

Pharmacy audit

AUSTRALIA'S Fair Work Ombudsman has advised union group Professional Pharmacists Australia, that they will contact pharmacies they have chosen to audit this week, to determine whether they comply with workplace laws.

PPA has urged any pharmacists who believe they are being paid less than their lawful rates of pay to contact the union immediately.

PPA says it campaigned for this national audit after a probe into Queensland pharmacies revealed a "culture of illegal underpayments".

Further info on 1300 273 762 or professionalpharmacists.com.au

PBPA deadline

THE Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority (PBPA) has advised that the cut-off date for submission to the August 2013 PBPA meeting is 26 April 2013.

The PBPA Secretariat no longer writes directly to companies inviting submissions.

Project STOP researched

PHARMACISTS are more likely to participate in anti-pseudoephedrine diversion programs such as Project STOP if they know what is happening to the information they provide to the police.

That's one of the key findings of a new study published by Dr Julianne Webster from the Griffith University School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Pharmacists in Queensland and Victoria were invited to take part in the project via announcements in *Pharmacy Daily* during 2009 as well as via emails from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

Participants described their attitude to Project STOP, with the collation of the results indicating a range of factors influencing the scheme's effectiveness.

About 600 pharmacists took part, of which 77% always used the Project STOP system in the course of supplying pseudoephedrine.

Webster compared responses from the different states, with

influences including regulatory requirements, interest in assisting the police, complying with possible audits and ensuring that informed decisions are made.

Reasons for not using Project STOP included instances where the customer had a prescription, where the customer was trusted, if the therapeutic need was already established, if the pharmacist was too busy, or if the customer was threatening.

Interviews with pharmacists showed that female pharmacists who worked alone, particularly in the evening, were unlikely to refuse to supply pseudoephedrine to a customer who was intimidating.

Relationships with police were also seen as important, with just under half of pharmacists feeling that police didn't use the data from Project STOP effectively.

Project STOP was described as an "innovative response to a prevalent drug problem," encompassing police mobilising community pharmacy in a "guardianship role" to stop and prevent diversion.

"Community pharmacists, in the main, strongly support Project STOP and agree it is an effective mechanism to assist them to make more informed decisions about therapeutic sales," the report read.

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

EAHP best practice

THE European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP) has launched a search for examples of successful initiatives to improve hospital pharmacy practice across Europe.

It's part of a project by the EAHP Scientific Committee to build an "inventory map" of good practice initiatives to inspire hospital pharmacists in every country.

Hospital pharmacists are being invited to submit examples in the area of clinical pharmacy, clinical trials, compounding/medicines production, education and training, process improvement, procurement, logistics, resource management and use of technology - for details see www.eahp.eu.

New TGA processes

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced that the outcomes of the review of business processes for minor variations to the entry of prescription medicines in the ARTG will be implemented effective Wednesday 22 May 2013.

From this date, relevant information for sponsors will be published on the TGA website, including updated guidance documents, which take into account all comments received during consultation on the draft documents, with the move following TGA Industry Working Group Meetings held last year.

New forms will be introduced for each type of minor variation, which will take into account all comments received during consultation on the draft forms.

Prior TGA approval will be required for all new minor variations. The TGA has committed to processing all new self-assessable requests (SARs) and Category 3 applications within 45 working days.

Additionally, new safety-related requests requiring TGA evaluation will be processed as minor variations; and the relevant fee category will be applied from this time onwards.

The changes are intended to enhance the robustness of the regulatory framework as well as increase the certainty for sponsors in TGA processing times for self-assessable variations.

The TGA says it will also improve the transparency of its processes by updating the relevant appendices of the Australian Regulatory Guidelines for Prescription Medicines to provide clear guidance on TGA requirements for the different types of minor variations to registered prescription medicines and more information about the decision-making process.

To ensure that the changes are implemented with minimal disruption, there will be a three-month transition period for pre-approval of all minor variations and new statutory timeframes for SARs.

The transition period ends 22 August 2013.

WIN AUSTRALIAN SKINCARE FROM PLUNKETT'S



Every day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving two lucky readers the chance to win a **Plunkett's** prize pack, valued at over \$26 each.

