



## Imojev in Australia

**IMOJEV**, the first vaccine to offer single dose primary immunisation against Japanese encephalitis, is now available to Australian healthcare professionals for immediate use.

The vaccine, manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur, is recommended for patients traveling to India, and South East Asia including China, particularly for those visiting friends or relatives in rural areas.

Japanese encephalitis is transmitted by mosquitos, which acquire the virus mostly from pigs or water birds, and impacts an estimated 50,000 people across the globe a year with 10,000 deaths.

The primary course of vaccination for both adults and children is a single dose, two weeks prior to travel, with the dose predicted to last for four years in over 91% of adults.



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## Aussies resolve to lose weight

**MOST** Australian women aged between 18 and 24 have resolved to eat better in 2013, according to the *Young Women's Nutritional Survey* released this week.

Commissioned by the Dietitians Association of Australia, the survey found that 68% of 18-24 year olds have resolved to eat healthier in 2013 and 42% are hoping to lose weight.

Interestingly, the same survey conducted at the beginning of 2012 revealed a similar commitment to health throughout the 12 months to 2013.

Meanwhile the 2013 report also found that almost two in three young women tried to lose weight in the year prior to the survey, and just over a quarter (28%) said the process of trying to lose weight is an ongoing one for them.

"The survey found many young women lack the time or willpower to stick to their best intentions, with the time involved in preparing a nutritious meal and the temptations of take-away foods, snacks and sugary treats the main barriers to eating well," said DAA spokesperson and practicing dietitian, Melanie McGrice.

"Sadly, many young women fall down by setting their goals too high, and then give up when they can't reach those goals," she added.

As such, instead of "quick fix" dietary measures, the DAA has recommended making small changes and aiming at a "realistic and sustainable weight loss of around 2-4kg a month".

Other DAA tips for realistic weight loss and healthy living include

eating breakfast daily, cooking healthy meals at home, filling up on vegetables, packing lunch and snacks to take to work, being portion aware, enjoying treats in moderation, and keeping a food diary.

The comments come in the lead up to the DAA's Australia's Healthy Weight Week campaign (20 to 27 January), see [www.healthyweightweek.com.au](http://www.healthyweightweek.com.au).

## Antarctic krill

**BIOCEUTICALS** has kicked off 2013 with the launch of two Antarctic krill oil formulas that are ecologically sound.

The products include BioCeuticals UltraClean Antarctic Krill 1500mg (1500mg krill oil per capsule/30 capsule pack) and BioCeuticals UltraClean Antarctic Krill plus Q10 (500mg krill oil with 50mg coenzyme Q10 per capsule/60 capsule pack).

Call 1300 650 455 for details.

## AbbVie begins trading alone in 2013



**THE** 2nd January marked the first day of trade for the newly independent biopharmaceutical company, AbbVie (**PD** yesterday), following its separation from Abbott.

AbbVie employs 21,000 people across 40 countries, including 200 Australians and Kiwis in its Sydney and Wellington head offices.

In Australia, the company has been around for 75 years, and globally it has been in existence for 125 years.

In addition, Australia and NZ are in the top three contributors outside of the US in terms of numbers of sites and patients participating in AbbVie-supported clinical trials.

As such there are nearly 5,500 patients enrolled in AbbVie-supported clinical trials and studies at approximately 350 sites across Australia and NZ at any one time, in the areas of immunology, oncology and infectious disease.

In the wake of its separation from Abbott, locally AbbVie Australia and NZ will launch with the following portfolio of biologics and specialty-focused medicines: HUMIRA (adalimumab), Lucrin (leuprorelin acetate), Kaletra (lopinavir/ritonavir), Duodopa (levodopa/carbidopa) and Sevorane (sevoflurane).

Pictured above is the AbbVie team ringing the bell at the NYSE on Wall St for the first day of trade for 2013.

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### Guild Update

All Drug Administration Aids (DAAs) and/or Clinical Interventions PPI Periodic payment(s) application (claim forms) must be lodged with The Department of Human Services (Medicare) no later than 14 January 2013 for the current claiming period 1 October to 31 December 2012.

When lodging a claim form with Medicare it is not necessary to attach supporting documentation.

All evidence to support your claim must be retained by your pharmacy as detailed in the [PPI Program Specific Guidelines](#).

#### Change of Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS) approval number

If your PBS approval number has changed, it is the responsibility of the owner/pharmacist manager to update this change with Quality Care Pharmacy Program (QCPP) and the PPI registration system. Please refer to the [PPI Registration](#) page for further details.

