.

Pharmacy training

COMPLEMENTARY medicine company Rose-Hip Vital has launched a new training program for pharmacists.

The program includes both online and face-to-face education and covers the science, benefits, applications and origin of the Rose-Hip Vital supplement.

As part of the program Rose-Hip Vital sales and education representatives will provide in-store training, both in group sessions and individually. Training sessions also include sampling and provide point of sale materials for pharmacies.

Interested pharmacists and pharmacy assistants can contact Rose-Hip Vital on 1800 851 888.

Last minute PAC11

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia is allowing last-minute delegates to PAC11 (6-9 Oct) to register at the Congress venue on the day or days they wish to attend (see staff at the registration desk).



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
GPO Box 2681 Sydney NSW 2001
Ph: (02) 9261 1123 | M: 0408 882 111 | Fax: (02) 9267 5562
Email: pbs@healthbusinesssales.com.au

DISPENSARY CORNER

SKIN care can save the planet!

Australian skincare company Sukin has released the results of its Carbon Reduction Institute (CRI) report, which show that since its accreditation with the CRI in 2008 its carbon offset is equal to removing over 1,700 cars from the road for one year.

According to the company, this figure also equates to around 24,861,034 less kilometres being travelled on the road!

BRING out your inner action hero.

A new obesity campaign in America is hoping to promote physical activity and healthy eating among children aged 6-12 by encouraging them to become an action hero.

The campaign, titled 'The Greatest Action Movie Ever' (G.A.M.E.) will see kids offered the opportunity to become part of the Action Hero Alliance and audition for a new movie with the same title, to debut next year.

The campaign will reach kids via television ads and public service announcements, and will direct them to a website which features educational information and recommendations for healthy eating and physical activities.

The website also contains info on how children can submit their audition videos for G.A.M.E.

The audition videos will be voted on by kids, with winners going on to become action stars.

CURRY lovers land in hospital.

Two curry eating contestants have ended up in hospital after eating just a few spoon fulls of Edinburgh's Kismot Restaurant's fieriest dish.

The contest, which raises funds for charity, even saw one contestant, Curie Kim, admitted to hospital twice in just a few hours.

"I've always enjoyed spicy foods and thought this was for a good cause," she said.

"But it came with a price... I have never endured such pain in my life," she added.