

## 'Plan B' OTC in USA

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has approved Plan B One-Step levonorgestrel emergency contraception for over-the-counter availability without a prescription.

In 2011 the sponsor of Plan B One-Step, Teva Pharmaceuticals, applied to make the product available OTC for all females of reproductive age, but this was not approved by the FDA.

An amended application imposed the 15-year-old age minimum and now that this has been approved the product will be labelled *not for sale to those under 15 years of age \*proof of age required\* not for sale where age cannot be verified.*

The product will also be security tagged to prevent theft, and Teva will also make the product available in retail outlets with an onsite pharmacy, "where it generally will be available in the family planning of female health aisles".

Teva said it also plans to educate consumers, pharmacy staff and health care professionals about the product's new OTC status.

## More NPS medicine data

**NPS** MedicineWise is set to collect the anonymous prescribing data of about two million patients, in a significant expansion of its MedicineInsight program.

The scheme has been under trial in northern Victoria's Goulburn Valley, and will now be expanded into Melbourne general practices as part of a "journey to better

## UAE licensing simpler

**THE** government of the United Arab Emirates this week revamped its procedures for the licensing and monitoring of pharmacies and pharmacists, which will mean they only need to obtain a sanction from a single state government authority rather than the current requirements for three licenses.

From 01 June the 600 pharmacies in Dubai, along with pharmacists and pharmacy assistants, will have to be registered with the Dubai Health Authority rather than the UAE Ministry of Health.

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(Bob Dylan 1964)

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## EMA to publish clinical trials data

**THE** European Medicines Agency has committed to the "proactive publication of data from clinical trials," as part of its ongoing push to increase transparency.

The move follows a workshop last Nov to gather feedback from a range of stakeholders.

Following the workshop participants were invited to join consultation groups set up to advise on five areas: protecting patient confidentiality, clinical trial data formats, rules of engagement, good analysis practice, and legal aspects of the move.

The final proposal is that trial data supporting the authorisation of medicines will be published once the marketing authorisation process has ended, and which the EMA does not consider to be commercially confidential.

"The release of data is ultimately about establishing trust and confidence in the system," an official statement said.

The next step is to draft a formal policy which will be subject to consultation, with the final outcome expected to come into force on 01 Jan 2014.

## Souvenaid from Mon

**NUTRICIA'S** Souvenaid, the new "medical food" shown to improve the memory of people during the early stages of Alzheimer's disease (**PD** 25 Mar) will be available across the country from next Mon 06 May.

A 'Product Familiarisation Program' for Souvenaid has seen the enrolment of over 600 patients.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite daily pharmaceutical industry newsletter, read by more than 10,000 people across the industry each day.

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**We are currently recruiting for two roles to support our ongoing strong growth.**

## News Reporter

This is a permanent part-time role, working five mornings per week from our offices in Epping, NSW. The successful applicant will be an experienced writer with a good sense for news, preferably with knowledge of the pharmacy industry. As well as sourcing the latest pharmacy industry news you will be helping with the production of the newsletter so desktop publishing experience (Adobe Indesign) will be well regarded. On-the-job training will be provided.

## Business Development Manager

Pharmacy Daily is seeking a Business Development Manager, to promote our popular newsletter to pharmacy suppliers. This is a part-time contract role with flexible hours, which would ideally suit someone with pharmaceutical or medical industry sales experience. Duties will involve sourcing new business from advertisers and developing relationships with clients with the aim of further growing the business.

Salary for both roles will be commensurate with experience. Join our fun friendly team working to keep the pharmacy industry informed. Applications due by Friday 10th May to [jobs@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:jobs@traveldaily.com.au).

## IMS getting social

**IMS** Health has announced the acquisition of Semantelli Corporation, which is a New Jersey based social media analytics company, with the move aiming to extend IMS' marketing and consumer engagement capabilities for healthcare organisations across the globe.

Semantelli offers a "robust set of cloud-based tools" which automate the collection of healthcare-specific social media content.

This enables real-time monitoring for "reputation and opportunity management" as well as delivering extensive insight into consumer and physician behaviour and sentiments.

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**Jobs of the Week**

- **Aged Care Pharmacist** - Melbourne's NE, VIC (Job# 2009800)  
Join a large team specialising in Nursing Home dispensing and DAA's.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Capricornia, QLD (Job# 2009804)  
Customer focused role in country pharmacy - \$110K+ package incl accom.
- **Pharmacist** - Mid North Coast NSW (Job# 2009728)  
Exp Pharmacist to work in beach side pharmacy on the mid nth coast.

