

Today in PD's pages

TODAY'S *Pharmacy Daily* features two pages packed with news, plus a full page on **page 3** from Reform detailing its services and no hidden contract policy.



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Long term ADHD concerns

CHILDHOOD attention deficit hyperactivity disorder may not disappear with age, and may lead to other mental health disorders in adulthood, according to a new study.

Published in *Pediatrics*, the study looked at 367 adults with childhood ADHD and non-ADHD controls from the same birth cohort to determine the long-term outcomes of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.

According to the results, among the childhood ADHD cases participating in the prospective assessment, ADHD persisted into adulthood for 29.3%.

In addition, childhood ADHD

cases were more likely than controls to have a psychiatric disorder.

"It is concerning that only a minority of children with ADHD reaches adulthood without suffering serious adverse outcomes, suggesting that the care of childhood ADHD is far from optimal," the researchers said.

Breast cancer hope

AN animal study has shown that a dendrimer-based formulation of doxorubicin was more efficacious in treating secondary tumours of breast cancer (metastases) in lungs than the drug alone.

Lung metastases are difficult to treat with conventional chemo drugs, leading to a mortality rate of around 85% within 5 years.

Commonly used treatments include doxorubicin, either alone or in combination with other agents.

The study was conducted as part of an Australian Research Council funded collaboration with Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and utilised a rat model which used lung-resident secondary tumours derived from breast cancer cells.

The study involved a dendrimer formulation of doxorubicin delivered via intra-tracheal administration, and found that it was substantially more efficacious than doxorubicin alone in treating lung metastases of breast cancer.

In addition, the study also found that the formulation tended to remain in the lungs rather than passing into the body of the animal, potentially reducing side effects.

Pharmacy survey

THE Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework Steering Committee has commenced work on the next stage of the advanced pharmacy practice project which will be on the implementation of the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework for Australia.

As a first step, the Committee has released an Advanced Pharmacy Practice Survey and is inviting input from pharmacists who may already be practising at an advanced level or are actively working towards this goal.

The survey will help inform the Committee to determine what areas or types of 'advanced' level practice Australian pharmacists are involved in.

Pharmacists interested in participating in the survey can access it at:

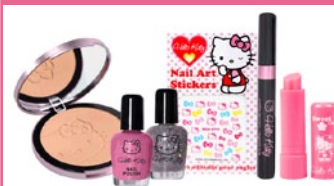
www.surveymonkey.com/s/G6SFVZ3.

New MS CEO

ROBYN Hunter has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of MS Australia, effective immediately.

Hunter has been MS - ACT/NSW/VIC's Chief Operating Officer since February 2011.

WIN A HELLO KITTY PACK



This week *PD* is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a **Hello Kitty** prize pack, valued at \$55.70 each.

The iconic Hello Kitty brand brings the product to life with her dynamic spark and whimsical charm.

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What is the RRP of the Hello Kitty Mascara?

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner **Nancy Wehbe** from **The Pharmacy Guild of Australia**.

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Guild Update

The Panel: Industry Q&A

The industry panel session at this year's Australian Pharmacy Professional (APP) conference will take on a new format which invites questions in advance from APP delegates.

Conference delegates will have the opportunity to send in questions, with a broad sample asked live to panellists on Friday morning 22 March.

The panellists include representatives from the Guild, the pharmaceutical industry, major wholesalers, and others from our broad and diverse industry.

We hope this year's panel will be vibrant and interactive, giving delegates a real insight into what our industry leaders are thinking about the year ahead, and beyond.

Potential questions might touch on the Community Pharmacy Agreement, medicine distribution arrangements, industrial relations, pharmacy professional services, and the political landscape in this Federal election year.

Don't miss this opportunity to have some direct feedback on the outlook for community pharmacy.

To submit your question to moderator Greg Turnbull, please email QA@guild.org.au.



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

Multivitamins affect mood

MULTIVITAMINS may improve mood and energy levels of those who take them, according to a new study by researchers at the Swinburne University of Technology.

Published in *Nutrition Journal*, and funded by Swisse, the research saw 116 participants answer semi-structured and open ended written questions which were incorporated into a 16-week double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel groups trial of once-daily multivitamin administration.

At week 16, three open-ended questions were posed to elucidate any positive, negative or unusual experiences from taking either the multivitamin or matched placebo.

In addition, qualitative thematic analysis was undertaken by researchers who were blind as to the treatment condition of participants, and independent analysis from three researchers was employed to ensure methodological rigour.

According to the results, the researchers noted significant increases in the energy levels of those taking the multivitamin over the placebo.

Significant positive effects were also noted with regards to enhanced mood of those taking the multivitamin.

Of note, the researchers found that the beneficial effect on energy levels was particularly evident among female participants, whilst participants taking the multivitamin also reported better sleep.

Interestingly, the researchers did note that the multivitamin and

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DISPENSARY CORNER

FLYING health risks.

A British woman enjoying a quiet night in was shocked when an 'icicle' from an overhead plane smashed into her property.

After inspecting her house for damage Caroline forgot about the noise, until the next day when she found a 45cm hole in the roof of her caravan, made by a suspiciously coloured lump.

And if the health hazard of having a heavy object fall from the skies was not enough to raise eyebrows, it is thought that the ice lump came from a "rare" leak from a plane's toilet system.

placebo groups did not significantly differ in perceived positive or negative effects in areas relating to other aspects of mental function or physical health.

"This represents the first documented qualitative investigation of participants' experience of chronic administration of a multivitamin," the paper said.

"Results uncovered a range of subjective beneficial effects that are consistent with quantitative data from previously published randomised controlled trials examining the effects of multivitamins and B vitamin complexes on mood and well-being," the paper added.

Healthy kids

THE Government has committed to provide \$11 million over five years for the expanded Medicare Healthy Kids Check, to give parents the option of talking to a medical professional about health and wellbeing issues they're concerned about.

Issues such as general health, a child's speech, sleeping patterns and mobility are some examples of issues covered by the improved check.

The new format for the check will be used in eight Medicare Local areas over 2013 as the first phase of its staged introduction, following advice from an Expert Working Group, whilst the target age for the expanded health check will now be three and a half to five years.

Lymphoedema month

MARCH marks the first Lymphoedema Awareness Month campaign, which aims to help educate cancer patients about the early signs and symptoms of lymphoedema, encourage sufferers to manage their condition, and raise funds for vital research.

Lymphoedema is a persistent swelling of the limb(s) and other areas of the body (commonly referred to as elephantiasis), and can result in loss of limbs.

It is estimated that around 400,000 Australians suffer from lymphoedema, a condition for which there is no cure.

Early intervention is the primary means of limiting the impact lymphoedema has on patients.

There are two types of lymphoedema, primary and secondary, with 'primary' effecting approx one in every 6,000 births; whilst 'secondary' is the most common type and can develop after part of the lymphatic system is damaged and may occur as a result of cancer treatments.

According to Cancer Australia, of the 120,700 people diagnosed with cancer each year, around 50,000 have a 20% risk of developing secondary lymphoedema with approx 12,000 survivors likely to develop the disorder to some degree in their lifetime.

See lymphoedema.org.au.

17th Feb – 31st March, 2013



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