Pharmacy Friday 29 Aug 2014



ARE you ready for ePSI Phase 2? Pharmacies eligible for PPI Community Services Support can participate in the second review period for ePSI.

Check the details on page three.

WHO slams e-cigs

DESCRIBING e-cigarettes as 'electronic nicotine delivery systems', the World Health Organisation (WHO) has come down on the side of tighter regulation to control distribution and use.

Key issues for WHO were health risks to users and non-users, their touted efficacy in assisting smoking cessation and the interference with existing tobacco-control efforts and implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

WHO has recommended restrictions should be placed on the marketing of the devices, their sale to minors and indoor use.

CLICK HERE to read the report.

Be Medicinewise Week

NPS MedicineWise has said that Be Medicinewise Week will be held from 13 to 19 Oct

This week will celebrate the fourth annual national awareness week promoting safer and better use of medicines with the theme 'Are your medicines helping or hindering?'

Medication safety topics will include painkillers and complementary medicines. CLICK HERE for more.

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Vic govt to allow pot trials

THE Victorian Government has confirmed it will amend the 'Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act' to enable clinical trials of medical cannabis and "similar highly regulated substances". This follows the Labour opposition

announcing it would legalise medical marijuana were it elected (PD 26 Aug).

The Minister for Health David Davis said an expert advisory committee would be appointed to look at approvals for trials in the use of cannabis compounds for a range of illnesses.

The government said it would also consider changing the law

AIHW site update

THE Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has released updated web pages focusing on mental health services in Australia.

Details around Medicare subsidised services, prescriptions, government expenditure and other data are included.

CLICK HERE to see the new data.

Drug use ADHD link

INFANTS exposed to antidepressants prebirth may have increased risk of developing attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) according to a new study published in Molecular Psychiatry this week.

However, the risk of mothers stopping their meds may be greater than the ADHD risk, said the study. CLICK HERE to read the abstract.

aven's

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Jobs of the Week

- Pharmacist in Charge Capricornia Region, QLD (Job# 2010586) Relaxed location - opportunity to work f/time hours in 4 days. Fred dispense.
- Rotational Pharmacist Whyalla & Eyre Region, SA (Job# 2010779) Min 30/hr/wk + extras, small group of 3 Phcies, suit new reg or NZ Phcist.
- Pharmacist in Charge New England, NSW(Job# 2010548) Career opportunity for all experience levels in small rural country town.

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to allow growing narcotic plants for therapeutic purposes, in the context of clinical trials, which the Minister said would ensure the quality of the product.

ALLERGY

The TGA had already approved Sativex, used for multiple sclerosis, and the government would support a "major Victorian health service" importing and prescribing it, possibly also conducting trials to treat other conditions, he said.

The NT government also announced it would consider legalising medical marijuana. To read more, CLICK HERE.

GSK closes meds unit

GLAXOSMITHKLINE (GSK) has confirmed it will close its Medicines Research Unit at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney, which will see eight full time and five contract staff lose their jobs.

The unit would close on 30 Sep, GSK said

It said changes to the global R&D landscape and so its business model had meant the volume of studies and type of work channelled through the facility had changed.

However it would continue to conduct "globally sponsored" clinical trials (phase one to four) in Australia and New Zealand from its Melbourne office, it said.

GSK Australia pharmaceuticals gm Geoffrey McDonald said sustainable R&D meant the company needed to continually monitor and maximise its return on investment.

CLICK HERE for more.

QUM ethical concerns

ETHICAL NUTRIENTS

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LASTING, NON-DROWSY **ALLERGY CONTROL**

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THE Australian Pharmacy Liaison Forum (APLF) said in its most recent communiqué that it discussed concerns regarding pharmacists working under conditions where the Code of Ethics relevant to them was compromised "specifically regarding promotions run by some marketing groups; and that price promotion may trivialise risks associated with some medicines and act against pharmacists' image and status as 'Health Advisors'".

APLF chair John Low said there had been a perceived trend regarding the influence of business drivers on professional practice ranging from setting of MedsChecks quotas to promotional distribution of non-prescription medicines.

The APLF discussed pressures placed on pharmacists to meet business demands that might bring their professionalism into question.

"The APLF agreed that there is a need to remind pharmacists that the responsibility for professional and ethical behaviour rests with the individual and not the marketing group."

Pharmacists who felt their professionalism was thus compromised could seek assistance from the PDL, he said.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia president Grant Kardachi wrote recently in Australian Pharmacist that the practice of banner groups emphasising price promotion was cause for concern for pharmacists, who could find it hard to advise on appropriate use of medicines when consumers could buy the product at a discount price, often without counselling.



