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## Asthma puffer recall

**GLAXOSMITHKLINE** has initiated a voluntary recall of ten batches of Centolin and Asmol inhalers through Australia.

The batch numbers affected by the recall include: Ventolin: KN7170, KN7173, KN7178 and KN7179; and Asmol: KL6790, KL6795, KL6796, KL6797, KL6798 and KL6799.

To confirm the relevant batch number, the canister needs to be removed from the tube and the batch number is located on the bottom of the canister label.

According to GSK, the affected batches do not pose a serious health risk, but rather the recall was sparked due to a fault in the delivery mechanism leading to an inconsistent dose.

In devices which are affected, the dose of salbutamol may not be delivered in full.

GSK has advised patients with an impacted puffer to return it to their pharmacy for a free replacement, whilst healthcare professionals have been asked to "apply clinical judgement to patients who experience a worsening of their asthma".

## Reid leaves Guild for LASA

**PATRICK** Reid is set to hang up his hat as National Director - Business Development, ICT and eHealth at the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, in favour of taking up the position of the new CEO of Leading Age Services Australia (LASA).

"Patrick's appointment is a real triumph for LASA and the aged care sector," said LASA Chairman, General Peter Cosgrove.

"He is a very talented executive with a tremendous background in advocacy and stakeholder representation, governance, negotiation and healthcare management, all of which equip him well to lead LASA in this most significant of times for our industry," Cosgrove added.

During his time with the Guild Reid was closely involved in negotiating and implementing many aspects of the Community Pharmacy Agreements.

The move will see Reid take up his new role on 07 February, with the inaugural LASA CEO, Gerard Mansour, stepping down to support

a family member with a private medical issue.

"As a pharmacist I understand the challenges facing the aged care sector and particularly those charged with caring for and housing older Australians," said Reid.

"I am committed to working for the LASA members and their clients to ensure that a unified voice is heard by government and stakeholders," he added.

Meanwhile, the Guild has congratulated Reid on his appointment saying "Community pharmacy has an important role in aged care in Australia, so it will be good to have an experienced community pharmacist in such a senior role in the sector".

Speaking on behalf of the Guild, National President Kos Sclavos said "The Guild has worked closely with LASA, particularly in relation to eHealth and community pharmacy involvement in aged care, and Pat Reid will be well placed to assist both organisations to progress these programs".

"On behalf of the Guild, I thank Pat Reid for his contribution to the Guild over many years, both as an elected official in the A.C.T, and in a senior management role as one of our national directors in our Canberra secretariat," he added.

## OzHealth App launch

**THE** AIHW has launched a new iTunes OzHealth App, which includes features such as topical fact sheets, detailed glossary and info on the AIHW.

## Hearty heat warnings

**AUSTRALIANS** with heart disease or people who are taking medicines for blood pressure or excess fluid, such as diuretics, are being warned to take extra care during the latest heat waves sweeping the nation, as they are at higher risk of falling ill or suffering heart complications.

The warning, from the National Heart Foundation of Australia, follows recent studies, including one by Cunrui Huang, of the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, which showed an increase in heart attacks and death from heart attack during an extreme heat event.

"People most at risk are those with a chronic disease, such as heart disease, as well older people, children, people taking certain types of medicines, and people engaged in strenuous outdoor activity or physical labour," said the Heart Foundation's National Director of Cardiovascular Health, Dr Robert Grenfell.

"Sweating leads to dehydration, which reduces the volume of blood.

"This makes the heart pump harder in order to circulate the reduced amount of blood around the body.

"For people with heart disease and those who are at high risk of a heart attack, these changes can overwhelm the heart and result in a heart attack," Grenfell added.

To help sufferers manage the heat, the Heart Foundation suggests that they stay out of the sun and reduce normal activity level, and also find out from their health care professional how much they should drink during the heat.



**Pharmacy Practice Incentives (PPI)**

## DAAs/Clinical Interventions claim form due by 14 January 2013

The DAAs/Clinical Interventions claim form MUST be lodged with Medicare between 1- 14 January 2013

**Click to access Claim form**

IMPORTANT: Claims received by Medicare after 14 January 2013 will be rejected.



Australian Government  
Department of Health and Ageing



The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia

This Project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

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**Everest**

## Weekly Comment

Welcome to **PD's** weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is

**Richard Manthey,**  
National Manager  
at Pharmacy Choice.



Measuring store performance is critical to the success of any retail business and, today, there are many methods and a wide range of tools available to help you gain fast and easy access to data.

