

## Pharmacists working for Pharmacists



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### CVD highest spend

AUSTRALIA spends more on cardiovascular diseases (CVD) than on any other disease group, a report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has found.

'Health care expenditure on cardiovascular diseases 2008-09' estimated \$7.6b was spent on CVD during the period, which amounted to 12% of all health care expenditure in the country.

This was ahead of musculoskeletal conditions, injuries and neoplasms, AIHW said.

Coronary heart disease was the most expensive at \$2.0b (27%), followed by stroke at \$0.6b.

The highest level of expenditure was for people aged from 75 to 84 at \$2.0b, followed by those aged 65 to 74 at \$1.9b.

The sector which took up the majority of spending was hospital admitted patient services at about \$4.5b or 59%, followed by prescription pharmaceuticals at 22%, or \$1.6b.

The biggest increase in annual CVD expenditure from 2000-01 to 2008-09 was in hospital admitted patient services, which increased from \$2.9b to \$4.5b.

To read the full report, [CLICK HERE](#).

### TGA allays CM concerns

FOLLOWING reports from the University of Adelaide stating that 18% of complementary medicines sold in supermarkets are not registered with the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) in spite of the fact that this is a legal requirement for their sale (*PD* 20 Feb), the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has responded to allay consumer fears.

A spokesperson for the TGA said the writers of the manuscript did not appear to fully understand the operation of the Therapeutic Goods Act and how the regulation of therapeutic goods occurred.

"As a result we believe they have made some wrong findings with regard to compliance with labelling," the TGA said.

The discrepancies related to labelling and product content were noted last year by the TGA and have now been rectified, the TGA added, saying that the Administration ensures compliance with regulatory requirements on a case by case basis and cancellation of a product is an option.

The Consumer Health Council (CHC) has also commented emphasising "caution with any study drawing results from such a

very small sample size."

Carl Gibson, ceo of the CHC, said that the sampling of 121 of the 11604 listed medicines registered on the ARTG did not give a true reflection of the compliance of the industry.

Moreover, many of the regulatory reforms, which the CHC had been proactively involved in, were still to be rolled out to the industry and would continue to increase consumer confidence in low risk listed medicines, he said.

The CHC emphasised the regulatory vigour of the complementary medicines industry in Australia which is recognised as having one of the highest regarded and most tightly regulated systems in the world, with products manufactured under Good Manufacturing Practice, and the industry operating under strict safety and quality regulations set by the TGA.

The public did need to be aware that products purchased online from overseas were not subject to the same regulations as those enforced in Australia, and therefore these purchases of complementary medicines should only be made on the recommendation of a qualified healthcare professional or from a reputable retailer, the CHC said.

### Blood pressure & falls

#### ANTIHYPERTENSIVE

medications have been associated with an increased risk of serious fall injuries, a new study has found.

'Antihypertensive medications and serious fall injuries in a nationally representative sample of older adults', published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*, found of 4,961 participants older than 70 years with hypertension, of which 85.9% took antihypertensive medications, 446 participants, or 9%, experienced serious fall injuries and 16.9% died.

Potential harms vs benefits of the medications should be weighed in deciding to continue treatment in older adults with multiple chronic conditions, the study said.

To read it, [CLICK HERE](#).

### PHARMAC seeks input

NEW Zealand's Pharmaceutical Management Agency (PHARMAC) is asking for people's views on a proposed new framework for making pharmaceutical funding decisions.

PHARMAC currently uses a set of nine criteria to guide the decisions it makes about pharmaceutical funding.

With PHARMAC's role expanding to include hospital medicines, vaccines and eventually hospital medical devices, the factors PHARMAC took account of needed reviewing, it said.

Chief executive Steffan Crausaz says the proposed new format shows that PHARMAC looks at the impact of decisions across four aspects – need, suitability, benefits and costs. Each of those aspects is considered in relation to the patient, the treatment, and the health sector.

Consultation on the draft framework closes at Easter.

### Looking for a competitive edge...?

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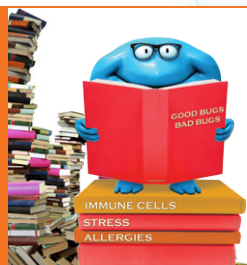
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## EMA grants PUMA

**THE** European Medicines Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human use (CHMP) has recommended granting a paediatric-use marketing authorisation (PUMA) for Hemangioli for the treatment of proliferating infantile haemangioma.

Infantile haemangioma are abnormal growths (benign tumours) involving blood vessels, that develop in the skin or internal organs and affect 3-10% of children.

