

Help
prevent
that
nasty
tasting
drip
down
their
throat.

Drixine No Drip Formula provides non-drowsy relief from nasal congestion due to allergies, sinusitis, cold and flu. It works within minutes and lasts for up to 12 hours. And because it is designed to stay where it sprays, it helps prevent that nasty tasting drip down the back of the throat.

The nasal spray that stays where it sprays



Drixine No Drip Formula contains oxymetazoline HCl. Always read the label. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist, see your healthcare professional. © 2012 MSD Consumer Care, Inc. All rights reserved. RESP-1010959-0013 MDRI0045 4/2012.

Today in Pharmacy

TODAY Pharmacy Daily is featuring a **front full page** on Drixine's No Drip Formula, which is designed to provide non-drowsy relief from nasal congestion and to prevent back of throat dripping.

MEANWHILE Reform is also promoting its \$5,000 pharmacy giveaway on **page four** of today's issue.

PSA on Budget

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia is urging the Government to facilitate the creation of the Pharmacists and Chronic Disease program in tomorrow's Budget.

The program sees pharmacists playing a key role in targeting shortcomings in the safety and quality of health services for high-risk population groups.

"The Pharmacists and Chronic Disease program has been designed to give the Government the tools to address issues in remote Aboriginal communities, an area of particular and ongoing need," said Acting President of the PSA, Dr Claire O'Reilly.

The program also includes a mental health focus for patients during transition phases, such as from hospitals to care or home.

Describing the need for the program O'Reilly said that "the very reason these population groups are at risk is because for too long they have been the 'forgotten people' in the health system and if they continue to slip through the healthcare gaps their health needs compound into very serious health and welfare issues."

Neighbourhood store boost

TERRY White Chemists is expanding its reach into more neighbourhood and community sites, with its plan to roll out 75 to 80 small format stores outside of the traditional shopping centre format.

"We are trying to bring health-care solutions and support into the neighbourhoods and community," said Terry White Chief Executive,

Anthony White.

The roll out is expected to occur over the next three years, and will see the pharmacy giant expand its current 160 store holding by more than a third.

The community stores will be smaller in size than their shopping centre brethren (usually around 330 square metres), due to the size restrictions usually present in community settings, and will each measure around 220 square metres.

The plan has so far seen the pharmacy chain sign contracts for seven new neighbourhood sites across the nation and open one new smaller store in Victoria this week.

Apart from reaching more community customers, White said that the smaller store decision is also a fiscal move.

"We are now operating in a quasi global market, with rents in Australia nearly 10 times the US equivalent," White said.

"It's also harder for pharmacists to access credit," he added.

TGA drug proposals

THE TGA is seeking comments on its proposed advisory statements for fexofenadine and loperamide.

Proposed advisory statements for fexofenadine include: do not use during pregnancy or breastfeeding unless advised by your doctor or pharmacist.

Proposed statements for loperamide (when supplied as an OTC) include: Do not give to children under 12 years; If the condition persists after two days of treatment seek medical advice; Do not use during pregnancy or breastfeeding unless advised by your doctor or pharmacist; If you get an allergic reaction stop taking and see your doctor immediately; Drink plenty of water; See your doctor or pharmacist before taking this product if you have a fever, severe stomach pain, bloody diarrhoea or ongoing medical condition affecting the bowel; and Do not take if you suffer a medical condition where constipation should be avoided.

See www.tga.gov.au.

Bowel concerns

THE Government's pre-budget announcement may be sending mixed messages about when to screen for bowel cancer, according to Bowel Cancer Australia (BCA).

Speaking on behalf of the organisation, Julien Wiggins, Chief Executive of BCA, said the only action for bowel cancer screening, in this year's pre-budget announcement is the addition of people aged 60 years.

"That means from next year we will have a five-year screening program for people at 50, 55, 60 and 65 years," he said.

"However, medical professionals and guidelines recommend screening at least every two years from age 50 - so 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60 and so on," he added.

In a statement following the pre-budget release, BCA said that it is disappointed that its consistent calls for screening at least every two years for people aged 50 and over, have been ignored and that there is no real indication of when this is going to occur.

"Medical recommendations are there for a reason and the Government itself recommends two yearly screening," Wiggins said.

AUSSIE FAVOURITE TURNS 160



Bosisto's Eucalyptus is celebrating 160 years in pharmacy this year!

To celebrate it is giving 5 lucky **Pharmacy Daily** readers the chance to win a Bosisto's Eucalyptus 160th Commemorative Pack, valued at \$60 each.

First in eucalyptus since 1852, Bosisto's is famous for helping soothe coughs and colds in winter.

Use a few capfuls of the Oil in hot water as a vapour inhalant, or spray the lovely bushland aroma of Bosisto's Eucalyptus Spray to help kill 99.99 percent of germs.

Bosisto's has a range of 'birthday' activities planned this year - for more information contact 1800 003 431 or visit www.fgb.com.au.

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

Which birthday is Bosisto's Eucalyptus Oil celebrating this year?

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Weekly Comment

Welcome to *Pharmacy Daily's* weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is

Dr Rod Hannaford,
Dermatologist Consultant with Skin and Cancer Foundation Australia.



Exposure to sunlight causes immunosuppression in the skin, ageing changes and skin neoplasia.

As we are all living longer, it is important to limit our exposure to sunlight as much as possible.

Simple measures such as limiting exposure to the high intensity sunlight between the hours of 10 am and 3 pm, wearing sun protective clothing including broad brimmed hats, and sunglasses, and providing as much shade as possible in play and work areas are important.