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## DISPENSARY CORNER

**AIRCRAFT** passengers shouldn't make any big decisions while they're in the air, according to an eminent academic in the UK.

David Gradwell from King's College London is Britain's first professor of aerospace medicine, and at a media conference this week gave health advice to travellers, such as how to avoid jet lag and dehydration.

But he also pointed out that according to recent studies learning is a bit impaired at high altitude, along with performance of recently learned tasks.

"It's perhaps not where you want to make the most important decision of your life," he said.

And in particular, "those of you who are looking forward to having emails in flight might want to think twice about sending that email to your bank manager".

**AND** while we're on the subject of mental performance, police were called to a clinic in Austria this week after an acupuncturist forgot about a patient and locked up and went home after sticking her full of needles.

61-year-old Vivi Ziegler said she was undergoing treatment when the doctor at the surgery at Wiener Neustadt took a phone call and then had to answer a query from an assistant - in the process completely forgetting about the patient.

"I wasn't worried as it was warm and relaxing and I fell asleep, but when I woke up it was dark and cold and I was only partially dressed," the patient said.

She called for help but realising the surgery was unattended, called the police who managed to rescue her through a window.

Ziegler said she didn't want to make a fuss about it because she had always had good results from the treatment until now.

The embarrassed and apologetic doctor has promised to give the forgiving woman acupuncture treatment at no charge for the rest of her life.

## 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).

**10-11 May:** Bioceuticals Research Symposium, Sydney.

**31 May-02 Jun:** PSA CPEXpo, Hordern Pavilion Sydney - see [www.psa.org.au/cpexpo](http://www.psa.org.au/cpexpo).

**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 info at [medpharm.uwa.edu.au/cpd](http://medpharm.uwa.edu.au/cpd).

**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 - [medici.com.au](http://medici.com.au).

**04-07 Sep:** Navigating the Future - Pharmacy 2013: The Pharmacy Management Conference; Sheraton Mirage, Port Douglas; For more details see: [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).

**11-13 Oct:** Pharmacy Australia Congress in Brisbane - details [www.psa.org.au/pac](http://www.psa.org.au/pac).

**14-16 Oct:** Global Drug Safety Conference and Exposition, Brisbane - for more details email [qldadmin@psa.org.au](mailto:qldadmin@psa.org.au).

**14 Nov:** 2013 ASMI AGM, Conference & Awards - see [www.asmi.com.au](http://www.asmi.com.au)

## Over 18,700 PSA members

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia says recent growth to a record of more than 18,700 members is a recognition of the wide range of services it provides.

"PSA is the only body which truly represents all sectors of the pharmacy profession and our members recognise that this gives

us insights and strengths which are invaluable," said PSA Acting National President, Claire O'Reilly.

"It also positions us to be able to advocate from a position of unity and to be able to speak with one voice for all the profession."

O'Reilly also attributed the growing PSA membership base to its ongoing commitment to the development and delivery of targeted practice support and professional education.

"While there are a range of other providers of professional education available, PSA can boast a quality second to none," she said.

O'Reilly also claimed that having over 18,700 members gives PSA a "very strong and credible voice" in advocacy.

"The rise in membership is also recognition that PSA is influencing attitudes, opinions and policies through representation, networking, consultation, continuing education, practice support, standards, guidelines and a range of publications and health promoting programs and resources," O'Reilly concluded.

## Innovation grant

**THE** Australian College of Pharmacy has opened applications for the 2013 IMS Health-College Young Pharmacist Innovation Grant.

With the aim of introducing younger pharmacists to the 'world of organisational pharmacy,' the winner receives \$5000 to attend the 2013 FIP Congress which takes place later this year in Ireland.

The winner will be announced at the ACP 24th Annual Conference in Brisbane 05-08 Jul.

The grant was first introduced in 2008 and previous winners include Georgina Twomey, Jana Fulcher, Rohan Lowe, Sarah Sinclair and last year's winner, Daniel Rifkin.

For details **CLICK HERE**.

## WIN A SKINCARE PACK FROM [A'KIN]

*Pharmacy Daily* has teamed up with [A'kin] this week and is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a skincare prize pack, valued at \$89.85 each.

Brave yourself for winter with intense nourishing and natural botanicals with this prize package from [A'kin]. These three items will work in synergy with your skin to bring out more of your special natural beauty.



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Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Mary Rophael** from **Gertz Avenue Pharmacy**.