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## Nasonex Au website

**THE** Australian website address for Nasonex (**PD** 30 Jul) is [www.nasonexallergy.com.au](http://www.nasonexallergy.com.au).

## Novartis antimalarial

**SWISS** pharmaceutical giant Novartis has announced the success of clinical trials published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* demonstrating that one of its two new antimalarial candidates cleared the parasite rapidly in plasmodium falciparum and plasmodium vivax uncomplicated malaria patients.

Novartis has a third candidate with preventative potential but not as developed as KAE609 or KAF156 which are new classes of anti-malarial compounds that treat malaria in different ways from current therapies, important to combat emerging drug resistance.

## MPharm info evening

**THE** University of Sydney Faculty of Pharmacy is holding a Master of Pharmacy information evening on 14 Aug from 5.30pm at its Pharmacy Lecture Theatre.

Course coordinator Betty Chaar will be presenting and available for questions regarding entry requirements, an overview of course content and potential career options.

To register, email [pharmacy.pg@sydney.edu.au](mailto:pharmacy.pg@sydney.edu.au).

## Teva Aust expansion

**TEVA** Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd today announced the appointment of a local md in John Michailidis to head up its expansion of commercial operations in Australia.

Teva currently has an R&D facility in Macquarie Park, Sydney and now will take the next step to distribute its main product, the multiple sclerosis therapy Copaxone (glatiramer acetate injection), taking over from bioCSL.

The new arrangement will be effective from March 2015 and Teva has assured the 2,200 Australians currently taking the medicine that the transition will be seamless.

## PBA on dispensing mistakes

**THE** Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA) has reminded pharmacists to take care when dispensing so avoidable mistakes are not made.

In a communiqué, the Board said it had recently received reports of mistakes made including incorrect strengths of thyroxine and prednisolone being dispensed and quetiapine 300mg being dispensed instead of ranitidine 300mg, which all had the potential for adverse outcomes for the patients.

The Board said the mistakes could have been avoided had a scanner been used or screen alert been noted.

Pharmacists had an obligation to use systems and processes to prevent mistakes that could have

adverse outcomes for patients, the Board said.

"These and other Board codes and guidelines are admissible in proceedings under the National Law, for example, when handing complaints against pharmacists, as evidence of what constitutes appropriate professional conduct or practice for the pharmacy profession."

The Board said it did not comment on individual cases.

For more, **CLICK HERE**.

**MEANWHILE** the Board also reported that there was a total of 28,188 registered pharmacists as of June, which was the same number as in March.

This was comprised of 25,455 in general registration compared with 25,306 in March, 1,846 in provisional registration compared with 1,912 in March, 17 in limited registration compared with 17 in March and 964 in non-practising registration compared with 953 in March.

The data will be published shortly on the Board's website.

## Smoking cessation

**THE** Guild Pharmacy Academy and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) have partnered to produce a revised training unit for pharmacy assistants which covers issues of smoking cessation.

GSK manufactures Nicabate products.

Guild Pharmacy Academy head Sue Bond said GSK's contribution was balanced and the Academy had gone to great lengths to ensure unbiased and informative content.

She said pharmacy assistants needed to be able to relate information in the units to specific products.

The unit's learning outcomes include determining customer satisfaction with smoking cessation and identifying other conditions.

## Alexion shares up 74%

**US** pharmaceutical rare blood disease specialist company Alexion has announced second quarter 2014 results highlighting sales increase of Soliris (eculizumab) of 38% to US\$12.5m and net income increase of 74% to US\$166.5m, equivalent to US\$0.83 per share, compared with Q2 2013 income of US\$95.9m, US\$0.73 per share.

**CLICK HERE** for the full report.

## Need CPD points?

**IF YOU** need CPD points prior to the Sep 30 deadline, Hydralite has an answer.

Join the Australian Pharmacy Council accredited free pharmacist 'Norovirus webinar' on 11 Aug.

See details on **Page 3**.

## CPD for HIV meds

**THE** Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has shared a presentation by Alfred Hospital infectious diseases and HIV senior pharmacist Alison Duncan for pharmacists with little or no experience with dispensing HIV antiretroviral therapy.