Commonly called a strawberry birthmark, they typically appear during the first four to six weeks of life, characteristically exhibit early rapid growth and then usually start to shrink spontaneously.

## Maxigesic launches

**AUSTRALIA'S** first combination of paracetamol and ibuprofen in one tablet has been launched as Maxigesic.

The product originates from Dr Hartley Atkinson, a Perth-born inventor who combined 500mg of paracetamol with 150mg of ibuprofen.

Maxigesic is available in packs of 10, 16 and 30 tablets scheduled S3.

## Cessation of S8 papers

**THE** Queensland Department of Health Medicines Regulation and Quality (MRQ) has advised Queensland pharmacies that it will not accept paper submissions of Schedule 8 prescriptions dispensed on or after 01 Feb.

This means Queensland pharmacists are now responsible for keeping S8 related documents.

The department said from 01 Mar all dispensed S8 information should be submitted in electronic form, within 14 days after the end of each dispensing month, rather than the current system in Queensland of both a paper and electronic

submission.

Paper copies of S8 prescriptions dispensed until 31 Jan still needed to be submitted along with their prescription information in electronic form, MRQ said.

These changes meant pharmacists would now be responsible for keeping S8 documents for a minimum of two years from the date of dispensing, under Section 133 of the *Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996*, the department said.

The ceo could still require a pharmacy to send a paper prescription to the department within 14 days of notice, MRQ said.

The department said the changes did not apply to written instructions for recording monthly dosing of persons on the Opioid Treatment Program, for which paper copies should still be submitted by mail as per usual.

## SHPA MR updating

**THE** Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) is offering for the first time in 2014 a seminar designed to help pharmacists improve their medication review skills: MedsChecks, HMRs or RMMRs or for those who are starting out in hospital pharmacy.

The seminar will be held on 26 to 27 Jul 2014.

**CLICK HERE** for details.

## Prevenar preventative

**PFIZER** Inc has said its study of about 85,000 subjects to evaluate the effects of Prevenar 13 against pneumonia in adults aged 65 or over achieved its objective.

The study also met both secondary objectives, Pfizer said.

## Champion pharm

**THE** Pharmacy Guild of Australia (PGA) has announced the ten finalists in the Quality Care Pharmacy Program Pharmacy of the Year, including Moodie's Pharmacy in NSW, Goldfields Fullife Pharmacy in QLD, Royal Street Chemmart Pharmacy in WA and Charnwood Capital Chemist in ACT.

The winner will be announced at the APP conference on 13 Mar.

For all the finalists, **CLICK HERE**.

## Acetaminophen risk

**CHILDREN** whose mothers used acetaminophen (paracetamol) during pregnancy are at a higher risk of a diagnosis of hyperkinetic disorder (HKD) or of having ADHD-like behaviours at seven years of age, a new study has found.

'Acetaminophen use during pregnancy, behavioral problems, and hyperkinetic disorders', published in *JAMA Pediatrics*, looked at more than 64,000 children and mothers in the Danish National Birth Cohort from 1996 to 2002, and found that more than half of all mothers used the medication while pregnant, and that stronger associations were observed with use in more than one trimester of pregnancy.

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

## WIN A DESIGNER BRANDS PRIZE PACK

This week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving five lucky readers the chance to win a **Designer Brands** prize pack, valued at \$31.

Each pack includes an Outrageous Volume Mascara, two nail polishes and a kohl pencil.

Outrageous Volume Mascara is a mega-impact volume mascara that will give you bold and dense lashes for a show stopping look.

The formula is infused with vitamin E to promote lash strength and is easy to apply with the exclusive GS-13 brush, ensuring no clumping so lashes are soft, yet still boasting intense volume.

To win this exciting prize pack, simply be the first person to correctly answer the question below to: **comp@pharmacydaily.com.au**.



**What does the Vitamin E in Outrageous Volume Mascara do?**

Congratulations to yesterday's winner **Deborah Caldera** from **Jardines Chemmart Pharmacy**.

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## Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy!

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email [newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)



### NEW Trilogy Blemish Control Gel

Fifteen, 25 or 45 – it doesn't matter how old we are, you can almost guarantee that blemishes will choose the most inopportune moment to appear. Whatever stage of life you're at, you want something which works and works fast. What you need is NEW **Trilogy Blemish Control Gel**, 20ml of speedy spot remedy. Salicylic acid helps to clear congestion and debris, while the antibacterial properties of lemongrass and mandarin help control breakouts and aid healing. With the addition of cucumber to cool and soothe, ginger to help reduce inflammation and certified organic rosehip oil to help repair skin, Trilogy Blemish Control Gel is a magical cocktail.

