

## Avandia FDA move

A US Food and Drug Administration advisory panel has voted to ease current restrictions on the use of GlaxoSmithKline's Avandia (rosiglitazone) for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

The controversial decision followed two days of deliberations, with 13 of the 26 panel members voting to modify the current warning for the drugs, and another 7 voting to remove it altogether.

Previously FDA had restricted the use of Avandia to patients whose diabetes was not adequately controlled by other medications, or were already using the drug when the restriction became effective in Sep 2010.

The FDA restrictions were based on an analysis of data which suggested an elevated risk of heart attacks in patients treated with rosiglitazone.

## 5CPA submissions sought

THE Australian National Audit Office has opened up its website for contributions to the newly launched 'Administration of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement' audit which was revealed last week (PD 28 May).

According to the site, the "performance audit" involves the independent and objective assessment of the administration of the program, as well as looking at how well support systems operate.

"The ANAO does not have a role in commenting on the merits of government policy but focuses on assessing the effective implementation of government programs, including the achievement of their intended benefits," it adds.

Contributions from members of the public to the 5CPA probe will be accepted until 30 Sep.

"We particularly value information that deals with

significant matters or insights into the administration of the subject of this audit," the ANAO said.

Information can be submitted either by uploading a file or entering it directly into a comment box, with confidentiality of input protected by law.

To see the ANAO online submission page [CLICK HERE](#).

## Pharmacy script App

A NSW pharmacist has launched a new smartphone application which makes it easy for consumers to electronically lodge prescriptions with their pharmacist.

Dubbed 'Send a Script' it's described as the "independent link between you and the pharmacy".

It works by using the smartphone camera to photograph the script, which is then transmitted via SMS to the pharmacy for dispensing.

According to *Pulse IT* magazine, Fabian McCann's App also comes with a dashboard application for participating pharmacies which receives the messages and manages the dispensing process, including updating the customer when the medication is ready or if it's not available.

The pharmacy dashboard is accessible via [allchemist.com.au](http://allchemist.com.au), and as well as accepting scripts from the app also enables pharmacies to communicate retail offers to customers in real time.

An initial 30 day trial period is currently on offer, after which it reverts to \$23 per week - see [www.seksystems.com.au](http://www.seksystems.com.au).

## Genetic data alliance

MANY of the world's top health researchers have announced a new global alliance which will enable "secure sharing of genomic and clinical data".

60 leading health care, research and disease advocacy groups have signed a letter of intent in which they pledge to work to develop a common data framework.

The aim is to use so-called 'big data' to allow the analysis of gene and clinical data, with the rapid growth of genome sequencing.

"At present it is generally not possible to predict which changes in DNA sequence lead to clinical consequences...only by comparing each personal genome sequence to a large repository of other such data can robust patterns and relationships be identified," said a spokesperson, with a white paper on the move available [HERE](#).

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## Pfizer cancer pact

PFIZER has announced a new global collaboration with a research firm called CytomX Therapeutics for the development and commercialisation of multiple antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) in oncology.

The deal gives Pfizer exclusive rights to pursue development of select ADCs using CytomX's Antibody Platform.

Pfizer will make an upfront \$25m payment plus as much as \$610m in milestone payments if the products reach agreed sales benchmarks.

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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist Manager** - North Coast, QLD (Job# 2009865)  
Sea change opportunity for an experienced Pharmacist Mgr. Excellent \$\$\$
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Geelong / Great Ocean, VIC (Job# 2009870)  
P/T PIC for 2 weekdays plus Saturday 9am-1pm, 30 mins from Geelong.
- **Pharmacist** - Mid North Coast, NSW (Job# 2009728)  
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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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

