

Become a ParcelPoint

BUSY online shoppers can now collect and return parcels the easy way - at their local pharmacy.

Become a convenient hub for local customers shopping online and drive new foot traffic into your store.

The ParcelPoint service is simple to activate and there's no set up costs.

All you need is a computer with internet access and a secure storage space.

See **Page 3** for more information.

TGA drug warnings

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued warnings about Star Majestic Slimming capsules and Ya Buk capsules, both posing a risk for patients' health.

Go to www.tga.gov.au for details.

8990 jobs to go

A PHARMACY Guild of Australia survey of the employment intentions of 944 pharmacies over the next 12 months shows that 8,993 jobs across the industry are expected to be lost because of revenue cuts.

This included 2,229 pharmacist and 4,400 pharmacy assistant jobs, or more than 10% of professionally trained pharmacy staff in community pharmacies across the country.

The Employment Expectations Report, conducted online in March, represents 17.6% of total industry, with 24.9% from rural areas.

It reported that 69% of pharmacies would be reducing staff hours with less than 3.3% intending to increase staff numbers in the next year.

The Guild said pharmacies were impacted by reduced government funding for mark-up and loss of trading terms as PBS prices were reduced through price disclosure.

Execution concerns

THE US NAACP and Amnesty International are urging the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) to refuse to make up drugs used in lethal-injection executions.

Because pharmaceutical companies have banned the use of their products, states have had to employ compounding pharmacists to create the deadly cocktails.

An APhA spokeswoman told *Drug Topics* that it's unlikely APhA would adopt any statement at this year's meeting.

The survey painted a worrying picture for employment in community pharmacy, Guild executive director David Quilty said.

“While the Guild and pharmacies strongly support the Government getting maximum value for money from the PBS, recent changes to price disclosure are having a very real impact on hard-working pharmacy professionals and the patients they serve.”

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) national president Grant Kardachi said the survey highlighted the need to continue developing new opportunities in order to stay viable.

The PSA was in discussions with groups such as the AMA to find new areas of work, including in palliative care and in the delivery of professional programs.

He said the Queensland immunisation pilot (**PD** 03 Apr) could pave the way for long-term immunisation services by pharmacists.

“There is a lot happening and while the latest report is not encouraging, we must not let ourselves become disheartened.”

Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA) president Dr Geoff March said the survey showed the urgent need to reform the CPA.

“With wages stagnant and mass job losses now predicted, it is clear that the Community Pharmacy Agreement has failed and that the whole of community pharmacy must come together to reform it now.”

To read the survey, **CLICK HERE**.

Adempas approval

THE European Medicines Agency (EMA) has approved Bayer's Adempas (riociguat) in the European Union for treatment of chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension (CTEPH) and pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH).

The therapy can help patients who require surgical intervention but are considered inoperable.

Adempas is approved by the FDA (**PD** 08 Aug 2013) but not yet approved for use in Australia.

SHPA recruits analyst

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists is looking for a Policy and Projects Analyst in a full time capacity.

Consideration will also be given to the role as part time.

CLICK HERE for details.



MAKE THE SWITCH

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L'Oreal tops brands

L'OREAL has topped Brand Finance's list as the world's only \$10b cosmetics brand. Its value is up 24%, growing from US\$8.7bn last year to US\$10.8bn in 2014.

Second on the list was Avon, which saw brand value up 24% to US\$6.84b, but job losses for 1,500 staff, Brand Finance said.

Third was Pantene with a brand value of US\$6.2b and fourth was Nivea at US\$6.1b

New Hydralyte tubes

THE new Hydralyte Lemon Lime Effervescent tubes RRP is \$14.99.

Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry.

TRAVEL *On Sale*

This weeks travel specials are brought to you by Travel on Sale.

This week, Travel on Sale has some deals across Thailand for you.

With packages starting from \$999 per person, you can stay three nights in Bangkok with flights, free room upgrade, free late checkout and breakfast daily included.

