

Pharmacy DAILY

Friday 22 Feb 2013

PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

Today in Pharmacy

TODAY'S issue of *Pharmacy Daily* features two pages of news, and a Bosisto's Tea Tree competition on p2.

PLUS see **page three** for a full page from Reform Pharmacy which details its services including its no cost, no contract policy.

5th Community Pharmacy Agreement

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Learn more about Electronic Transfer of Prescriptions and how they are transforming the Community Pharmacy ehealth journey.

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Department of Health and Ageing

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The Electronic Transfer of Prescription Education Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement between the Commonwealth and The Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

CSIRO has flu breakthrough

SCIENTISTS at Australia's CSIRO may have arrived at a solution to safeguard the nation against epidemic and pandemic flu strains.

The breakthrough development is the result of collaboration between the CSIRO, the University of British Columbia and the University of Bath, which resulted in the creation of a drug that has been proven to be effective in preventing the spread of different strains of influenza in laboratory models - including resistant strains of the virus.

"In order to infect cells, flu viruses bind onto sugars on the cell surface," the researchers said.

"To be able to spread they need to remove these sugars.

"The new drug works by

preventing the virus from removing sugars and blocking the virus from infecting more cells.

"It is hoped the drug will also be effective against future strains of the virus," the researchers added.

In addition, CSIRO scientist Dr Jenny McKimm-Breschkin, said that as the site where the drug binds is found in all flu strains, the new drug is expected to be effective even against future flu strains.

It is unlikely however that the Australian public will see the antiviral drug anytime in the near future, with researchers estimating that it will take up to seven years before the drug is released.

An end to insulin pens?

HOSPITALS in the US are being advised to move away from routinely using insulin pens on diabetic patients, following the possible exposure of 700 patients to HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C in a New York hospital.

The exposure was due to the reuse of insulin pens on multiple patients after a change of disposable needle.

"All it takes is one or two individuals who are not aware that it is unsafe to place a new disposable needle on a pen used for one patient and use it to deliver a dose of insulin to another patient," the Institute said.

"Completely controlling for this is difficult, perhaps even impossible, given that unsafe pen use has persisted despite educational efforts and monitoring," the Institute added.

Corum profit surge

PHARMACY software supplier Corum Group has reported its results for the six months to 31 Dec, with after-tax profit improving 32.15 to \$3.371 million.

Revenue was unchanged from the previous corresponding period at \$10.87 million, with the Corum Health Services software division producing a \$1.82m operating profit - a huge improvement on the previous result of \$119,000 which included a non-recurring expense of \$968,000 for impairment of software development costs.

"All segments of this division improved compared to last year," the company said.

Corum's directors have announced the declaration of an unfranked dividend of .6 cents per ordinary share.

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Events Calendar

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* events calendar, opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

22-24 Feb: NSW Guild 'CPD by the Sea' at Novotel Manly Pacific; for details see www.cpdbythesea.com.au.

07 Mar: Welcome to the Profession evening; Benchmark Wine Bar, Canberra; 7-9pm; www.psa.org.au.

17 Mar: Clinical Intensive: Diabetes; Pharmacy House, Thesiger Court, Deakin, ACT; www.psa.org.au.

21-24 Mar: Guild APP2013 national conference, Gold Coast Convention Centre - more info www.appconference.com.

02-09 May: PSA Offshore Refresher Conference, London - more info 1300 139 293.

31 May-02 Jun: PSA CPEXpo, Hordern Pavilion Sydney - see www.psa.org.au/cpexpo.

21-23 June: NSW Pharmacy-National Convention & Exhibition. Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. For details see: www.nswpharmacy-nce.com.au.

11-13 Oct: Pharmacy Australia Congress in Brisbane - details www.psa.org.au/pac.

14-16 Oct: Global Drug Safety Conference and Exposition, Brisbane - for more details email qldadmin@psa.org.au.

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The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

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Mini Swisse in 7 Eleven

SWISSE is launching a range of 10-pack supplements into 7 Eleven convenience stores.

The on-the-go packs include Swisse Men's and Women's Ultivite.

