

## PD competition winner

**PHARMACY Daily** would like to congratulate Emily Keleher of Good Price Pharmacy who was the lucky winner of last Friday's competition. For more chances to win see p2.

## Pat runs for Red Cross

**BLACKMORES** has thrown its support behind Australian sports icon, ultra-marathon Runner Pat Farmer, in his bid to raise \$275,000 for the Australian Red Cross.

To raise the funds, Farmer has embarked on a massive 40-day 3,000km run across Vietnam.

Farmer's run began this month from Mong Cai in North Vietnam.

Pat will be running on average 80-85km per day over the 40 days, heading south from Mong Cai through Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, finishing in Cà Mau in South Vietnam, before jumping onto a jet-ski, to ride the Mekong Delta River over three days to return to Ho Chi Minh City and where his journey will end.

During this time, Pat aims to raise over \$275,000 for the Australian Red Cross, to support water and sanitation programs in remote parts of Vietnam.

To donate visit [www.redcross.org.au/poletopolevietnam](http://www.redcross.org.au/poletopolevietnam).



## Australia's back pain burden

**LOWER** back pain and osteoarthritis are now ranked second only to cancer as a leading cause of disease burden in Australasia, whilst lower back pain is the highest contributor to disability in the world.

The finding comes from an Australian study, *Global Burden of Disease*, which was published this month in *The Lancet*.

The study, led by Monash University's Prof Rachele Buchbinder and Prof Lyn March of the University of Sydney, looked at research from 47 countries, and found that the global burden of disability due to lower back pain was previously underestimated.

During their study, the researchers found 116 studies measuring the prevalence of lower back pain worldwide and found 780 estimates from 47 countries.

Interestingly, the researchers noted that the prevalence of low back pain was higher in women and peaked in adolescence and at age 65 years.

Looking at Australasia, the researchers found that musculoskeletal conditions account for 15 percent of the total burden of death and disability, just behind cancer at 16.2 percent followed by heart disease, mental health and substance abuse at around 13 percent.

"These are all important health issues and recognised as national health priorities by the Australian government but to date musculoskeletal conditions has not

received an equitable level of priority," said Professor Buchbinder.

"With ageing populations, it is highly likely that this burden will increase, suggesting that the health and research priorities that governments and others give to low back pain should be increased," she said.

"Research is urgently needed to develop effective prevention and treatment strategies with the potential benefits of public health interventions likely to be substantial," she added.

## Phebra's new plant

**SYDNEY** has a new manufacturing plant, with Phebra confirming the first stage of validation manufacturing at its new plant at Lane Cove West.

The first of a series of validation batches of Phebra's medicines commenced last week ahead of the plant's TGA inspection and licensing.

According to Phebra's plans, products being manufactured at the plant will eventually cover the company's full range of critical medicines, including emergency injectables, antidotes and other small volume injections.

"It is a credit to our General Manager, Andre Vlok and his staff, including external consultants, who have planned and worked so intensively for over 18 months to bring this project to this stage - it's a wonderful Christmas present for all concerned," said Phebra CEO Dr Mal Eutick.

"Phebra is excited that product validation has commenced and that once a TGA manufacturing licence for the new facility has been granted, we will be able to enhance our capacity to manufacture critical medicines for the local Australian and New Zealand markets as well as export markets.

"Furthermore, the extra rate of production will expand Phebra's capacity and capability to conduct all-important research programs, now and into the future," he added.

## Kapanol sold to Mayne

**GLAXOSMITHKLINE** has sold Kapanol and related assets to Mayne Pharma in a deal worth up to \$14m (*PD Breaking News* 14 Dec).

Kapanol is a modified release oral opioid used for the relief of chronic, moderate to severe pain, and currently represents 6% of the A\$90 million modified release oral opioid analgesic market.

Under the terms of the agreement, Mayne Pharma will acquire the Kapanol trademark, marketing authorisations, product dossier, technical data and product inventory, whilst the existing license arrangement between Mayne Pharma and GSK will be amended so that Mayne Pharma will acquire the rights to sell Kapanol in Australia.

For the 12 months to 31 October 2012, Kapanol generated gross sales of A\$5.5 million in Australia.



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## Weekly Comment

Welcome to **PD's** weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Sue Raven, General Manager, Raven's Pharmacy Sales.**



### Selling?

Thinking of selling?  
If so think "lease first", as an inadequate lease can sink the sale!  
Whilst brokers attempt to pre-empt and prevent this from happening, often the seller believes there won't be an issue transferring over the existing lease.  
As most pharmacy purchasers are funded by a lender, the loan is conditional upon having the first right of entry to the business and mortgage over the lease.  
In most cases landlords understand the lenders are just protecting themselves in the event the business fails and they have the right to go in and run the business.