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• Easy

Views on LVT model mixed

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.

- 29-31 Aug: ACP 25th Annual Conference & Exhibition; Hobart; for more details see: www.acp.edu.au
- 30-31 Aug: NSW Pharmacy in focus; Byron Bay; for more details see: www.psa.org.au
- 3 Sep: Brisbane Patient Education Day; Brisbane; for more details see: www. lungfoundation.com.au
- 9 Sep: 'Translating Science Into Practice' Lecture; Monash University; more details at: www.monash.edu.au
- 11-14 Sep: SHPA National Medicines Management Conference; Darwin; for more see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 12-14 Sep: Pharmacy Business Network Conference; Melbourne; more at: www. pharmacybusinessnetwork.com/
- 14 Sep: PSA Medicines Update; Gippsland; for more details see: www.psa.org.au
- 16 Sep: Keeping It Going QCPP Maintenance; Sydney; for more details see: www.guild.org.au
- 18 Sep: Sydney Patient Education Day; Sydney; for more details see: www. lungfoundation.com.au
- 27-28 Sep: PSA Mental Health First Aid; Sydney; for more details see: www.psa.org.au
- 9 Oct: Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy Forum at PAC 2014 National Convention; Canberra; more at: www.psa. org.au/pac/aacp-forum

SUBMISSIONS to the

Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA) consultation on the Low Value Turnover exemption (LVT) scheme are mixed as to what it should look like going forward.

The scheme allowed sponsors to seek an exemption from payment of annual Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods charges for entries with low value turnover but predated the National Medicines Policy and had had complaints about administrative burden, the

Trial appropriateness

RESEARCH Australia has made a submission to the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) consultation on good practice process for clinical trials, saying the keys to improving clinical trial governance were uniform and 'trial appropriate' approaches across all jurisdictions, and the greater use and acceptance of multi-site ethical approvals.

The state and territory governments needed to be engaged in the reform process, which should be appropriate to the nature of the clinical trial, for instance, non-drug trials were lower risk typically but paediatric trials had specific requirements, Research Australia said.

CLICK HERE to read more.

little as two to three weeks.

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Spotner pack.

sensitive areas.

TGA said.

Symbion Pharmacy Services said it was "okay" with retaining the current LVT scheme form but would prefer efficiency improvements.

Both GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Sanofi ANZ supported replacing the scheme with one that granted exemptions only for Register entries which were not supplied to the Australian market, with GSK saying this would reduce the administrative burden, simplify criteria for eligibility and improve efficiency, and was justified since only goods which required post market monitoring would be required to pay annual fees.

The Complementary Healthcare Council said it supported retaining the scheme with some amendments to help small to medium sized businesses with a "better targeted and lower burden scheme".

The Australian Self Medication Industry suggested alternative approaches to streamlining the process including radio buttons to indicate whether a product was supplied or not supplied.

ACCM cancellation

THE September meeting of the Advisory Committee on **Complementary Medicines has** been cancelled.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

PHARMACY justice.

This is what you get for trying to mess with pharmacists, and for being not so very clever - a prospective thief was arrested for trying to rob a pharmacy at knifepoint, and after posting a video of his plan to Facebook, stuff.co.nz has reported.

Police in Cambridge, NZ, praised the staff of Unichem Learnington Pharmacy for their quick actions in calling the police, leading to his arrest at the scene.

GRANNY guard.

If you need to ramp up your security at the pharmacy, we have just the person for you to hire.

According to Yahoo! News, a 40 year old woman tackled a man half her age as he tried to escape from police in Washington state.

Apparently the young escapee tried to push her aside as he ran but she brought him down, pulling down his shorts in the process, said the report.

Not content with stopping him, she also taunted him about being overpowered by a mother of five and a grandmother of three.

RAMP up your petcare category. If you need to ramp up any petcare category you might have, look no further - UK retailers are providing creative food garnishing for pets, reports the Telegraph.

Try Petchup and Meowstard flavoured with chicken, turkey or bacon to liven up their meals, or bacon-scented bubbles to chase, the publication reported.

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Congratulations to yesterday's winner Gerald Lian from Chemist Warehouse Warrnambool.

In what direction should you twist the

bottom of the pen?

WIN A SPOTNER PACK

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

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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 All pharmacies eligible for PPI Community Services Support can participate in the second review period for ePSI, even If your pharmacy did not meet the March 2014 requirements.

Contact your vendor to find out your current scanning rate.



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.