Sunscreens should be applied regularly during the day especially if swimming and drying the skin.

These should be classed as broad spectrum, indicating good protection in the UVA range of ultraviolet light.

My personal preferences for UVA blockers are avobenzone especially if photostabilised, and zinc oxide and titanium oxide.

Sunscreens probably also need to be applied when driving a car as UVA can penetrate window glass.

Since one pathway to skin cancer involves the production of free radicals in the skin, causing DNA damage and mutations in key genes, it has long been hoped that vitamins, acting as anti-oxidants, would prevent or reduce the incidence of skin cancer.

Niacinamide is the amide of vitamin B₃, niacin. Nicotinic acid is converted to niacinamide in the skin.

Unlike nicotinic acid, niacinamide doesn't usually cause flushing. Oral and topical niacinamide have been shown to prevent the immunosuppression arising from sunlight exposure to the skin.

In mice, niacinamide has also been shown to prevent skin cancer, but this has yet to be proven in humans. It may be that niacinamide becomes a useful component of sunscreens in the future.

It is particularly important to limit sun exposure in infancy, and to avoid episodes of sun burning.

Sunburning is most closely linked to the risk of developing melanoma.

Pharmacists' role shake-up

PHARMACISTS across the US could be in for a position shake-up, if the Food and Drug Administration decides to go ahead with its proposal to allow the over-the-counter sale of certain drugs that would otherwise require a prescription, for nonprescription use under conditions of safe use.

Examples of these conditions would include: requiring pharmacist intervention to ensure appropriate nonprescription use; and the use of innovative technologies, such as diagnostics approved or cleared by FDA for use in the pharmacy or "other settings".

"Kiosks or other technological aids in pharmacies or on the Internet could lead consumers through an algorithm for a particular drug product," the FDA said.

In addition, for some drug products that require an initial prescription, the FDA suggested that the product could be made available as a nonprescription product with a condition of safe use for the purpose of product refills; whilst some drug products that would otherwise require a prescription could be approved as nonprescription drug products with some type of pharmacist intervention as their condition of safe use.

"Some diseases or conditions

might require confirmation of a diagnosis or routine monitoring using a diagnostic test (e.g., a blood test for cholesterol levels or liver function) that could be available in a pharmacy," the FDA said.

"A pharmacist, or consumer, could then use the results to determine whether use of a certain drug product is appropriate," the FDA added.

Other potential roles for the pharmacist, according to the FDA, could include assessing whether the consumer has any conditions or other risk factors that would indicate that the drug should not be used, or assisting the consumer in choosing between various drug products.

"For drugs that require use of a diagnostic test, creating a pathway for nonprescription use may result in the development by industry of diagnostics suitable for use by the patient," the FDA said.

In addition, the FDA is also considering whether the same drug product could be simultaneously available as both a prescription and nonprescription product with conditions of safe use.

"Dual availability could help ensure greater access to needed medications by making obtaining them more flexible," the FDA said.

MEANWHILE the plan has not been met with widespread welcome, with the American Academy of Family Physicians saying that allowing pharmacists to dispense drugs for nonprescription use could endanger patient health and their relationship with their GP.

"Allowing the pharmacist authority to dispense medication without consulting with the patient's physician first could seriously compromise the physician's ability to coordinate the care of multiple problems of many patients," the AAFP said.

Pharmacists, according to the AAFP, should work in collaboration with GP's to "optimise the therapeutic effect of pharmaceutical agents in patient care to achieve the desired outcomes while maintaining overall efficiency".

Heart awareness

THIS week the PSA is encouraging pharmacists to get onboard with the Heart Week (6-12 May) activities, particularly the new Heart Foundation's 'Will you recognise your heart attack?' program.

"The National Heart Foundation of Australia recommends that its action plan and fact sheet, along with education and counselling, be given to coronary heart disease patients before discharge from hospital, or during cardiac rehabilitation and that pharmacists also distribute them," the PSA said.

For more info, and to download the free action plan and fact sheet visit heartattackfacts.org.au.

DISPENSARY CORNER

NATURE at work.

Some zoo visitors may be excused for thinking that zoo animals are just a few steps from tame, with their relaxed attitudes towards humans, however one lioness in a US zoo has proved that you can take the lion out of the wild, but never the wild out of the lion.

The four-year old lioness, Kya, was caught on film trying desperately to get at a toddler who was wearing a zebra-like white and black striped outfit and was sitting on the other side of her glass cage.

The toddler is oblivious to the fact that Kya is not trying to play nice, calling her "kitty kitty" as Kya tries to claw her way through the glass.

"We were not worried," said the toddler's mother who filmed the interaction, adding "We thought it was hilarious."

"We didn't even realise he looked like a zebra until we got home but a lot of the animals in the zoo - the crocodiles and the jaguars - apparently did, they would come up to the glass and look at him," the mother added.

To view the clip [CLICK HERE](#).

IT'S a bird, it's a plane, no...it's Jetman.

Jetpacks are one step closer to becoming a reality for the common man, following the flight of Jetman in Rio de Janeiro.

Jetman (aka Yves Rossy), a Swiss daredevil and former fighter pilot, flew across the iconic Rio skyline for 11 minutes and 35 seconds, after dropping out of a helicopter.

After falling from the chopper Rossy flicked a switch on his carbon-kevlar Jetwing suit which then activated its four engines which engaged and kept him moving through the air at around 305kms/hr.

Jetman's suit also enabled him to use his arms, legs and shoulders to steer, pitch and descend.

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