#### What is a Clinical Intervention?

Under the [PPI Program Specific Guidelines](#), a clinical intervention is a professional activity undertaken by a registered pharmacist directed towards improving quality use of medicines and resulting in a recommendation for a change in a patient's:

- medication therapy; or
- medication taking behaviour; or
- means of administration.

It is a process to prevent and/or resolve an actual or potential drug-related problem.

A clinical intervention must relate to a medicine (prescription or non-prescription) and must be recorded using the D.O.C.U.M.E.N.T. classification system.

A clinical intervention does not include the following activities:

- routine prescription-related counselling;
- generic medicine substitution;
- Consumer Medication Information (CMI) provision; or
- professional activities undertaken to improve Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) during Home Medicine Review (HMR), Residential Medication Management Review (RMMR), MedsCheck or Diabetes MedsCheck services.

Don't forget, all claim forms must be lodged by 14 January 2013 for the current claiming period 1 October to 31 December 2012.



**The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia**

## EMA looks into Tredaptive

THE European Medicines Agency has started a review of the safety and efficacy of Tredaptive, Pelzont and Trevaclyn.

The drugs are identical medicines used to treat adults with dyslipidaemia (abnormally high levels of fat in the blood), particularly combined mixed dyslipidaemia and primary hypercholesterolaemia.

The review is the result of information provided to the EMA by Sharp & Dohme of the preliminary results of a large, long-term study comparing the clinical effects of adding these medicines to statins with statin treatment alone.

"The study raises questions about the efficacy of the medicine when added to statins, as this did not reduce the risk of major vascular events (serious problems with the heart and blood vessels, including heart attack and stroke) compared with statin therapy alone," the EMA said in a statement.

"In addition, in the preliminary results a higher frequency of non-fatal but serious side effects was seen in patients taking the medicines than in patients only taking statins," the EMA added.

The Agency's Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee is currently in the process of assessing the data and will make its recommendation to the Committee on Medicinal Products for Human Use (CMPHU) in the near future.

The CMPHU is expected to issue an opinion on the regulatory action required sometime this month.

While the review is ongoing, the EMA has recommended that no new patients should be started on treatment with these medicines or enrolled in clinical trials involving these medicines.

Conversely patients who are already using Tredaptive, Pelzont or Trevaclyn have been advised to keep taking the drugs, and to consult their GP if they have any questions.

## WIN A QR HEALTH™ PRIZE PACK



This week *Pharmacy Daily* 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™.

Q.R Health™ is a range of high potency, premium quality

effervescent vitamins and supplements. The 6 unique products in the Q.R Health™ range have been specifically formulated to maximise efficacy through a pleasant taste and delivery format.

Each prize pack includes all 6 products in the range: QR Defence; QR Her; QR Him; QR Strength; QR Energy & QR Immunity.

For more information go to [www.quickresponsehealth.com](http://www.quickresponsehealth.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: The 6 unique products in the QR Health range are high potency and made from premium quality ingredients**

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winners, **Deborah Caldera** from **Jardine's Chemmart Pharmacy** and **Amanda Smith** of **The Pharmacy Guild of Australia**.

### DISPENSARY CORNER

**NOT** all models calorie control.

A 2013 German calendar featuring men of all shapes posing in their underwear in front of aged cars has become an unexpected smash hit.

Crafted by Janet Schurmeyer as an antidote to the usual influx of bikini-clad model calendars where ladies drape themselves over sports cars, the unusual calendar saw the models (most friends of Schurmeyer) pose in their most comfortable undies.



### Lemon Detox fail

THE top three worst diets as voted on by Australian nutritionists include: the Lemon Detox Diet, the Acid and Alkaline Diet, and The Six Weeks to OMG Diet.

More than 230 members of Australia's peak nutrition body, the Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA), took part in an online survey to uncover the worst diets to avoid in 2013, with Lemon Detox topping the list with 74% of the vote.

The Acid and Alkaline Diet and The Six Weeks to OMG Diet took out the number two and three spots attracting votes from 42 and 40 percent of nutrition experts respectively.

Speaking in the wake of the results, DAA Spokesperson and accredited practicing dietitian, Melanie McGrice said "Don't put your health in the hands of celebrities-endorsed diets or products that make miraculous weight and fat-loss claims".

"Like many things in life, good health takes perseverance and commitment to a healthy lifestyle.

"Start with small, sustainable changes like going for regular walks.

"Extreme diet measures are unnecessary and counterproductive," she added.