

MaxMan IX capsules

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued a warning about a product called Maxman IX Capsules, after testing found that they contain the undeclared prescription substance sildenafil - despite the product label claims that it is 100% natural and contains no medicines.

GSK vax grants

GLAXOSMITHKLINE has launched its 2013 Adult Immunisation Grants program, offering four grants of \$20,000 each for health professionals to help promote effective and efficient adult immunisation programs - see immunisationawards.gsk.com.au.

Guild Update

New pharmacy resources

Community pharmacies will soon receive new resources to educate their customers on medicine safety and medicine brand choices.

The NPS MedicineWise Brand Choices campaign conveys a clear message that in most cases, different brands of medicines containing the same active ingredient are an equal choice.

The new resources feature the creative use of machinery cogs to dramatise how the same 'mechanism' or active ingredient is used in both generic and originator brands.

This week community pharmacists will receive the new NPS MedicineWise Brand Choices pack, including:

- An 'Equal choice of medicines' counter mat and pen
- New Brand Choices DL brochures.

Posters and DL brochure stands from the 2012 Brand Choices campaign are available to be re-ordered for free from the NPS MedicineWise website.

For more details **CLICK HERE**.



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

PSA Excellence nominations

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has opened nominations for its annual Awards for Excellence, which will be announced at PAC13 in Brisbane during October.

Categories include the Pharmacist of the Year, Young Pharmacist of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement Award - and each of the prestigious gongs comes with a Symbion Education Grant worth \$9,000.

Symbion is sponsoring the awards for the ninth year running, and ceo Patrick Davies said they aim to inspire pharmacists at all levels and in all sectors of the profession.

"They highlight the very high standards and quality that are a hallmark of the profession in Australia," he said.

And PSA National President Grant Kardachi said the awards acknowledge the achievers of the profession: those involved in innovative practice; those who are striving to raise practice standards; and pharmacists who, through their professionalism, provide a model of practice which others strive to emulate.

"The awards highlight the very high standards and quality that are a hallmark of the profession.

"Being recognised by their peers

and the profession is one reason these awards are so sought after and respected," Kardachi added.

Nomination forms are available by emailing ben.graham@psa.org.au, with applications closing on Friday 23 August.

APC fee schedule

THE Australian Pharmacy Council has released updated lists of fees for accreditation of pharmacy degree programs, starting at \$30,000 for initial assessment and annual fees of \$15,000 until 31 Dec lifting to \$17,000 from 01 Jan.

Accreditation of intern training programs costs \$5,000 plus \$50 per intern annually, while CPD accreditation organisations pay \$15,000 for an initial application plus a \$2,950 annual accreditation fee and \$3,500 for renewal of accreditation.

Effective 01 Jul APC's fees for examinations have also been revised to \$700 for the initial skills eligibility assessment (for example Australian/NZ graduates) plus a \$100 fee on a case by case basis to comply with DIAC requirements for independent skill migration applications.

See pharmacycouncil.org.au.

Win with Q.R Health this cold and flu season



Every day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a Quick Response Health™ prize pack containing QR Defence and QR Immunity.

Suffering from a cold or flu? Need a boost this Winter? Try a great tasting EFFERVESCENT drink of:

- Q.R DEFENCE Vitamin C 1000mg + Zinc + Bioflavonoids - Vitamin C and zinc help to maintain a healthy immune system or
- Q.R IMMUNITY Echinacea 6900 Echinacea can help relieve symptoms and reduce the duration of colds.

For more information go to www.quickresponsehealth.com.

To win, be one of the first 10 people to send in the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

True or False: High potency Echinacea can help relieve symptoms and reduce the duration of colds

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Aker BioMarine here

VERTICALLY integrated biotechnology firm Aker BioMarine has been announced as the major sponsor of the 2013 Complementary Healthcare Council of Australia Industry Awards Dinner, which will take place at Sydney's Sofitel Wentworth Hotel on 04 Sep.

Aker BioMarine recently launched into the Australian krill oil market with the certification of four Australian Innovation Patents, which provide eight year protection on innovations made on krill oil compositions currently being sold in Australia, as well as extraction of krill oil from denatured krill products.

"We have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to build a solid infrastructure for harvesting krill," said Aker BioMarine Australia managing director, Lalen Dogan.

The CHC dinner is part of its national conference 03-05 Sep.

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Send a Script update

THE developer of the "Send a Script" smartphone app has emphasised that the product does not contravene regulations requiring original paper prescriptions to be supplied to authorise dispensing (**PD Fri**).

Pharmacist Fabian McCann says the software contains an alert which reminds consumers of the need to provide the original script at the time of collection.

New HIV guidelines

THE World Health Organization has issued new guidelines on the treatment of patients with HIV, including offering antiretroviral therapy (ART) earlier in the course of the disease.

At the International AIDS Society 2013 conference the WHO said that treating HIV earlier can substantially reduce the risks of transmission to others, as well as keeping patients healthy longer.

The revised guidelines estimate that 25.9 million people will now benefit from ART, up from 9.2m.