SHPA said the presentation also highlighted CPD material available from the Association.

This comes in light of the changes to HIV antiretroviral medicine dispensing, which comes into effect from July next year (**PD** 08 Jul).

SHPA president Professor Michael Dooley said there were many different antiretrovirals, used in different combinations and pharmacists needed to understand the complexities.

"Education programs for pharmacists delivered by experts in this field, including clinical pharmacists treating patients in hospitals, will be needed."

**CLICK HERE** for the presentation.

## Medication errors

**MEDICATION** errors generated from computerized physician order entry in the computerized patient record system at the Lexington Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Kentucky USA, enabled a study of near miss events.

Published in the *American Journal of Medical Quality* recently, the study involved an interdisciplinary team including pharmacists, physicians, medical informatics and quality department staff analysing data since August 2012.

These data revealed that a majority of near miss events were related to antibiotic orders, with a percentage of these near miss events being attributable to inappropriate renal dosing.

**CLICK HERE** to read the abstract.



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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist In Charge** - South Coast, NSW (Job# 2010683)  
Friendly beach location, great opportunity with training and support.
- **Aged Care Pharmacist** - Eyre Peninsula, SA (Job# 2010577)  
Get work/life balance with 5.5 days per week in a laid-back country town.
- **Pharmacist In Charge** - Regional South, WA (Job# 2010721)  
Career changer with genuine partnership potential, \$45/hr+super+accom.

Share your career vision with us and we'll help get you there!

## 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).

- 1 Aug:** The Pharmacy Management Conference; Surfers Paradise; more at: [www.pharmacyconference.com.au/](http://www.pharmacyconference.com.au/)
- 9-10 Aug:** The Great Victorian Railway Tour; Melbourne; details: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 10 Aug:** Managing Drug Interactions Seminar; Sydney; more at: [www.pharmeducation.com.au](http://www.pharmeducation.com.au)
- 10 Aug:** Medicines Update 2014; Echuca; more details at: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 11-14 Aug:** Health Informatics Conference 2014; Melbourne; more at: [www.hisa.org.au](http://www.hisa.org.au)
- 16-17 Aug:** 8th AustralAsian Academy of Anti-Ageing Medicine Conference 2014; Melbourne; see: [www.a5m.net](http://www.a5m.net)
- 16-20 Aug:** Pharmacy Snow Business Conference; Mount Buller; more at: [www.medicicom.au/event/pharmacy-snow-business](http://www.medicicom.au/event/pharmacy-snow-business)
- 19 Aug:** APC Accreditation Colloquium; Brisbane; more at: [www.pharmacycouncil.org.au](http://www.pharmacycouncil.org.au)
- 29-31 Aug:** ACP 25th Annual Conference & Exhibition; Hobart; for more details see: [www.acp.edu.au](http://www.acp.edu.au)
- 12-14 Sep:** Pharmacy Business Network Conference; Surfers Paradise; more at: [www.pharmacybusinessnetwork.com/](http://www.pharmacybusinessnetwork.com/)
- 10-12 Oct:** Pharmacy Australia Congress 2014; Canberra; more at: [www.psa.org.au/pac](http://www.psa.org.au/pac)
- 16-18 Oct:** Pharmacy Assistant Conference 2014; Gold Coast; more at: [www.pharmacyassistants.com/](http://www.pharmacyassistants.com/)

## Polarised MA Code opinion

**VIEWS** are mixed in the submissions to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on the proposed 18th Medicine Australia's (MA) Code of Conduct.

Following a submission from industry academic Dr Ken Harvey highlighting MA's failure to deliver on key principles agreed to by Medicines Australia Transparency Working Group (*PD* 28 Jul), the Australian Medical Association (AMA), GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Merck Sharp and Dohme (MSD) have written supportive submissions, but others are not so sure.

MSD's submission stated that the most significant change in the 18th Code proposal focused on increasing transparency and disclosure and is aligned with EU recommendations in the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) Model, an 'activity-based' rather than 'monetary limit' US Sunshine model approach to disclosure and reporting.