Stockist: 03 9533 1336

RRP: \$19.95

Website: [www.trilogyproducts.com](http://www.trilogyproducts.com)

### The Dreambaby Toilet Lock and Dreambaby Auto Sensor Swivel Light

Keep your curious little ones locked out and well away from the toilet with the help of the **Dreambaby Toilet Lock-F123**. Prevent infection, poisoning and potential drowning with this simple-to-install product. And keep your bathroom lit up throughout the night to help stop accidental falls and to provide comfort for little ones.



The ingenious **Dreambaby Auto Sensor Swivel Light-F804** (top left) automatically turns on in the dark and off in the light. The 360° rotating swivel head means you can cast a soft light in any direction, making them ideal for use in the bathroom, bedroom or just outside in the hallway, so you can see your way clear.

Stockist: 02 9386 4000

RRP: \$6.95 toilet lock and \$9.95 swivel light

Website: [www.dreambaby.com.au](http://www.dreambaby.com.au)

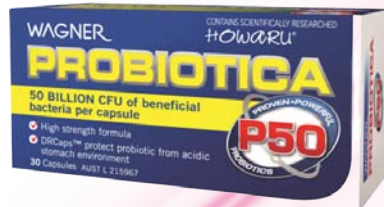
### New Wagner Probiotica P50 - beneficial bacteria!

Wagner Probiotica P50 is a high strength probiotic formula containing 50 billion colony forming units (CFUs) from 11 strains of probiotic bacteria to help improve general wellbeing, support healthy immune function and maintain general gut health. It may also assist in maintaining a healthy balance of gut microflora following antibiotic use. DRcaps delayed release capsule technology helps probiotic bacteria survive the acidic stomach environment for release in the small intestine.

Stockist: 1300 360 077

RRP: \$42.99

Website: [www.wagnerhealth.com.au](http://www.wagnerhealth.com.au)



### Gaia Creamy Cleanser and Intensive Moisturiser

Aloe vera, marshmallow and chamomile in **Gaia Creamy Cleanser** soothe and calm hot, dry or irritated skin, while deeply nourishing and hydrating to relax any tightness, making your skin feel calm, soft and smooth. Enriched with apricot kernel oil and vitamin E for an added moisture boost, Creamy Cleanser keeps skin supple and smooth so the appearance of any lines and wrinkles can be reduced. **Gaia's Intensive Moisturiser** is full of nourishing apricot kernel, sweet almond and rosehip oils alongside cocoa butter and shea butter, for intensive moisturisation while their super skin-softening properties provide optimal hydration and reduce the appearance of redness and fine lines.

Stockists: 03 9703 1707

RRP: \$12.95 ea

Website: [www.gaia.skinnaturals.com](http://www.gaia.skinnaturals.com)



## DISPENSARY CORNER

### SPELL 'proanthocyanidins'.

The Jackson County Spelling Bee ought to have tried some pharmaceutical words - two contestants battled it out for more than four hours and 60 rounds, before organisers ran out of words to spell.

Said contestants were Sophia Hoffman, 11, and Kush Sharma, 13, who spelled out words such as 'schadenfreude' and 'fantoccini', from not only an approved list but an additional 20 words out of Merriam Webster, the *Sydney Morning Herald* said.

The two will rejoin battle next month when the organisers have had a chance to make a new list, the *SMH* reported; perhaps after consulting the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

### WOLF at the door...literally.

The Sochi Olympic Games' woes have stood as a warning of the power of social media, but at least one reported issue can be laid at the door of US comedian Jimmy Kimmel.

A US luger Kate Hansen uploaded a video of what appeared to be a wolf wandering past her bedroom door in the Olympic village (titled 'Epic #SochiFail: Wolf in my hall'), but it turns out this was actually the work of Kimmel, whose team built a replica hallway and filmed the (trained) wolf-mix, Rugby, wandering down it, *Entertainment Weekly* reported.

### KEEP the change.

If a customer presents you with a \$1 trillion bill, it won't be the first time - Michael Williams tried to pay for his meal with just such a note in South Carolina.

He was arrested for an "unrelated charge of contempt of magistrate's court" when police arrived, *WIS Channel 10* reported.

The largest currency in US history was the \$100,000 bill used only between Federal Reserve Banks, *Yahoo News* reported.