Sometimes it could be viewed as taking control away from the landlord even though the landlord is assured of getting the rent paid.

When the buyer borrows money for the purpose of the purchase, effectively the lender has the biggest interest in the business and wants access to the asset should the need ever arise, however unlikely you feel that may be.

Keeping all of this in mind, as a seller, if you own the freehold and you don't intend selling, with the knowledge you now have, pre-empt what the lender may require, make a good lease part of the conditions of a contract.

From a broker's point of view, the easy part is getting the sale.

Getting the sale to settle is entirely another matter.

Email [suer@ravens.com.au](mailto:suer@ravens.com.au).

## Heart risks in the heat

AS the Australian summer prepares to kick-in full force new research is indicating that increasing temperatures may be linked with an increased risk of myocardial infarction.

The research, published in the latest *British Medical Journal*, looked at the association between exposure to higher temperatures and the risk of myocardial infarction at an hourly temporal resolution.

To assess the link, researchers looked at 24,861 hospital admissions for myocardial infarction occurring in 11 conurbations during the warmest months in Scotland and Wales between 2003-09.

According to the findings there was strong evidence of an effect of heat acting 1-6 hours after exposure to temperatures above an estimated threshold of 20°C.

As such, researchers noted that for each 1°C increase in temperature above this threshold, the risk of myocardial infarction increased by 1.9%.

"Higher ambient temperatures above a threshold of 20°C seem to be associated with a transiently increased risk of myocardial

infarction 1-6 hours after exposure," the researchers said.

"Reductions in risk at longer lags are consistent with heat triggering myocardial infarctions early in highly vulnerable people who would otherwise have had a myocardial infarction some time later ("short term displacement").

"Policies aimed at reducing the health effects of hot weather should include consideration of effects operating at sub-daily timescales," the researchers added.

### Need help to quit?

THE Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has created a one-page treatment algorithm to assist healthcare professionals help their patients quit smoking.

"The newly developed one-page treatment algorithm, narrows down suitable treatment options taking into account nicotine dependency and whether the patient is willing to use pharmacotherapy or not," said RACGP's Prof Nicholas Zwar.

To download the algorithm **CLICK HERE.**



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**TIS** the season for regifting.

75% of Australians are guilty of regifting presents, according to a new survey from Priceline.

The survey, which took into account the responses from 7,000 Aussies, found that the most commonly regifted items are homewares, chocolates and candles (27%).

The top reasons for regifting include lack of need for the gift (26%), not liking the gift (13%) or duplicate gifts (12%).

According to the poll, nearly half (40%) of respondents said they would be concerned if someone re-gifted a gift they had given.

On the flip side, the top presents that Aussies told Priceline they cling to and would never regift include perfume, beauty products, gift cards and concert tickets.

**PROFESSOR** Jones?

Professor Henry Walton Jones Jr of the University of Chicago has had his famed journal returned into his possession.

For those who may be confused by the name, Professor Jones is more colloquially known as Indiana Jones, of the hugely popular *Indiana Jones* Spielberg movie quartet.

According to reports, officials at the University of Chicago (where Professor Jones worked in the fictional world of the movies) are perplexed at the arrival of a package addressed to Henry Walton Jones Jr, which contained an exact replica of the journal from the *Raiders of the Lost Ark* film.

The journal came with no letter or explanation for its existence, leading University experts to scratch their heads in bewilderment.

So far no one has admitted to the prank, with officials at Lucasfilm (who produced the movies) denying all knowledge of the prank.

## WIN A HYDRALYTE PRIZE PACK



Every day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving four lucky readers the chance to win a Hydralyte prize pack, valued at \$60.

Each prize pack includes 2 Orange Effervescent Tubes and 2 Apple Blackcurrant Effervescent Tubes.

Hydralyte is an oral rehydration solution which is scientifically formulated. It contains the correct balance of electrolytes and glucose required for rapid rehydration.

Hydralyte helps replace water and electrolytes lost due to vomiting, diarrhoea, heavy sweating, vigorous exercise and other dehydrating conditions such as excessive consumption of alcohol or due to a hot and dry environment.

For your chance to win this great prize pack, be one of the first four readers to send the correct answer to the question below.

**What flavours does Hydralyte come in?**

Send your answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)