

Discounters being a pain in the...?

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PHARMACY ALLIANCE
Freedom to choose

US contact recall

OVER half a million contact lenses are being recalled by CooperVision in the US.

The recall relates to the company's Avaira Toric contact lenses, which have been found to cause pain, red eye and blurred vision.

WIN AL'CHEMY PRODUCTS



This week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a shampoo & conditioner

pack, courtesy of **Al'chemy**.

With a selection of hair strengthening shampoos, hydrating conditioners and rich hair treatments, the Al'chemy range is made with vitamins, protective anti-oxidants and natural botanical actives.

For more info, visit www.purist.com.

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

What hair type is the Al'chemy Ylang Ylang shampoo suited for?

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Julie Sage** from **Plunketts Chemmart Pharmacy**.

Australian R&D tops \$1 billion

THE latest figures from the annual Australian Bureau of Statistics business expenditure report on research and development show that the Australian medicines industry's R&D investment exceeded \$1 billion for the 2009-10 period.

The figures mark the second successive year that Aussie medicines R&D has hit the magic \$1 billion mark, with the industry's investment coming in as the third largest by area of business expenditure.

"These figures confirm Australia's reputation as a global centre for R&D excellence," said Medicines Australia CEO Dr Brendan Shaw.

Sustained weight loss

WEIGHT loss is sustainable over the long term, as long as several lifestyle factors are in play, according to a new US study.

The study looked at survey results from 3,000 people who had lost 13.5kgs or more and who had maintained the weight loss for more than one year.

Amongst the findings researchers discovered that dieters who kept their weight off long term were more likely to track their food intake, kilojoule or fat count; follow a low kilojoule/low fat diet; eat breakfast regularly; limit food intake; not go overboard with treats on holidays; walk or exercise an hour a day; weigh themselves regularly and watch less than 10 hours of TV per week.

"This is a strong performance and we can consolidate it if we continue to take steps towards maintaining Australia's global competitiveness as a destination for R&D investment.

"The R&D tax credit is one policy setting that will boost investment in Australian R&D," he added.

Marcia sees reform

MARCIA Griffin, founder of the griffin + row affordable daily skin care range, will be attending the upcoming Reform conference in person - details on **page three**.

Sleep soundly

THE SA Health Department has released new Safe Infant Sleeping Standards; to view a copy visit - www.sahealth.sa.gov.au.

Vietnam to welcome Aussie pharmacists



A VERY lucky group of Australian pharmacists and their partners will be jetsetting off into the sunset on a well earned break at the end of this month, thanks to Symbion.

The group are the winners of Symbion's 2011 Pharmacy Choice Incentive Program, which rewards participants with points for compliance in business areas including marketing, training, store layout and operations.

This year more than 300 pharmacists participated in the incentive program, which ran from May to August, with the top 11

achievers winning a trip to Vietnam, and pharmacists ranked in the top 30 heading to Uluru for the weekend.

"This year's incentive was extremely successful with those taking part displaying average growth of more than 8 percent, in what has been a challenging environment," said Pharmacy Choice's Richard Manthey.

Manthey is pictured above with some of the winners receiving their trophy including: Colleen Pomery and Mal Leith, Palms Pharmacy Coffs Harbour; along with Bryan Moore from Apotex.

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EMA appointment

THE European Medicines Agency's Management Board has appointed Guido Rasi as its new Executive Director, effective 16 November.

Meanwhile the EMA's Management Board also endorsed the Agency's implementation plan for its Road map to 2015 (PD 02 Feb).

The road map and its implementation plan are designed to optimise the EMA's performance in three areas including: addressing public-health needs, facilitating access to medicines and optimising the safe and rational use of medicines.

Following the recent approval, and in light of the current economic climate, the road map is now set to be implemented gradually through annual work programs up to 2015.

Events 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.

13-15 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, Gold Coast - pharmacyassistants.com.au for more information.

22 Oct: Workshop - Medication Management Review Stage 1; Pharmacy House, St Leonards, NSW; call 02 9431 1125 for more information.

23 Oct: Naracoorte Country Seminar; William McIntosh Inn, Naracoorte, SA; visit www.psa.org.au for info.

23 Oct: Clinical Interventions In Pharmacy - ACT; PSA National Office, Pharmacy House, Deakin, ACT; visit www.psa.org.au for more information.

10-13 Nov: SHPA's Medicines Management 2011 conference in Hobart - www.shpa.org.au.

Aussies support vaccination

NINETY-four percent of Australians are in favour of vaccination, according to a recent Newspoll survey, however amongst many, misconceptions still remain.

The survey looked at responses

from 1,200 Aussies aged over 18 years and found that whilst the overwhelming majority supported vaccination, a staggering one in four believed that natural homeopathic remedies are an effective alternative to conventional vaccines, despite there being no research to support this claim.

"Vaccines are the single biggest public health advance of the 20th century," said Professor Robert Booy, head of clinical research at the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance.

"While it's heartening to see Australians understand the importance of vaccines in preventing diseases spread, the number of misconceptions out there is worrying.

"Australians are clearly confused about this issue," he added.

Other interesting trends turned up by researchers included the fact that 15% of Australians believe that vaccines weaken the immune system, and 7% believe that children do not need to be vaccinated because the baby's immune system is adequately developed through the placenta and breast feeding.

2012 flu vaccine

NEXT year the components of the flu vaccine should contain: A (H1N1), an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1) - like strain, 15 µg HA per dose; A (H3N2): an A/Perth/16/2009 (H3N2) - like strain, 15 µg HA per dose and B: a B/Brisbane/60/2008 - like strain, 15 µg HA per dose, as recommended by the Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee.

The composition is based on the September WHO recommendations.

ASMI presentations

PRESENTATIONS from the recent ASMI and Complementary Healthcare Council seminar on the new pharmacovigilance requirements for OTC and CM sponsors are now available to view online for ASMI members - see www.asmi.com.au.



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

YOU'LL never get fit riding the bus.

The third place winner of the Kielder Marathon in North East England suffered an embarrassing blow this month, after authorities stripped him of his medal for catching the bus.

According to reports, Rob Sloan originally took third place after finishing the grueling marathon in just two hours and fifty-one minutes.

His victory however began to sour when fellow runners raised questions as to his whereabouts during portions of the race.

Initially Sloan vigorously defended his honour calling the allegations "laughable".

When he heard there was to be an investigation he told organisers that he got on a bus at the 32km mark, because he "felt tired".

Sloan managed to get dropped off near a wooded area close to the finish line.

Witnesses say they observed him hiding behind a tree and watching as the first and second place runners crossed the line, then emerged to run across in third place.

PHARMACIES may need to order coat racks to stock this.

An inventive NZ designer has created the world's first breathalyser jacket, which lets wearers know when they have had too much alcohol.

The jacket contains a nozzle in its collar which wearers can blow into, and which then carries the air to a sensor in the jacket's pocket for breath/alcohol analysis.

From here, the results are sent to lights stitched into the jacket's forearm which get brighter depending on how much alcohol there is in the wearers system.

The lights only glow for about a minute.



Trendy?

Don't miss meeting...

...Marcia Griffin at...

the **Reform Pharmacy Conference.**

Marcia is the founder of the all-natural, gorgeous griffin & row skin affordable daily skin care range.



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Fantastic specials on the day! Meet *Marcia Griffin* and see what she can do to get the range selling quickly in your pharmacy - great opening offers!



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Where & When:

Penrith Panthers, Mulgoa Road, Penrith NSW
Saturday 29th October 2011 - 8:30am-5:30pm

Register Now!don't miss out!

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