The AMA also identified the merits of the EFPIA model, saying it was a realistic and commonsense approach given that the new requirements were largely philosophically based, lacking evidence that there would be an

impact positive or negative on healthcare systems or decisions.

GSK said that the new proposal struck the right balance in terms of delivering greater transparency of healthcare professional interactions while taking into account autonomy, privacy issues, the value of educational opportunities while avoiding unintended consequences of more resource-intensive transparency models.

Strongly opposing the proposal, Emeritus Professor Alastair MacLennan submitted to the ACCC that "self-regulation by the pharmaceutical and alternative health industries and opt-out clauses allow continuing biased lobbying, and unethical practices."

Others submitting including Prof Marcello Costa, Dr Mary Osborn, Dr Rob McEvoy and Dr Geoff Smith, separately but similarly expressing strong reservations about transparency declaration exemptions such as some hospitality, airport transfers, taxis and research funding.

## New AIHW head

**THE** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has a new chairperson in Dr Mukesh Haikerwal, appointed for one year, who is a former national president of the AMA.

## WIN A PLUNKETTS PACK

This week *Pharmacy Daily* & Plunketts are giving five readers the chance to win a Plunketts moisturiser pack.

John Plunkett Multi Vitamin Moisturiser has been reformulated with natural emollients and an improved odour profile. The formulation is free from parabens, mineral oil, colour and perfume and its therapeutic levels of the five vital vitamins help fight early signs of ageing. It is suitable for normal and sensitive skin. Plunketts are pharmacy quality cosmeceuticals at a realistic price and Australian made and owned.

Visit: [www.johnplunkett.com.au](http://www.johnplunkett.com.au)

To win, be first to send the correct answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

What skin type is John Plunkett Multi Vitamin Moisturiser formulated for?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, **Eta Chow** from **Webstercare**.



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## DISPENSARY CORNER

**OH my calories!**

Diabetes and obesity levels are on the rise, so the US Center for Science in the Public Interest 2014 Xtreme Eating Awards might be a good guide for any customers seeking advice, given one of the top entries, the Cheesecake Factory's Farfalle with Chicken and Roasted Garlic, contained 2,410 calories, equivalent to a five hour jog.

The unhealthiest meal was awarded to the Red Robin A.1. Peppercorn burger, Bottomless Steak fries and Monster Salted Caramel Milkshake which had 3,540 calories, four days' worth of sodium and 38 teaspoons of added sugar.

**GOOD** work on the Masters...

If any readers are fans of the podcast 'Rhod Gilbert's Best Bits' by Welsh comedian Rhod Gilbert, they might be familiar with Huw the Loser from Bridgend, who, it has been revealed, graduated with a Masters of Pharmacy.

Huw got his crown from being the biggest Loser of the Week for several months running, a title he first won by emailing in from a supermarket carpark while waiting for his mum and listening to a transistor radio (from memory).

As Hugh said, the fact that he'd passed his Masters of Pharmacy challenged his losership, but as Gilbert said, he had still written in to *Radio Wales* to tell people about it...

**DOWNLOAD** the FREE *Pharmacy Daily* iOS App, **CLICK BELOW**.





# Do you need CPD points by the September 30th Deadline?

Sign up NOW for our FREE pharmacist webinar – a focus on norovirus

**ACCREDITED FOR 1.5 GROUP 2 CPD POINTS!**

**When: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

**Time: 7pm – 8pm AEST**

**Webinar Focus:**

The pathogenesis, treatment, symptoms and preventative measures surrounding norovirus.



**Presenter: Sarah Gray** Clinical Education Pharmacist, Hydralyte

To register, email: [sarah.gray@hydralyte.com](mailto:sarah.gray@hydralyte.com)

Subject line: “Norovirus Webinar”

Please include your full name, pharmacy name & email address

Raising awareness of the link between vomiting, diarrhoea & dehydration in peak gastro season the NEW Hydralyte TVC will be on air from **July – October.**

Watch it here 



**Accreditation number: CX130039**

This activity has been accredited for 0.75 hours of Group 2 CPD (or 1.5 Group 2 CPD credits in total) suitable for inclusion in an individual pharmacist's CPD plan.

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