

Favourite pharmacist

VOTING for 'Australia's Favourite Pharmacist' 2014 has begun in Priceline pharmacies around Australia.

The four-month long campaign encourages customers to go in-store, vote for their local pharmacist and reveal why they deserve the title.

Finalists will be announced in both metropolitan and regional categories, with one overall winner crowned 'Australia's Favourite Pharmacist'.

API ceo and md Stephen Roche, said the response to the Awards' first year shows how valued Pharmacists are in their local community.

"These Awards are the perfect way for us to pay tribute to the fantastic work our Pharmacists do in their local communities, he added.

"They also give us invaluable insights into what our customers want and expect from their Pharmacists, in terms of service, expert advice and going the extra mile."

Voting for the 2014 award will close on Friday 31 January, with finalists and winners announced in March.

Details at www.priceline.com.au.

Pfizer Sydney shutdown

PFIZER says the closure of its Sydney manufacturing plant (**PD** breaking news) will have no impact whatsoever on pharmacies or the supply of medicines to its patients within Australia.

The company yesterday announced the "phased exit" of the Sydney operations which will cease activity by the end of 2015.

The company confirmed that its larger Perth manufacturing facility would continue to make complex aseptic products (sterile injectables) for both the domestic and international markets.

About 140 people work in the Sydney operations, which produce solid oral dose products - tablets and capsules - in the human and animal health areas.

Manufacturing operations director and site leader, Justin Mathie, said the move followed a review of the company's global manufacturing network and capacity, particularly in the light of changing global demand as a result of patent expiries.

"In addition, our industry is seeing a trend away from high-volume medicines to high value but lower volume medicines that target

a specific patient population or disease condition," he said.

"This requires more flexible manufacturing facilities and a different overall approach to manufacturing".

The majority of staff will not be impacted until 2015, with Pfizer committing to provide at least two months notice before they depart the organisation.

Spokesperson Helen Corcoran confirmed that the move has no impact on Pfizer's commercial operations.

Corcoran said the move was also unrelated to the Pfizer Direct distribution system which is "business as usual".

"We've just surpassed 1.1 million orders, averaging 36,000 per month, 99%+ on time delivery...so all good on that front," she told **PD**.

Rego renewals open

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has advised that pharmacists can now renew their registration online, with the final deadline this year being 30 November.

Pharmacy Board chairman Stephen Marty said it was important that those renewing carefully read the registration standards which specify the requirements for practice prior to applying for renewal.

Under the National Law, all registered pharmacists are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year.

Access the AHPRA registration renewal page by **CLICKING HERE**.

PBAC Nov agenda

THE agenda for the Nov meeting of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee has been released, with a range of new drug applications, changes to listings and resubmissions.

Consumers have the opportunity to provide comments on the agenda, with a closing date of 09 October 2013.

The full agenda can be accessed by **CLICKING HERE**.

Healthy heart walk

THE National Heart Foundation of Australia is encouraging all Australians to get walking to ward off heart disease - the number one killer of men and women - on World Heart Day, this Sunday 29 September.

The Heart Foundation, in partnership with the World Heart Federation, is calling on men, women and children of all ages to increase their physical activity in order to protect their heart health and reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD), including heart disease and stroke.

Heart Foundation's national ceo, Dr Lyn Roberts said on World Heart Day, we are urging people to take action to protect their hearts.

"By simply reaching the recommended 30 minutes (or more) of walking a day, a person's risk of cardiovascular disease can be reduced by as much as half," Dr Roberts said.

To join or start a local walking group near you call the Heart Foundation's Health Information Service on 1300 36 27 87.

THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION



"This was a good investment because it has allowed our staff to focus on the customers instead of the stock and freed up our professional people for more customer engagement. Ultimately that's what we're all trained for, and it's where we belong."

Matt Boulter
Owner of two Rowas in South Australian Pharmacies

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Snowy River Region, NSW (Job# 2009806)
P/time 2.5 days/wk \$45/hr plus super - light script trade, customer focus.
- **Senior Clinical Pharmacist** - Eyre Peninsula SA (Job# 2010037)
Exp Clinical Pharmacist, wide range of duties incl the need to mentor.
- **Pharmacist Manager** - North Coast, QLD (Job# 2009865)
Experienced pharmacy team, busy script trade, good \$\$\$ for experience.

