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GOPHARM is offering an extra \$5 discount on all orders over \$100 this week, as it celebrates reaching a milestone of 2,500 pharmacy members across the country.

For more information see **page four** of today's issue.

TGA Early Warning System

AUSTRALIA'S Therapeutic Goods Administration and Medsafe, its New Zealand counterpart, have released details of new parallel early warning systems to communicate potential safety concerns with therapeutic products.

The system includes current and historical information on safety concerns for both medicines and medical devices, which have been identified via the agencies' product vigilance programs.

Two types of communications can be issued as part of the Early Warning System: **Monitoring Communications**, intended to highlight potential safety concerns and encourage further reporting and research; and **Alert Communications**, which are issued once a safety concern has been investigated, providing advice on actions which may be needed by health professionals and consumers.

In contrast to Recall Communications, the TGA says an Early Warning System alert

does not necessarily mean that a product is considered to be unsafe.

A full document describing the processes and decision trees involved with the Early Warning System in both countries is now available on the TGA website, and can be accessed by **CLICKING HERE**.

Pharmacist struck off

A NSW pharmacist who was last year convicted of criminal offences in relation to possession and supply of prohibited drugs has been formally found to be "not a suitable person to hold registration as a pharmacist" by the Pharmacy Tribunal of NSW.

Daniel Cahill, who was the proprietor of the Guardian Pharmacy at Nelson Bay, allegedly became addicted to opiates after a spinal injury in 1995.

The tribunal reprimanded him for his conduct contrary to the legal and ethical obligations governing the professional practice of a registered pharmacist, and said that if he were still registered he would have had his registration cancelled.

Cahill has accordingly been disqualified from being registered as a pharmacist for a period of two years from 27 May 2013.

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New DDS DAAs

DISCOUNT Drug Stores has announced the launch of a new Dose Administration Aid system, with its so-called EasyMeds Pack.

The disposable pack contains all of a customer's medication for the week, categorised by day and time.

DDS says the convenient tool, combined with its script reminder service which sends customers an SMS or email notification when it's time to refill their prescription, is working to improve compliance.

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Co-packs on agenda

THE PBAC will consider a submission from Merck Sharp & Dohme at its next meeting, for MSD's Atozet co-pack which combines Ezetimibe with Atorvastatin tablets presented together in a calendar format, with the aim of helping compliance.

WIN DB EYE PRODUCTS



Every day this week, PD is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a Designer Brands Eye prize pack (pictured left).

Extend A Lash combines hi-tech tubing mascara with lengthening black fibres, creating instant lash extensions! Plus removal is quick and easy, just use warm water and your extensions will slide

off. AS SEEN ON TV.

To win, simply be the first person to email the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Huyen Tran** from **Thi Nguyen & Partners Pharmacy**.

What colour are the lengthening fibres of Extend A Lash?

Rosuvastatin PBS update

MEDICARE Australia says the addition of new brands of rosuvastatin to the PBS Schedule on 01 June has had the "unintended consequence of denying eligible patients access to the brand of their choice".

To remedy this, the listings for the drugs are being amended to allow patients to be supplied their rosuvastatin under the item codes which were previously effective.

An erratum will be issued shortly to prescribing and dispensing system vendors as well as the Department of Human Services, and in the interim pharmacists are

advised to dispense the preferred medication of the patient's choice, and hold over scripts for PBS claiming until dispensing software and DHS systems have been updated to reflect the changes.

However patients who have been prescribed rosuvastatin for hypercholesterolaemia where they have heterozygous familial hypercholesterolaemia will still have access to rosuvastatin under the new item codes, Medicare said.

"Pharmacy software will be progressively updated to align to the changes," the update added, with pharmacists advised to delay processing of rosuvastatin scripts until their vendor has advised that their software has been correctly reconfigured to reflect the erratum.

GDS abstract deadline

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia says the final date for submission of abstracts for presentation at this year's Global Drug Safety Conference in Brisbane has been extended to 31 July, to enable a wider range of work to be submitted for presentation.

The event takes place from 14-16 Oct 2013, with abstracts being solicited for consideration as oral or poster presentations on:

- The Safe Drug: Discovery and Distribution;
- Medication Safety: Systems and Practice; or
- Safe Medicine: Safe Patient.

Submissions will be accepted on the basis that at least one presenter must register and attend the conference which is themed *Revitalising Drug Safety - The Decade of the Patient*.

See www.gds2013.org.

