



**LASTING, NON-DROWSY
ALLERGY CONTROL**

ETHICAL NUTRIENTS
PROFESSIONAL NATURAL MEDICINES

Always read the label. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist consult your healthcare professional.

Have a date with API

PHARMACIES are being reminded to order their 2015 API Calendars, with the 31 Aug deadline fast approaching. For details, see **page three**.

Biz plan finalists

THE finalists for the Pharmacy Guild's National Student Business Plan competition have been announced.

Three teams have been selected: Primelink Pharmacy from University of Canberra/Charles Sturt University, Pharmcare Pharmacy from La Trobe University, and Complete Pharmacy Townsville from Queensland University of Technology.

Rural Foundation Pharmacy from the University of New England and Your Pharmacy Your Health from La Trobe University were also awarded highly commended prizes.

The finalists would go on to the Pharmacy Business Network on 13 Sep, the Guild said.

Alteplase UK review

THE UK Commission on Human Medicines (CHM) will set up an expert working group to review information on use of alteplase for ischaemic stroke.

This comes after the CHM considered evidence available following the extension of the treatment window for alteplase in stroke and concluded that the data did not change the balance of benefits outweighing the risks for the medication's use and that it remained an effective medicine for treating ischaemic stroke.

However it said an expert working group should be set up, to report in early 2015 on whether the evidence had implications on the risk-benefit ratio.

The TGA said it would consider the CHM review and any information from the expert working group to determine whether action was required here.

Boehringer Ingelheim said experts had responded to the original issues raised in the *Lancet*, pointing out inaccuracies, and that all data had been made available.

CLICK HERE for more.

First pharm vax course

THE Pharmacy Guild NSW branch has confirmed it will offer the first nationally accredited course for pharmacist vaccination training (**PD** breaking news yesterday).

This follows the extension of the Queensland Pharmacist Vaccination Pilot (QPIP) to include a second influenza season and vaccinations for measles and whooping cough for adults (**PD** 10 Jul).

In NSW, no pharmacy was legally able to have pharmacist delivered immunisations, meaning the training would include a letter outlining the current position on pharmacy vaccination and that a pharmacist must not practice until formal written notice was received from the Guild and the relevant state or territory health department, the Guild said.

However it was hoped that the required regulatory changes would be coming "very soon", the Guild said.

The course had been developed to make pharmacists vaccination ready where pharmacist vaccination was already authorised, such as Queensland and NT, and in NSW upon the passage of the required legislation, it said.

The course, NAT10445 - Conduct Immunisation Services

within a Community Pharmacy Environment, was accredited through the Australian Skills and Quality Authority and added to the Guild's scope of registration in May.

It said other registered training organisations could use the course via licensing agreements.

The course started in September in the Orange area and cost \$550 for members and \$750 for non-members, the Guild said.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia in June told members that the training used in the QPIP would "very soon" be available and asked for expressions of interest.

Alogliptin performs

A THREE ARM, multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, active-controlled study comparing alogliptin (Nesina) plus metformin with glipizide plus metformin over a two year period has demonstrated its primary endpoint.

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Head of the Endocrinology Dept and Endocrinology Research Laboratories, Professor Stephen Twigg said the results provided a "compelling basis to consider alogliptin's use early in the treatment pathway."

Terry White #s up

TERRY White Chemists has added 23 pharmacies to its network in the past 12 months, growth exceeding its previous peak.

Speaking at the company's annual conference, chairman Terry White said the \$1.1b group now included 175 pharmacies.

Vic medical marijuana

VICTORIA'S Labour opposition has announced its plan to legalise medical marijuana (cannabis) for treatment of patients with terminal or life-threatening conditions.

Australian Medical Association Victoria president Tony Bartone told *The Australian* there was a growing body of evidence that cannabis was an effective treatment in certain situations but added that extensive clinical trials needed to be conducted.



With 8 years' experience, Star Pharmacy Group has 36 pharmacy locations and is one of Australia's fastest growing pharmacy group which includes Chemmart, Terry White Chemists, Guardian and Priceline - brands that are well known and recognised.


An exciting opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic Pharmacist to join our busy pharmacy at **Alive Discount Pharmacy in Cairns, Queensland**, to work Part-time (17.5 hours/week, including Saturdays). Forward dispensing and counselling customers will be a major part as well as assisting in the shop area.

To succeed in this role, you will need the following skills and attributes:

- Demonstrate a passion for customer service
- The ability to manage a busy work load
- Provide excellent communication between yourself and the Managing Pharmacist
- Is energetic and motivated
- Willing and able to delegate to the team

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ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION SCANNING INCENTIVE

ARE YOU READY FOR ePSI PHASE 2?


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Scan 30% in September

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to scan at least 30% of original prescriptions across September



Australian Government
Department of Health



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

Funded by the Australian Department of Health as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

Untreatable TB alert

THE Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has highlighted a World Health Organisation brief warning visitors to Papua New Guinea of serious risk of mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue fever, water-borne diseases such as typhoid and hepatitis, as well as other infections such as cholera, dysentery, measles and seasonal or avian influenza and "extensively drug resistant tuberculosis".

CLICK HERE for more detail.

Guild Update

ScriptMAP-2015: Financial analysis at your fingertips

SCRIPTMAP-2015 provides information and analysis relating to the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement and includes the impact of the changed price disclosure arrangements that will take effect from 1 October this year.