Or relax at Phuket for four nights at the Burasari Resort from \$1155 per person with flights, with free nights, free mini bar and breakfast daily included.

Then there's the beach side town of Krabi with five nights and flights from \$1,149 per person including two free nights, 20% off food and beverages and breakfast daily.

The five star Ritz Carlton Phulay Bay in Krabi has flights and three nights from \$1,659 per person. For more, call 1300 013 729.

APCC members appointed

THE Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has appointed members to the Advanced Practice Credentialing Committee (APCC).

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) had a strong showing with the appointments of Queensland branch president Dr Lisa Nissen, Tasmanian branch president Dr Shane Jackson and branch committee member and University of Queensland School of Pharmacy adjunct senior lecturer, Debbie Rigby.

PSA national president Grant Kardachi said the trio would bring expertise and experience to the committee, whose deliberations were an integral part of the future direction of the profession.

The other APCC pharmacist member appointed is Monash University postgraduate studies and professional development unit director Kirstie Galbraith.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain director of professional development and support Dr Catherine Duggan is the international pharmacist member with advanced practice credentialing expertise.

The credentialing system of advanced practitioners, for which the APC was the assessment entity, would be piloted by the end of this year with implementation expected by early next year, APC said.

Jackson said Australia had done well to be so close to recognising its first advanced practitioners.

While the APCC still had a lot of work to do in developing and refining the model, its appointment meant Australia was one step closer to seeing advanced practitioners recognised and he expected the first advanced practitioners to undergo assessment and credentialing in 2014.

He said he felt very fortunate to have been selected to be part of the APCC to oversee the process.

Seebri Breezhaler

SEEBRI Breezhaler has been listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as of 01 Apr.

Novartis said the anti-cholinergic therapy for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) was the first to be listed in the country in more than 10 years.

WIN A HYDRALYTE PRIZE PACK

Every day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a Hydralyte prize pack, to ensure you stay hydrated whilst travelling.

Travelling?

Send dehydration packing with Hydralyte

The Risks:

- Travellers' Diarrhoea (up to 50% of those travelling to a high risk destination will suffer)
- Long Haul Flights (dry cabins)
- Increased Sun Exposure
- Increased Physical Activity
- Excessive Alcohol Consumption (alcohol acts as a diuretic)

The World Health Organization recommends all travellers' first aid kits contain an Oral Rehydration Formula (such as Hydralyte)

To win, be one of the first ten people to send in the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

What is the likelihood you will suffer from travellers' diarrhoea when travelling to a high risk destination?



DISPENSARY CORNER

APRIL fool's day pranks.

How did you survive April Fool's day's alternate realities?

Here's a roundup of some of the pranks from the motherland published by *Orange News*.

The Guardian reported that drivers in Scotland will be switching to driving on the right hand side of the road if independence from Britain is voted in and *The Daily Mail* said Britain's Union Jack would be redesigned to take out the blue if that happens.

The Daily Mirror reported that One Direction is banned from North Korea unless they all have the same haircut as Kim Jong-un - and change their name to 'Un Direction'.

The Mirror also claimed that a British farmer had produced the first six-legged lambs and hoped to breed them on a mass scale to reduce the cost of meat while both *The Daily Express* and *ITV* reported chickens at a farm in Suffolk had laid square eggs which would make for more efficient packaging and transport.

And royalty was not immune when *The Sun* reported that the cash strapped Queen was digging up Buckingham Palace's historic gardens to drill for gas to reduce utility bills.

Best of all, *Huffington Post's* *Weird News* illustrated every story, regardless of subject matter, with pictures of cats.

OOPS, pardon me!

An advertising agency in St Louis, Missouri is offering women between 18 and 40 years of age \$750 to demonstrate a burp of any size.

According to *Orange News*, they need to be able to generate their outburst on command and be available for filming at the end of April.

The agency needs a range of different styles of burp from the genteel to the outrageously loud for a fizzy drink commercial.

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- ✓ A computer with internet access
- ✓ A secure storage space

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of ParcelPoint users are new customers to the store

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