EMA on asthma

THE European Medicines Agency is inviting comments on a new guidance note relating to clinical investigation of medicines for the treatment of asthma.

The revision takes into account updated international clinical recommendations for the condition, and includes a detailed chapter for the development of medicinal products for the treatment of asthma in children, as well as considerations for the development of immunotherapy.

CLICK HERE for details.

FDA menopause tick

THE US FDA has approved Brisdelle (paroxetine) to treat moderate-to-severe vasomotor symptoms (hot flashes) associated with menopause.

It's the first non-hormonal drug approved in the US for this indication, and because it contains the same active ingredient as medicines for depression its label will have a warning about suicidal thoughts.

Hartmann design win

HARTMANN'S MoliForm

Premium soft continence pad has been honoured at the Australian International Design Awards, which aim to showcase how "good design" leads to products, systems or services that are functionally, aesthetically and commercially more efficient.

MoliForm Premium soft has been developed to support and maintain skin integrity and increase comfort for patients, providing maximum security along with discretion as they help deal with moisture related skin problems.

The patented curly fibre top layer of the absorbent core provides a pH buffer which helps to maintain a correct 5.5 pH for the skin, supporting its natural protection mechanism.

And the Advanced Dry Technology and three-layer absorbent core draws fluid away from the skin, with the pads available in eight different absorption levels to enable effective individualised continence care for patients.



DISPENSARY CORNER

CARDIOLOGISTS in Europe have warned of a syndrome called "mad honey poisoning," where two patients developed unusual heart-related symptoms after eating particular types of honey.

The father and son from Turkey happened to consume honey made from the pollen of a particular type of rhododendron which grows near the Black Sea.

The sweet stuff apparently contained a chemical called grayanotoxin, with the pair admitted to the emergency department in Izmir with symptoms of nausea and vomiting.

The compound interferes with chemical messaging in the body, according to the *BBC*, and in these cases caused heart arrhythmia.

Dr Ugur Turk warned that although very rare, the wide distribution of honey around the world meant doctors anywhere could be faced with similar cases.

July MIMS Monthly Medicine Update

NEW PRODUCTS

Mifepristone Linepharma (**mifepristone**) contains a synthetic steroid with an antiprogesterone action as a result of competition with progesterone at the progesterone receptors. Oral administration was shown to inhibit the action of endogenous or exogenous progesterone in multiple species (rat, mouse, rabbit, dog and monkey). This action is manifested in the form of pregnancy termination. It is indicated in females of childbearing age for the medical termination of a developing intra-uterine pregnancy in sequential combination with a prostaglandin analogue up to 49 days of gestation. It is also indicated in preparation for the action of registered prostaglandin analogues that are indicated for the termination of pregnancy for medical reasons beyond the first

trimester. It is contraindicated in all indications in those with chronic adrenal failure; severe disease (e.g. asthma uncontrolled by treatment) necessitating exogenous steroid administration; known or suspected hypocoagulation diseases, treatment with anticoagulants. It is contraindicated in the medical termination of a developing intrauterine pregnancy in those with uncertainty about pregnancy age; suspected ectopic pregnancy; contraindication to the prostaglandin analogue selected. It is also contraindicated in the preparation for the action of prostaglandin analogues during terminations for medical reasons when there are contraindications to the prostaglandin analogue selected. Mifepristone Linepharma is available as a 200 mg tablet.

Perjeta (**pertuzumab**) is a recombinant humanised monoclonal antibody. Pertuzumab binds to the extracellular dimerisation domain (subdomain II) of the human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 protein (HER2) and thereby blocks ligand-dependent heterodimerisation of HER2 with other HER family members, including EGFR, HER3 and HER4. It inhibits ligand initiated intracellular signalling through mitogen activated protein (MAP) kinase and phosphoinositide 3 kinase (PI3K). Inhibition can result in cell growth arrest and apoptosis, respectively. In addition, pertuzumab mediates antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity (ADCC). Perjeta is indicated in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel for patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast

cancer who have not received prior anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for their metastatic disease. Perjeta is available as a single dose vial containing 420 mg of pertuzumab (30 mg/mL).

NEW INDICATIONS

Onglyza (**saxagliptin**) is now indicated as triple oral combination therapy in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus to improve glycaemic control in combination with metformin plus a sulfonylurea when the two agents, with diet and exercise, do not provide adequate glycaemic control.

SAFETY RELATED CHANGES

Combigan (**brimonidine tartrate and timolol maleate**) is now contraindicated in patients with sick sinus syndrome, sino-atrial nodal block and second or third degree atrioventricular block not controlled with a pacemaker.

When using Accupril (**quinapril hydrochloride**), patients taking concomitant mTOR inhibitor (e.g. temsirolimus) or concomitant DPP-IV inhibitor (e.g. vildagliptin) therapy may be at increased risk of angioedema. Caution should be used.

ERRATUM

This erratum corrects the entry for Lucassin (**terlipressin**) in the May 2013 issue. The Presentation should read as follows. Lucassin is available as a powder for injection in a single use vial containing 0.85 mg of terlipressin per vial.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.