PAC13 Update

The Pharmacy Australia Congress 2013 (PAC13) will be held in Brisbane from 10-13 October.

This year's theme ONE profession, ONE focus, ONE voice, will look at how unity in the profession, in the delivery of services and in the goal of better health outcomes is the key to the profession growing in the future and remaining viable and sustainable while continuing to improve the health and wellbeing of the population.

Confirmed speakers include Professor Zubin Austin, University of Toronto, Professor Claire Anderson, University of Nottingham and former Australian of the Year Professor Ian Frazer. The draft program is now available and includes hot topics like cardiovascular disease, mental health and diabetes.

Full Delegates will receive a tablet computer as part of their registration. These tablets will come with the PAC13 app preloaded.

PAC pricing is more flexible and includes package options to include social functions and a new category has been created for early career pharmacists making it more affordable.

For more information on PAC13 and to register visit www.psa.org.au/pac.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

A SCOTTISH couple is somewhat shellshocked after the birth of their fifth and sixth children, after Karen Rodgers amazingly conceived for the third time with a natural set of twins.

She and her husband already have four boys - one pair aged 14 and a second set aged 12, with the 41-year-old mother apparently defying odds of more than 500,000 to 1.

The couple say they now plan to convert the loft of their home into bedrooms, as well as upgrade their existing people-carrier to handle the new arrivals, according to the UK *Telegraph*.

IS there a doctor on board?

That's an in-flight announcement which is made more commonly than you might think, with a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* saying that medical emergencies happen on about one in every 600 flights around the world.

Considering the millions of flights which happen every year that equates to around 44,000 in-flight health crises annually - or almost 50 a day just in the USA, according to *USA Today*.

Fortunately only about 0.03% of the emergencies end in death, with the study reporting on calls to a medical crisis centre at the University of Pittsburgh - one of two in the US where doctors advise flight crews on how to help people in medical distress.

In three out of every four emergencies, health professionals aboard the plane came forward and volunteered to help out.

SEVERE motion sickness is likely to be induced by a new roller coaster at UK theme park Alton Towers in Staffordshire, which features 14 inverted loops.

Ironically titled "The Smiler," the hectic ride which opened last weekend also features a range of "optical illusions and blinding lights designed to mess with your mind".

New AMH Children's Dosing Companion

Published by Australian Medicines Handbook, the **AMH Children's Dosing Companion** is a subscription-only online guide to prescribing and administering medicines for children in Australia. This first edition provides detailed dosing information for around 230 drugs, covering more than 90% of current PBS paediatric prescribing in Australia and will be updated every six months. Dosages are arranged by indications and age groupings from infants to 18 years. Order online before 29 June 2013 for a special discounted price of \$60.00.

Stockists: (08) 8313 6977

RRP: \$67.50

Website: www.amh.net.au



Baby gum and tooth care from Dreambaby®

Taking care of baby's gums and teeth should start as early as possible to promote a lifelong commitment to healthy dental habits. Dreambaby® has just launched the **Three Stage Baby Gum & Tooth Care Set** to help parents establish a daily oral hygiene routine with their baby from around three months of age. The set comes in pink and blue and in a convenient pack of three brushes, to graduate with the developing child.

Stockists: (02) 9386 4000

RRP: \$9.95

Website: www.dreambaby.com.au

Banish winter dry skin blues

Winter can be a real setback for those with sensitive skin, but thankfully, **Bio-Oil's** natural-based, non-irritating formula can bring comfort, hydration and radiance to all skin types. Bio-Oil's unique formula blends Vitamin A, recognised for its age-fighting abilities; and Vitamin E, known for its moisturising qualities, and delivers these beauty boosting ingredients onto the skin via its breakthrough carrier - PurCellin Oil. It's the No. 1 selling skincare product in Australia (AC Nielsen July 2012).

Stockists: (02) 8436 8300

RRP: \$14.95 (60ml); \$24.95 (125ml); \$34.95 (200ml)

Website: www.bio-oil.com



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From the desk to the dance floor, everyone can now forget the hassle of the hair routine. **FUDGE Dry Shampoo, Dry Conditioner and Head Shine** claim to be the 'Holy Trinity' for hair and creating that 'haute in a hurry' look. FUDGE Dry Shampoo removes excess oils and the tell-tale signs of too much partying; while FUDGE Dry Conditioner's lightweight formula reduces fly-away and frizz. Follow up with FUDGE Head Shine for dazzling hair, day and night.

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Website: www.fudge.com





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