- 7-9 June:** AACP ConPharm'13, Hilton Hotel Adelaide - [www.conpharm13.com.au](http://www.conpharm13.com.au).
- 8 June:** Multidisciplinary Diabetes seminar, University Club of WA - more information at [medpharm.uwa.edu.au/cpd](http://medpharm.uwa.edu.au/cpd).
- 11 June:** QCPC Refresher Training - Skin & Fungal Conditions, Sugar Country Motor Inn, 220 Bourbong Street, Bundaberg
- 11 June:** CHC Effective Advertising Seminar, Rydges Hotel North Sydney NSW - details at [www.chc.org.au](http://www.chc.org.au).
- 21-23 June:** NSW Pharmacy-National Convention & Exhibition. For details see: [www.nswpharmacy-nce.com.au](http://www.nswpharmacy-nce.com.au)
- 5-8 July:** Australian College of Pharmacy's Conference and Exhibition, Brisbane - see [www.acp.edu.au](http://www.acp.edu.au).
- 10-14 Aug:** Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business 2013, Mt Buller Vic - more info at [www.medic.com.au](http://www.medic.com.au).
- 04-07 Sep:** Navigating the Future - Pharmacy 2013: The Pharmacy Management Conference; Sheraton Mirage, Port Douglas; More details at: [pharmacyconference.com.au](http://pharmacyconference.com.au).
- 19-22 Sep:** Medicines Management 2013, the 39th SHPA National Conference, Cairns Convention Centre - [www.mm2013shpa.com](http://www.mm2013shpa.com).
- 20-22 Sep:** Pharmacy Business Network, Canberra; see [pharmacybusinessnetwork.com](http://pharmacybusinessnetwork.com).
- 11-13 Oct:** Pharmacy Australia Congress in Brisbane - details [www.psa.org.au/pac](http://www.psa.org.au/pac).
- 17-19 Oct:** Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, Gold Coast - visit [www.pharmacyassistants.com](http://www.pharmacyassistants.com).

## Kids' Panadol off the shelf

**THE** Federal Court has granted Reckitt Benckiser an injunction which restrains GlaxoSmithKline from marketing and selling its Children's Panadol 1-5 years product, pending a final determination of the matter.

The ruling applies to Children's Panadol 1-5 years, of any flavour or size, "incorporating a liquid dispensing apparatus, comprising a bottle, a bottle neck liner and a flat-nosed syringe," according to orders issued by the court last week.

Reckitt Benckiser says the dosing system on the Children's Panadol product is an infringement of the patent for the system used on its Nurofen for Children range.

The company said the decision recognises "the leadership shown by Nurofen for Children with its patented innovative dosing system.

"As the fastest growing brand in the children's analgesics market, Nurofen for Children has increasingly delivered to the needs of Australian mums and children since the 1990s," Reckitt Benckiser added.

The injunction restrains GSK

from "making, hiring, selling or otherwise disposing of, or offering to make, sell hire or otherwise dispose of, use or import or keep for the purpose of doing any of the foregoing, the Children's Panadol product.

The next stage of the proceedings is a directions hearing, which is set down for 9.30am next Fri morning.

## US skin cancer OK

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has approved Tafenlar (dabrafenib) and Mekinist (trametinib), for the treatment of patients with non-resectable melanoma.

Tafenlar is a BRAF inhibitor and Mekinist is a MEK inhibitor, with both approvals for patients with particular gene mutations.

The approval comes along with a genetic test called the THXID BRAF test, which detects the V600E or V600K mutation in the BRAF gene.

Melanoma is the leading cause of death from skin disease, with about half of melanomas arising in the skin having a BRAF gene mutation.



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## START SCANNING

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## DISPENSARY CORNER

**A 33-YEAR-OLD** woman in Minnesota in the USA who complained that a two hour running session had left her with a sore back, was somewhat surprised to discover the pain she was feeling was actually because she was about to give birth.

Trish Staine, who already has three kids, says she had no idea she was pregnant, claiming she had gained no weight, felt no movement from the baby - and that her husband has had a vasectomy.

Despite all that she gave birth to baby Mira - short for Miracle - about 24 hours later.

The robustly healthy - and presumably fit - child weighed 2.89kg and was 48cm long.

## DESIGNER BRANDS EYE PRODUCTS UP FOR GRABS



Congratulations to **Melanie Villani** from **FGB Natural Products**, who is yesterday's lucky winner of the pack. Every day this week, **Pharmacy Daily** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a **Designer Brands Eye** prize pack (pictured left), valued at \$35.97 each.

Each prize pack includes Extend A Lash brush on lash fibres, Lash Primer and Absolute Precision Liquid Eye liner.

NEW breakthrough fibre technology from Designer Brands Cosmetics allows you to add an amazing 8mm in length instantly doubling lash length!\*

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.

\*Achieve up to +8mm lash length. Individual results may vary.

To win this fabulous prize pack, simply be the first person to email the correct answer to the question below to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**Why should you use a lash primer?**



**Find out what shape you're in as a result of the April PBS changes with our Health Check calculator.**

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