A ScriptMAP report, using best available information and based each pharmacy's unique dispensing mix, provides the clearest available picture of the impact of the changes that will occur to PBS pricing and pharmacy remuneration over the Agreement period. ScriptMAP-2015 provides information on:

- Pharmacy remuneration as set down in the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement, including applicable indexation of fees
 - All applied and announced price reductions, including those due to Price Disclosure
 - Projected growth in the volume of prescriptions.
 - Projected growth in generic substitution rates.
 - Patent expiries throughout the five years, and subsequent generic competition
 - Annual indexation of PBS co-payments, which impacts on which drugs fall below the co-payment level
- ScriptMAP-2015 is the best financial tool available to pharmacies. Guild Members can order their copy of ScriptMAP-2015 at the special August only rate of \$49. Visit www.guild.org.au/scriptmap.

PBS co-pay increase 'necessary'

THE Department of Health's submission to the inquiry into the proposed increased Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) co-payments and safety nets has said these are not only reasonable and proportionate, but necessary.

The submission said this was due to the factors driving PBS growth in the longer term and the need to boost medical innovation through research.

The Department said the average impact on general patients would be \$10 more in contributions in 2015, based on average use of two subsidised prescriptions.

The average concessional patients would pay \$14.60 more in contributions next year, based on an average use of 17 subsidised

prescriptions each year, it said.

Concessional patients over 65 years would pay an extra \$24.

By comparison, the University of Sydney BEACH study said for general patients, the additional cost of medications per year would range from \$1.15 for children to \$27.77 in adults aged 65 or older.

Concessional patients would see an average additional cost ranging from \$3.11 for children to \$29.65 in adults aged 65 or over.

To read more, **CLICK HERE**.

PBAC likes Hep C Rx

HEPATITIS Australia (HA) has welcomed the PBAC positive recommendation of simeprevir (Olysio) for inclusion in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the treatment of genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C.

Hepatitis Australia CEO Helen Tyrrell said the use of simeprevir as an addition to pegylated interferon and ribavirin to treat people with genotype 1 hepatitis C was an important step forward in the evolution of hepatitis C treatment.

The organisation said it hoped for an early PBS listing of simeprevir.

It was disappointed with the PBAC's rejection of an application to subsidise the antiviral sofosbuvir (Sovaldi) from Gilead, used to treat Hepatitis C infection, Tyrrell said.

Labelling consultation

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration is seeking feedback on four documents on the labelling of medicines, including a regulation impact statement, which will be used to help government decide whether the revised Therapeutic Goods Order for labelling of medicines could be implemented.

The statement outlines the options, likely benefits and costs involved for each option.

The consultation closes 07 Oct. **CLICK HERE** to read more.

WIN A SPOTNER PACK

This week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving five readers the chance to win a **Spotner** pack.

New Spotner Agespot Corrector Pen revolutionises the treatment of age spots. Spotner's precision pen applicator and unique formulation combine to visibly reduce the appearance of age spots. With a simple twice daily treatment, results may be seen in as little as two to three weeks.

Spotner is available in two varieties, Spotner Hands & Body and Spotner Face & Decolleté, a gentler, more delicate formulation for those more sensitive areas.

To win, be first to send in the answer to:
comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

How many times a day should
Spotner be applied?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner **Cara Murphy**
from **Sigma Pharmaceuticals**.



DISPENSARY CORNER

NOTIFIED of own death by mail.

Remember to check those automatic letters going out to pharmacy patients for detail accuracy.

Not the normal letter of advice and condolences to receive - this 80 year old learned of her own sad passing by mail from the pension fund who found out that she had died because her bank had returned her pension cheque.

An employee of the fund had recorded the reason for the returned cheque as "deceased".

Fortunately the *UK Telegraph* reported that the recipient of her own condolence letter, although somewhat upset, was still able to advise Standard Life Pension Fund of their error.

AND no medical bill payout either if you have passed.

Be sure all your patients are still in the land of the living if you want reimbursement from the PBS for their scripts.

Another hapless pensioner, this time in France, was refused payment of €23 for his GP visit by the French Health Service "because of my death on the 4th January 2010", he told the *UK Telegraph*.

At only 68 years of age, Jean-Marie from the eastern Vosges region said, "When I got the letter, I thought I was dreaming, then my wife and I started laughing.

"The strangest thing was that I was supposed to be dead but the letter said I could appeal if I wanted to."

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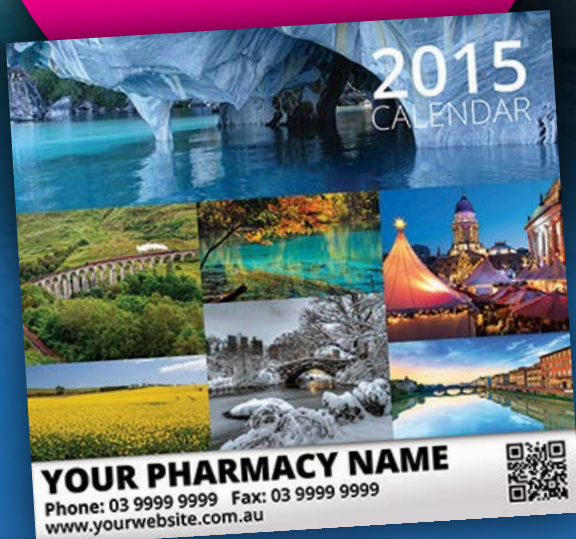


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www.pharmacycalendars.com.au

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ORDERS
CLOSE IN
6 DAYS**



**ORDERS CLOSE
31st AUGUST**

Great value rates! HURRY! - orders close 31st August

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Rates (ex GST)	\$2.16ea	\$1.79ea	\$1.46ea	\$1.21ea	\$1.00ea

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- + Fantastic **LOW PRICES**
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