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Pharmacy DAILY

Friday 27 Sep 2013

PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

US compounding law

LEGISLATORS in the USA have announced an agreement on a new bill which would strengthen the regulation of "non-traditional" compounding pharmacies, which have been linked to several recent safety alerts.

The legislation will impose uniform national standards to pharmacy compounding, as well as introducing a track and trace system to ensure drugs are safe right through the supply chain.

The 'Drug Quality and Security Act' will see traditional compounders remain under state pharmacy board jurisdiction, with larger operations overseen by the Food and Drug Administration.

Poisons submissions

THE TGA has released public submissions made in response to delegates' proposed amendments to the *Poisons Standard* (SUSMP) and the delegates' interim decision.

Access the submissions in detail by **CLICKING HERE**.

Numeta suspended

BECAUSE of the increased risk of hypermagnesaemia, the European Medicines Agency has suspended the marketing authorisation of intravenous nutritional solution Numeta G13%E for children with ingestion problems; Numeta G16%E has not been suspended.

For more details **CLICK HERE**.

Dream Pharmacy Job

Come join our vibrant community pharmacy that sets the standard for service in the Snowy Region. The NSW ski fields are at our doorstep as are kilometres of walking and mountain biking trails and an Alpine lake filled with trout suiting all boating pursuits. The combination of being part of a genuine Primary Health Care team and a contemporary Rural lifestyle, makes this a life changing career opportunity.

Full time PIC role working 3 week days and half day Saturday/Sunday. The winter roster has longer days with weekends off for skiing with your friends.

We have the very latest Fred Dispense, POS and Fred Office with fully automated backups to the cloud.

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Nature's Own shopper units win

SANOFI Consumer Healthcare is celebrating after its new Nature's Own Pharmacy Shopper Solutions units cleaned up at last night's POPAI Marketing at Retail Awards.

The unit (pictured) won gold in the Digital and Interactive Solutions category, and silver in the Beauty and Professional Healthcare category.

POPAI is a global non-profit association dedicated to retail marketing, and has held its annual awards since 2000 to recognise and reward excellence in the sector.

Sanofi spokesman Luke Fitzgerald, said the win reflected the brand's commitment to understand the needs of shoppers in pharmacy and deliver solutions that work.

The interactive units are the result of extensive consultation with shoppers, "who told us that they find vitamin, mineral and supplement aisles overwhelming and confusing".



Over 200 of the devices have already been installed in pharmacies across Australia (PD 17 Sep) and on average they have seen year to date sales growth of 15%.

"From the entire team at Sanofi Consumer Healthcare and Nature's Own we would like to thank our pharmacy partners for their support," Fitzgerald said.

Tobacco-related datasets

THE Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA) has announced a new resource: *Australia's Tobacco-Related Datasets* which provides an overview of Australia's key tobacco-related datasets and supports the Agency's goal of guiding improvements in national surveillance systems for prevention and health promotion and ensuring that information on the progress of prevention and health promotion strategies is made readily available and regularly reported.

The various datasets include smoking prevalence rates by age and gender, health, wellbeing and lifestyle, morbidity and mortality rates, expenditure and economic activity, monitoring and surveillance, young people and schoolchildren, and population groups such as prisoners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

These are intended to be a resource for researchers, policy makers and those involved in tobacco-related preventive health activities.



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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.

2-4 Oct: Essential Pharmacy Financial Management; Sanctuary Cove Resort, Gold Coast; more info at: www.fmrbusdev.com.au

8-9 Oct: Sales and Marketing Excellence Australia 2013; ParkRoyal, Darling Harbour, for details go to: www.eyeforpharma.com/au

11-13 Oct: Pharmacy Australia Congress in Brisbane - details www.psa.org.au/pac.

17-19 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference, Gold Coast - visit www.pharmacyassistants.com.

19-20 Oct: Medication Management Review; St Leonards, details at www.psa.org.au.