Each prize pack contains Plunkett's Vita-E Natural Vitamin E Cream 100g, Plunkett's 99% Pure Aloe Vera Gel 75g and Plunkett's Sorbolene Concentrated Moisturiser 100g.

Vita E contains high potency (100iu/g) natural vitamin E plus

rosehip oil and can be used as a moisturiser or for rashes, abrasions, scars or stretchmarks. Plunkett's Sorbolene is pharmaceutical grade and non greasy. Plunkett's Aloe Vera is 99% pure certified organic aloe vera - no added water, parabens, fillers, alcohol, petrochemicals, colours or fragrance.

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

In which country are Plunkett products made?

Hint! Visit www.plunketts.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Mimoy Lee, a Locum Pharmacist**.

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



Heavenly beauty from Arch Angel

Arch Angel by British boutique brand MeMeMe Cosmetics has won the 'Glosscars' Award for Best New Brow Product 2013. MeMeMe's best-selling tinted brow gel and highlighter combo has won the hearts of beauty lovers and become a makeup bag staple. Loved by makeup artists for its dual functionality, and by makeup lovers for its ease of application, Arch Angel shapes and defines, grooms and highlights.

Stockists: 02 8412 1133

RRP: \$24.95

Website: www.mememecosmetics.com.au

ORLY's flash glam winter collection

ORLY's new Flash Glam Winter Collection of prismatic glitter polishes transforms manicures from drab to fab this winter. The bright and bold range includes five, chunky glitter style shades in fiery tones - warm gold, bronze, red, chocolate brown and charcoal grey - plus a pure black for a base colour. On shelf in June.

Stockists: 1300 769 355

RRP: \$18.95 each

Website: www.orlybeauty.com.au



Nail polish gone in a flash (or a twist!)

Designer Brands' new **Twist & Go Instant Nail Polish Remover** is a magical solution for when you need a quick colour change. Described as "possibly the best make-up invention of all time", it's as simple as dipping your fingernail into the little pot, twisting it around for about a second and then pulling it out, sans polish! It promises to shave minutes off your manicure time with no mess and no fuss, and it's also small enough to carry with you anywhere for when you need a quick mani-fix on the run. It also contains nail nurturing ingredients such as Aloe Vera, Green Tea, Vitamins C&E and Royal Jelly to leave skin feeling soft and moisturised.

Stockists: 03 9205 1000

RRP: \$4.99

Website: www.dbcosmetics.com.au



Night lights for little ones

Holly Blue has a range of fun nightlights for kids guaranteed to make bedtime more fun. The range includes Kinderglo portable, rechargeable, colour changing LED lights; mini Zzzoolights in elephant, cat, fish and penguin designs and Birds of Light wax lights, suitable for indoors or outdoors.

Stockists: sales@likco.com.au

RRP: \$17 - \$54.00

Website: www.hollyblue.com.au



Diclegis approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Diclegis (doxylamine succinate and pyridone hydrochloride) to treat pregnant women experiencing nausea and vomiting.

Diclegis, marketed by Canadian firm Duchesnay, is a delayed release daily tablet intended for women who have not responded to dietary and lifestyle modifications.



DISPENSARY CORNER

A 'frog-phobic' man in the town of Clarence, New York has received US\$1.6 million in compensation after runoff water from a nearby development turned his 40-acre property into wetlands and inundated it with amphibians.

The man said his fear of frogs could be traced to a childhood incident in Italy when a man holding bullfrogs chased him away after he'd wandered from the vineyard where his parents worked.

Decades later, he found himself describing his phobia to a jury, calling himself "a prisoner in my own home".

As part of a post-verdict agreement, the town will pay for the digging of ditches to help dry out the man's land.

The property owner said his plans involved creatures much larger than frogs.

"I'm going to put cows out there," he said.

A SWISS teenager who lost her driver's licence after a high speed chase has told police she was driving very fast because she was "desperate to get home to use the toilet".

19-year-old Martina Koller was clocked on the busy A1 motorway and officers followed in hot pursuit, eventually catching up with her when she pulled up outside her home.

A police spokesman said "If she had not been in such a rush she would have seen that she drove past at least four public toilets".