Health is a priority for Oz

AUSTRALIANS care more about their health than careers and financial security, according to the *OPSM Future Vision Report*.

Guardian celebrates customer satisfaction



GUARDIAN Pharmacy has been awarded the coveted 2012 Roy Morgan Research Customer Satisfaction Award for Pharmacy.

The award is the result of a survey of 50,000 Australians, in which each month, Roy Morgan Research publishes the top five organisations from its trusted Customer Satisfaction monitor, under different categories.

The winner for the calendar year is the organisation that achieves the most months with a number one ranking.

Under the Pharmacies/Chemists category, Guardian was a standout, being ranked number one seven times in 2012.

Speaking in the wake of the win Gary Dunne, Sigma Pharmaceuticals COO, said "Sigma is proud to receive this Roy Morgan Award on behalf of all our Guardian Pharmacies".

"This award is testimony to our pharmacists and their teams who are passionate about the level of service they provide all Australians, every day," Dunne added.

Pictured above at the awards is (from left): Brian Tomlin; National Operations Manager, Sigma; Marissa Doyle, National Marketing Manager, Sigma; David Lam and Sam Koloneos, Guardian Pharmacy Tunstall Square, Doncaster East.

WIN A BOSISTO'S TEA TREE PACK

Pharmacy Daily has teamed up with Bosisto's this week and is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a Bosisto's Tea Tree prize pack, valued at \$45 each.

What's the secret to natural first aid? Bosisto's Tea Tree.

This Australian favourite contains 100%

pure tea tree oil – and is the perfect natural remedy for treating minor cuts and scrapes, soothing the itch of insect bites and relieving Tinea.

It can also be used in so many other ways throughout the home - from deodorising bins and pet areas to killing bacteria and eliminating odours.

For more information or a free handy hints

pack 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.

Bosisto's Tea Tree Spray can relieve the symptoms of what?

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winners, Ferha Husain from Regional Healthcare Care Group and Eliana Della Flora of SA Health.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

SUPER mossies.

Laying awake at night listening to the shrill buzz of a tiny vampire as it advances and retreats, many may wonder whether mosquitoes do in fact have some form of dark super power.

Well it now seems as if some do.

Scientists researching Queensland's Aedes aegypti subset species of mosquito have determined that they do in fact have a very unfortunate superpower, that of being the ability to adapt to insect repellent.

Commissioned by OPSM, the study was conducted among 1,035 Australians aged 18 years and over, and found that when asked about what they value, nine out of ten placed their health above their career, whilst more than three quarters valued health over financial security.

The report also found that Aussies are fairly optimistic about the future of healthcare, with 64% saying that they believe that healthcare will only improve further.

When asked about vision health, 94% said that wanting to see the world using their own eyes will always be important, whilst almost four in five (78%) Australians agree that improvements in technology mean they get to see more of the future than they otherwise would have.

Interestingly, when asked to look 80 years into the future around changes in consumer products, Aussies want to see innovations like glasses that increase vision or allow people to see in the dark being offered, ahead of things like invisibility cloaks and non-melting ice.

The research, published in *PLOS ONE*, found that whilst the Aedes mozzie was at first repelled by N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET), after a mere three hours it was able to adapt to the smell and was able to return for a bite of dinner.

The study, whilst nightmarish for those who think a quick spray and a citronella candle will protect them from the irritating buzzing which announces a mozzie's arrival at a BBQ, has more worrying implications, being that the Aedes breed is known to be a major carrier of Dengue fever.



Integrative medicine

PHARMACISTS are invited to join a short Integrative Medicine course immediately after APP, between 24-25 March.

The course is accredited for 27.0 Group 2 CPD credits and covers complementary medicines, see www.integratedshortcourses.com.

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Coral Coast, QLD (Job# 2009180)
Exp PIC to oversee community & private hospital phcy. \$100K package
- **Pharmacist** - Canberra, ACT (Job# 2009561)
Leading pharmacy brand. F/T role. 38 hrs/wk. All levels of exp considered.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Melbourne West, VIC (Job# 2009639)
P/time, 2 shifts/wk, 6-9pm, 30mins NW of the CBD. Growing community.

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