23-26 Oct: DenTech China 2013; Shanghai World Expo Exhibition and Convention Center, China; more info at: www.dentech.com.cn

30 Oct: Medici Capital Pharmacy Ownership Ready Series seminar, Sydney - to register call 03 9853 7933.

14 Nov: 2013 ASMI AGM, Conference & Awards - see www.asmi.com.au

16-17 Nov: NSW Pharmacy in focus, Newcastle; visit www.psa.org.au.

19-26 Jan: Medici Capital Pharmacy Study Tour in Val d'Isere, France - details at www.medici.com.au.

13-16 Mar 2014: Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2014, Gold Coast - see www.appconference.com

New GMiA code of practice

THE Generic Medicines Industry Association yesterday released a new edition of its Code of Practice, and is seeking feedback from industry stakeholders.

The draft third edition of the Code incorporates a number of amendments, including recommendations from the Working Group on Promotion of Therapeutic Products which were reported to the then Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Catherine King, in March 2011.

The Code Complaint Committee has been adjusted to increase its independence, with all industry representatives removed.

GMiA members will continue to report on educational events and "non-price benefits," and reports will now cover the period 01 July-30 June rather than the Oct-Sep period of the current Code.

The draft third edition of the Code introduces the concept of a "Complying Member" of the Association, each of which must "pro-actively opt to comply with the Code" and provide a declaration of compliance.

All current GMiA members have confirmed their intent to be

"Complying Members".

The draft Code also requires that GMiA hold an annual training workshop covering the contents of the Code and Members' obligations.

GMiA said the code is "principle based, providing guidance in a single document on the different legislation, regulation and guidelines with which sponsors of generic medicines listed on the ARTG comply".

Feedback on the draft third edition is invited up until 31 Oct - **CLICK HERE** for details.

Biogen cares deeply

ON Wednesday 25 September Biogen Idec Australian employees participated in the company's third annual "Care Deeply Volunteer Day" by giving time to participate in programs at the Wesley Mission in Sydney and the Salvation Army in Perth and Melbourne.

According to Michael Cloonan, Biogen Idec Australia's md, the initiative reminds employees about the potential the company and everyone who works there have to make a real difference in the community.



DISPENSARY CORNER

ALWAYS make sure you wash food before you eat it...

Authorities in Sweden have charged a man with vandalism after he was caught urinating on fruit displayed in a Gothenburg supermarket.

Police were called in after stunned shoppers reported that the man had emptied his bladder over a tray of apples and oranges, according to the UK *Daily Mail*.

Officers said the man was aggressive when they arrived, with the offender understood to have been under the influence of alcohol.

CHINESE surgeons have achieved a breakthrough after managing to grow a spare nose on the forehead of a patient.

The new nose was created so that it could be transplanted in place of his original one, which had been damaged in an accident.

22-year-old Mr Xiaolian, from Fuzhou in Fujian province, contracted an infection in the cartilage, making it impossible for surgeons to repair the nose.

According to a BBC report, the replacement was grown by placing a "skin tissue expander" into his forehead, cutting it into the shape of a nose and implanting cartilage taken from the man's ribs (below).

Apparently the new nose is "in good shape," with transplant surgery to be undertaken soon.

The procedure, called flap prefabrication, was also successfully undertaken in the UK last year when a man who had lost his nose to cancer had a new one grown on his arm.



WIN A SUKIN BODY OIL PACK!

Every day this week, **Pharmacy Daily** is giving two lucky readers the chance to win a **Sukin** Body Oil pack. Each pack includes: Sukin Wellbeing Body Oil 100ml, and Sukin Botanical Body Wash 250ml.

Sukin Wellbeing Body Oil is a luxurious blend of botanical natural oils with rose hip and marula seed oils for instant hydration, soybean oil and calendula flower extract for soft and silky smooth skin.

TO WIN, be one of the first two people to send the correct answer to the question below.

Calendula Flower Extract, found in the Sukin Wellbeing Body oil is rich in what?



Email your answer to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Hint! Visit www.sukinorganics.com

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winners, **Georgia Kilpatrick** of **Health World Limited** and **Belinda Mann** from **Actegy Health**. Correct answers: after shaving or waxing, as a bath or massage oil, hand or foot treatment.