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MORE INFORMATION:

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Stand 188

Stubbing out ciggies

THE Senate has passed legislation this week to restrict online tobacco advertising in Australia.

Under the rule, online tobacco retailers will need to carry health warnings and restrict access to sites to persons 18 years and over.

"Sales of tobacco on the internet will be subject to the same restrictions as everywhere else, and online retailers won't be able to spruik cigarettes with words such as 'cheap' and 'tax-free,'" said Health Minister Tanya Plibersek.

WIN A NUDE BY NATURE PACK



PD has teamed up with Nude by Nature this week and is giving

six lucky readers the chance to win a Summer Lovin' pack, valued at \$41.85 each!

Each Summer Lovin' pack includes: Mineral Bronzer 4g, Natural Tinted Moisturiser 30ml & Half Moon Brush.

For your chance to win, email your answer to the question below by COB on Friday to: nudebynature@pharmacydaily.com.au

In 25 words or less tell us why using natural skincare and make-up is important to you

Three most creative entries will win this fantastic prize pack and their names will be announced in PD next week.

Sunscreen worries rising

SEVENTEEN percent of Australians believe that not wearing sunscreen is less risky than using one which contains nanoparticles, according to a new study undertaken by the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education.

The study looked at responses from 1,000 Australians and found that just under a third of Aussies have heard stories about the possible risks of using sunscreens with nanoparticles in them, whilst only nine percent of the population said that they completely understand the risk issues.

The study also found that 54% of Australians have concerns about using sunscreens with nanoparticles in them, with 18% saying they would go out of their way to avoid them and 23% saying that the stories of nanoparticle risks make them less likely to use sunscreens in general.

MEANWHILE speaking in the wake of the results, the Australian Self Medication Industry has called for concerns about nanoparticles to be addressed "to avoid many people risking life-threatening skin cancer".

"This research shows that many Australians are concerned about the impact of nanoparticles in sunscreen, despite the weight of

scientific evidence indicating that they do not pose a health risk," ASMI said in a statement.

"The Therapeutic Goods Administration undertook a review of the scientific literature in 2006 and again in 2009 and concluded that the nanoparticles in zinc oxide and titanium oxide sunscreen remain on the surface of the skin and in the outer dead layer of the skin," ASMI added.

To remedy concern ASMI suggested that the government run public health campaigns to accurately explain the benefits of sunscreens, including those that use nano-particles.

"The TGA has not identified a requirement for specific safety warnings regarding nanoparticles of zinc oxide and titanium dioxide in sunscreens," ASMI said.

"All active ingredients, such as zinc oxide and titanium dioxide, must be declared on sunscreen labels, to help consumers make informed choices," ASMI added.

Mental and physical

A NEW report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has found that 12% of Australians aged 16-85 had a mental disorder and a physical condition at the same time.

The research, aimed at investigating the prevalence of mental illness in association with common chronic diseases, showed that the most common comorbidity was anxiety disorder combined with a physical condition, affecting around 1.4m (9%) Aussie adults.

Interestingly researchers found that, in general, comorbidity increased with decreasing socioeconomic status, and that people living in the most disadvantaged areas of Australia were 65% more likely to have comorbidity than those living in the least disadvantaged areas.

Researchers also found some risk factors were more prevalent amongst people with a mental disorder, including smoking, whilst people with a comorbidity had higher rates of hospitalisation than the three comparison groups.

Aged care wage hike

AUSTRALIAN aged-care workers union, United Voice, is lobbying the Government for a significant increase in carers wages, to at least \$26 per hour.

At present average hourly rates sit at \$18, which the Union has described as "poverty wages".

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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.

12 Feb: Senior First Aid Certificate; Cammeray, NSW; 9am-3pm; email - beryl.park@psa.org.au.

18-19 Feb: Medication Management Review Stage 1 Workshop; St Leonards; email - beryl.park@psa.org.au.

