

Bayer turns around

BAYER AG has announced a €397m fourth quarter profit - compared to a loss of €145m for the same period last year.

The company's 2011 result saw net income up 90% to €2.47b and overall sales grew 4.1% to €36.5b.

Symbion buys into APHS

SYMBION has today confirmed a new investment in APHS packaging, which is a key manufacturer of outsourced Dose Administration Aids for community pharmacies.

Symbion ceo Patrick Davies said the move wouldn't see any changes in the leadership or operational structure of the business.

He said the investment was "very much in accordance with our strategy to provide improved

medication delivery to consumers throughout Australia".

APHS packaging ceo Cathie Reed will continue in her current role, and said the APHS team looks forward to working with Symbion on a more efficient approach to logistic.

"Having access to Symbion's expertise in delivering logistics solutions to community pharmacies across Australasia is a key benefit as we manage the increasing levels of consumer demand in line with our ageing population.

"However the operational expertise and reliability that our clients have come to expect will continue to be the backbone of APHS Packaging," she said.

FDA statin changes

THE US Food and Drug Administration has today announced labelling changes for a range of statins including atorvastatin, fluvasatin, lovastatin, pitavastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin and simvastatin.

The labels have been revised to remove the need for routine periodic monitoring of liver enzymes in patients taking statins.

The FDA is now recommending that liver enzyme tests should be performed before starting statin therapy, and "as clinically indicated thereafter".

The agency says it's concluded that serious liver injury with statins is unpredictable, and routine periodic monitoring is not effective in detecting or preventing the "rare side effect".

Statin labels will also now include information about some patients experiencing memory loss as well as increases in blood sugar levels.

Changes to the lovastatin label also warn about some interactions and contraindications.

RGH E-Bulletin

THIS week's edition of the Repatriation General Hospital Pharmacy E-Bulletin deals with the use of bevacizumab for neovascular age-related macular degeneration.

The bulletin is online at pharmacydaily.com.au/ebulletin.



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WIN BEYOND COCONUT WATER



PD has teamed up with **Beyond Coconut Water** this week and is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a case of Beyond Hibiscus Infused Coconut Water.

If you love Beyond Coconut Water then you will love their newest product, Beyond Hibiscus Infused Coconut Water - a world first.

Coconut Water has a multitude of benefits with the most significant being its 'natural isotonic' qualities that replenish lost electrolytes and hydrate super efficiently.

For your chance to win, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the question below to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

What does coconut water do faster than water?

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Marsha Gomez** from **PGA, ACT**.

NSW pharmacy dinner

THE revamped Fairmont Resort in the NSW Blue Mountains will be the venue for the upcoming NSW Pharmacy Dinner on 17 Mar.

Places are still available at the event which will be held in conjunction with the 2012 PSA NSW Annual Therapeutic Update.

The dinner will also see the awarding of the inaugural NSW Pharmacist Medal as well as the announcement of the 2011 NSW Intern of the Year, sponsored by MIMS Australia.

March Weekend delegates and their guests are eligible for a special promotional rate of \$49pp, while PSA members and their guests will pay \$95 per person - more info online at www.psa.org.au.



Annual Therapeutic Update – March Weekend 2012

Caring 'bout your generation – Bubs to boomers and beyond

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www.psa.org.au

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Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy!

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Enjoy a bout of winter wellness

Comvita has released a range of **Winter Wellness** products in the lead up to this year's cooler months, designed to keep the winter woes away. Based on Manuka honey and propolis, the range includes a **Comvita Propolis Herbal Elixir**, **Comvita Oral Spray**, **Comvita COF-EX Dry**, **Comvita COF-EX Chesty**, **Comvita Children's Manuka Honey Elixirs** and **Comvita Children's Lemon & Honey Lollipops**.

Manuka honey is claimed to have antibacterial and antiseptic properties, and to help soothe and treat symptoms related to the common cold and flu; whilst propolis - which also comes from bees - has bacterial fighting qualities, and contains high levels of active bioflavonoids - known for their antioxidant properties.

RRP: \$8.95-\$18.95 depending on the product.

Stockist: 1800 466 392

Website: www.comvita.com.au



A new prodige emerges

Clarins has launched a new generation of gel-based lip-gloss, **Gloss Prodige**, which combines ultimate shine, intense colour and long lasting wear. Key ingredients in the gloss include hyaluronic acid to enhance fuller looking lips, radiance boosting pearls to optimise light reflection, a high concentration of pigments in an ultra shiny texture to ensure intense gloss and even colour, and raspberry oil to nourish and hydrate. The Prodige Gloss comes in eight shades: Chocolate, Nude, Rose, Candy, Grenadine, Raspberry, Blackberry and Papaya.

RRP: \$35

Stockist: 02 9663 4277

Website: www.adorebeauty.com.au

Lovely buttery skin

Lanolips' new **Lovely Lanolin** collection includes a **Triple Buttermilk Body Balm**, designed to nourish and hydrate very dry skin. The product features ultra pure medical grade lanolin, as well as milk extracts and Vitamin E to soften skin, and leave it with a silky protective veil for ongoing and lasting hydration. The Buttermilk body balm can be used every day for long lasting protection and hydration.

RRP: \$23.95

Stockist: 02 9663 4277

Website: www.lanolips.com



Burt shows its sensitive side

Burt's Bees new **Sensitive Skin** range has been developed to provide a natural skincare solution for people with delicate and highly irritable skin. The range includes a **Facial Cleanser**, **Daily Moisturising Cream**, **Night Cream** and **Eye Cream** and is 99% natural. The star ingredient of all products in the range is cotton extract, which boosts skin hydration and helps to improve the skin's barrier function, thus increasing the softness and suppleness of skin. Other key ingredients include rice extract, to help increase cellular survival as well as skin repair and protection; soothing aloe vera; and white genepi extract and eyebright - both known for their anti-inflammatory properties.

RRP: \$19.95-\$29.95

Stockist: 1300 855 478

Website: www.burtsbees.com.au

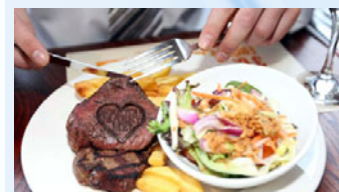


DISPENSARY CORNER

BEING 29 Feb, today is the traditional day when ladies can propose marriage to their boyfriends - and a UK restaurant chain is hoping they will want to "say it with steak".

The Beefeater Grill is offering a 7 oz Rump Steak branded with the words "Will You Marry Me" (as pictured below) - but it has to be ordered today.

A spokesperson for Beefeater said the move was quite logical, given that "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach".



AND while we're on the subject of nutrition, Fiji's Castaway Island is set to launch an innovative new menu, with one of the key ingredients being the American Iguana.

The resort's Executive Chef, Lance Seeto, has confirmed that as well as local food he will create a menu featuring the reptile, which is an endemic pest on some of Fiji's islands after being introduced some time ago.

According to the *Fiji Times* the tasty iguanas provide plenty of meat, able to grow up to 1.5 metres in length.

AUTHORITIES in China have announced a new policy which softens the previous harsh rhetoric of the country's one-child policy.

The government says the current "nasty" slogans must be phased out, responding to zealous local officials who have used such tag lines as "If you don't have your tubes tied, your house will be demolished".

Other distasteful slogans to be outlawed also include the catchy "we would rather scrape your womb than allow you to have a second child".