But having the necessary knowledge is only one part of effectively measuring your store performance.

Are you assessing your business often enough and are you measuring the right metrics?

And importantly, are you implementing the right actions from the knowledge you have gained?

When measuring your store performance it is important to:

1. Define your goals
2. Develop methods to collect and organise data
3. Conduct research and compare yourself to the competition and the market
4. Understand your strengths and weaknesses, so you know where you can apply the appropriate actions
5. Interpret the information and generate an action plan
6. Implement the action plan
7. Continue to measure store performance

Speak to your retail support program and make sure they help you access all of the data available to generate a personalised strategy for your pharmacy.

This will help to not only understand the opportunities to change behaviours in your store, but will allow you to see ways to make your daily operations more efficient and profitable for the longer term.

## AbbVie separates from Abbott

**THIS** month sees the launch of a new biopharmaceutical company, AbbVie, following its separation from Abbott.

Employing 21,000 people across 40 countries, including 200 Australians, the company's portfolio includes both growth brands and durable performers, including Humira, AndroGel, Lupron, Synagis, Creon, Synthroid, Kaletra, Norvir and Zemplar.

According to AbbVie, the company's long term growth will be fueled by a compelling pipeline of more than 20 mid to late stage clinical programs, as well as new discoveries to address diseases including Hepatitis C, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, spondyloarthropathies, multiple myeloma and endometriosis.

"The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to develop and market advanced therapies that address some of the world's most complex and serious diseases," an AbbVie statement said.

Meanwhile, before its launch as

an independent entity, AbbVie tripled the number of new molecular entities in its pipeline over the last several years.

## Vit D autism link

**A STUDY** published in the fourth quarter 2012 issue of *Dermato-Endocrinology* has linked Vitamin D with a lowered risk of autism in children.

The research looked at data on American children aged 6-17 years with autism in 2010, and found that autism prevalence was significantly inversely correlated with solar UVB doses.

According to the researchers the results strongly implicate vitamin D deficiency as an important risk factor for developing autism.

"Maternal vitamin D deficiency appears to play an important role although we cannot discount a role of vitamin D deficiency in early life.

"Further studies should evaluate the UVB-vitamin D-autism hypothesis in both pregnant women and children with autism," the researchers said.



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**KNOW** how to raise someone's blood pressure?

Annoy them with the four most irritating words of 2012 which have been listed on the Marist Poll as "whatever", "like", "Twitterverse" and "gotcha".

The poll, voted on in a national US survey, marks the third consecutive year "whatever" has topped the list, but also saw a hot favourite, "seriously" drop off the list altogether.

**THE** dangers of alcohol.

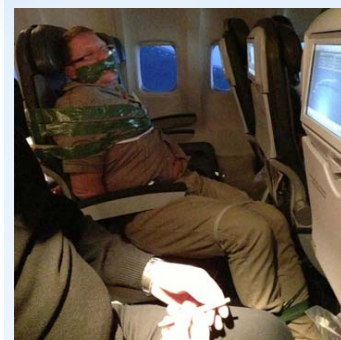
A man has learned the hard way of the dangers of overindulging in alcohol over the festive season, after he found himself bound and gagged on a six hour flight from Iceland to New York.

According to reports the furor began when the man decided it was a good idea to drink his entire quota of duty free alcohol in the first hour of the flight.

Quickly moving through several stages of drunkenness from jolly to annoying, snarky and then angry, the man ended up trying to choke the unfortunate woman sitting next to him, and then screamed that the plane was about to crash, before spitting on several other passengers.

It was during this very un-festive tirade that fellow passengers decided to quiet the man down using a roll of gaffa tape.

They managed to secure him to his seat for the duration of the flight, leaving him to sleep it off before his arrest upon arrival in New York.



## WIN A QR HEALTH™ PRIZE PACK



This week *PharmacyDaily* is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a Quick Response Health™ prize pack, valued at \$92 each.

Quick Response Health™ is a new brand from the Hydration Pharmaceuticals Trust – the makers of Hydralyte™. Quick Response Health™ is a new brand from the Hydration Pharmaceuticals Trust – the makers of Hydralyte™.

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For more information go to [www.quickreponsehealth.com](http://www.quickreponsehealth.com).

For your chance to win, simply be the first person to send in the correct answer to the question below to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**True or False: QR Him and QR Her are an everyday effervescent multivitamin tailored for men and women's individual health needs**