24-26 Feb: Guild Pharmacy Academy-NSW Convention; Novotel Manly Pacific- **CLICK HERE.**

APP closing reminder

REGISTRATIONS for APP2012 will close on 01 March 2012, after which time those wishing to attend will have to register onsite at the event itself.

MEANWHILE the Guild is also reminding pharmacists that spaces are filling fast for the Guild Member (Proprietor) Only Dinner, where Kos Sclavos will address members about how best to prepare for the 01 April PBS Reforms.

At present there are only 60 spaces left for this event.

See - www.appconference.com.

Aussies ok with sponsorship?

THE Australian public is not wholly against sponsorship agreements between doctors and patients as long as they are open and publicly declared, according to a new survey conducted on behalf of GlaxoSmithKline Australia.

The survey looked at responses from 1,007 Australians aged between 18 and 64 years old, and found that whilst 90% initially had negative views about pharmaceutical companies paying fees to healthcare professionals, this figure dropped after people were "given further information about the

purpose of that funding".

Major concerns held by the public with regards to sponsorship included compromises to doctors integrity (54%), patients not receiving the best medicine (52%) and the potential for such payments to influence advice given by doctors to patients (72%).

The majority of respondents however approved of pharmaceutical companies helping to fund medical research programs or clinical education projects (79%), whilst 82% of respondents told researchers that they approved of pharmaceutical companies funding some aspect of the health system when the purpose of the funding is explained.

The timing of the survey coincides with Medicines Australia's current industry-wide review of the current Code of Conduct for the marketing of pharmaceuticals, with GSK saying it is a strong advocate for increased transparency in regard to relationships between manufacturers and healthcare professionals.

"We think increased transparency will increase confidence among consumers and help put the benefits of these arrangements in context," said GSK Australia GM, Deborah Waterhouse.

"The results from the survey seem to suggest that our position on this topic is consistent with community expectations," she added.

Eli Lilly revenue down

ELI Lilly clocked a fourth quarter 2011 revenue drop of 2% compared to 2010 results, to US\$6.047 billion.

According to the company the decrease was driven primarily by Zyprexa and Gemzar patent expirations (which were partially offset by growth in other products).

Meanwhile the company's full-year 2011 revenue grew 5%, topping US\$24 billion, as seven pharmaceutical products and the company's animal health business all exceeded \$1b in annual sales.

"Lilly's fourth quarter results not only reflect the impact of recent patent expirations, but also highlight the growth opportunities that will enable us to remain a strong and successful company in the years ahead," said company CEO John Lechleiter.

DISPENSARY CORNER

MERMAIDS stop work.

Workers at a Zimbabwe reservoir have downed tools and are refusing to go back to work after they discovered a new (or rather old) life form under the water, with the Zimbabwean government blaming delays in the reservoir construction on the presence of mermaids.

According to reports, the workers believe that they have spotted mermaids lurking in the reservoir waters.

So terrified are the workers of the nymphs of the sea, that the Zimbabwean Water Resources Minister has reportedly told a parliamentary committee that the only solution was to brew traditional beer and hold a ceremony to appease the spirits.

Generic Doryx

THE US FDA has approved Mylan Inc's Doxycycline Hyclate Delayed-release (DR) Tablets USP, 150mg, a generic version of Mayne Pharma's Doryx 150mg.

Despite the approval Mylan has agreed that it will not launch its generic Doryx product until after a decision is issued in Warner Chilcott's patent infringement lawsuit against Mylan, which is currently underway and expected to wrap up in March this year.

Expressions of interest sought

This is a rare opportunity to acquire two pharmacies that are both located within one of Australia's premier shopping centres. The main pharmacy, with a medical centre attached, trades at well above the Australian average and the second pharmacy is of significant strategic value.

Both pharmacies will be sold together enabling retention of centre rights to the purchaser.

Both pharmacies are located only 25kms from Melbourne CBD.

To register your interest, please email **Peter Marshall**, Pharmacy Solutions Australia.

e: peterm@pharmacysolutions.com.au

m: 0417 721 203 **f:** 1300 148 679

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