

## National Pharmacies recruiting major role

**NATIONAL** Pharmacies is looking for a Dispensary Development Manager for its Adelaide head office.

The role is full time, located in the Adelaide CBD within the National Support Office and reporting to the General Manager, Dispensary & Logistics.

See **Page 3** for details.

## FDA product alerts

**THE** US FDA has warned against Magic Slim, Dream Body Slimming Capsule, sold for weight loss, or the dietary supplement Pro ArthMax.

The former both contain sibutramine, known to increase blood pressure and/or pulse rate in some patients.

Pro ArthMax contained diclofenac, ibuprofen, naproxen and indomethacin, which are NSAIDs associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular events, the FDA said.

This follows the UK's MHRA similar alert (**PD** 08 Nov 13).

## Guild's grassroots push

**THE** Pharmacy Guild of Australia (PGA) has said it will launch a grassroots campaign to remind politicians of the impact of price disclosure on community pharmacies' bottom line.

PGA executive director David Quilty said until the Federal Budget on 13 May, the Guild would be reminding politicians that this impact over the next year needed to be addressed or jobs and services could be at risk.

"This will be a genuine grassroots campaign, with Guild members and pharmacy staff actively encouraged to talk to their local parliamentarians."

This would include building a greater understanding among politicians of pharmacies' role as trusted health care destinations, which was being recognised globally, Quilty said.

"Rather than being a cost, medication management and adherence services are recognised as being critical in delivering

maximum health benefits and economic returns from the multi-billion dollar taxpayer investments in subsidised medicines."

"It is time for Minister Dutton to seize this opportunity by reinvesting a fraction of the returns from price disclosure to transform community pharmacy into a trusted provider of primary health care services, working in collaboration with and adding-value to GPs and other health providers."

Quilty said it was also time for pharmacists to demonstrate they were ready to transform.

Consumer Health Forum (CHF) spokesman Mark Metherell said the forum welcomed the government's support for accelerated price disclosure.

The CHF wanted to see pharmacies playing a vigorous role in community primary health care.

"But any additional taxpayer support should be subject to close transparency that has hitherto been absent from the pharmacy agreements."

For more, **CLICK HERE**.

## Omega-3 for the brain

**SUPPLEMENTING** with omega-3 fatty acids from fish oil may help to attenuate telomeric shortening seen in elderly patients with mild cognitive impairment (MCI), according to a new randomised controlled pilot study from Australia.

The study is published in *Nutrition* and the abstract can be accessed by **CLICKING HERE**.

## Check children's vax

**NPS** MedicineWise is reminding parents to check that their children's immunisations are up to date following several measles cases reported in Australian states.

Clinical adviser Dr Andrew Boyden said measles was highly contagious and could travel across borders.

## WIN A SPOTNER AGESPOT CORRECTOR PEN

This week **PD** is giving 5 lucky readers the chance to win a

**Spotner** Agespot Corrector Pen.



New Spotner Agespot Corrector Pen revolutionises the treatment of age spots. With its precision pen applicator, Spotner works to visibly reduce the appearance of age spots. With a simple twice daily treatment, results can be seen within just two weeks.

For more info visit:  
<http://www.spotner.com.au/>

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

**When can you normally expect to start seeing results?**

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, **Amanda Pippia** from **Leeton Pharmacy**.

## Positions Vacant

**We are opening a brand new Chemmart Pharmacy in an established medical centre just minutes away from beautiful Brighton beach in Melbourne's South East and we are looking for exceptional people to join our team.**

### PHARMACIST MANAGER with view to partnership

Are you an energetic, competent pharmacist looking for your next challenge? Are you looking for an opportunity to partner with an experienced and motivated owner and drive your own business?

We are looking for a pharmacist manager, ideally 2+ years experience in retail/community pharmacy who is eager to be involved in all aspects of growing a business from the ground up. Minfos experience advantageous.

### SENIOR PHARMACY ASSISTANT

Must have dispensary qualifications, or willing to obtain. We are looking for an experienced pharmacy assistant who wants to take complete ownership of the retail space in this new pharmacy – including stock management, promotional activity and customer service. Opportunities for growth and advancement within a fast growing group. Minfos experience advantageous.

**For more information contact Daniel Hillier on 0434 071 614 or email your application to [daniel.hillier@chemmart.com.au](mailto:daniel.hillier@chemmart.com.au)**



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### Travel Specials

**WELCOME** to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by *Cruise Weekly*.

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#### Travelmarvel Europe deals

Book any holiday from the new Travelmarvel Europe River Cruising 2015 Preview brochure before 15 Apr 2014, and guests can also choose from a range of Earlybird Specials.

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Also on offer in the brochure are Earlybird Specials including 'Fly Free including taxes', a saving of up to \$6,400 per couple, on any cruise holiday taken in March or between 29 Sep and 31 Dec.

Deals are valid until the 15 Apr 2015. Terms and conditions apply and offers are subject to availability.

See [www.travelmarvel.com.au](http://www.travelmarvel.com.au).

## GP's back pharmacy roles

A GROUP of 23 UK health groups, including the Royal College of GPs, has said people should see their pharmacists for minor ailments before their GP or hospital emergency department.

In an article published in *The Times*, the groups said pharmacists should be "the first port of call" for coughs, the flu and minor ailments to ease the burden on the National Health System (NHS).

The groups said one in seven GP appointments could be dealt with by pharmacists who should be seen as more than just prescription dispensers, *The Times* reported.

Local pharmacies should be actively promoted as the first place of advice and treatment for common ailments, the groups said, and the NHS depended upon community pharmacy.

In the article, Royal College of GPs chairwoman Maureen Baker was quoted as saying if people recognised a problem but didn't feel very ill, it was reasonable to think of seeing a pharmacist first.

"We're not trying to discourage people if they really want to see a GP, but we're saying it's an option.

"They can walk in and see the pharmacist very quickly, so it isn't dangerous."

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (PGA) said it had urged a similar approach.

"The heartening aspect of the UK development is that the call is being spearheaded by doctors groups.

"What a pity the Australian Medical Association does not adopt a similar common sense and practical approach in the interests of patients."

Australian Medical Association president Dr Steve Hambleton said every participant in the health

system should be practicing within the scope of their expertise and that Australian pharmacists already did give advice on minor ailments.

There was a good working relationship between community pharmacists and GPs, with pharmacists referring patients to GPs when necessary.

Pharmacists had extensive training and it was entirely appropriate that they gave advice about minor ailments and issues, Dr Hambleton said.

This already works in Australia, and needs no change, he added.

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

### FDA evidence varies

A STUDY published in the *Journal of the Medical Association (JAMA)* has said the quality of clinical trial evidence used by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as the basis for approvals of new drugs varied widely across indications.

The study, 'Clinical Trial Evidence Supporting FDA Approval of Novel Therapeutic Agents, 2005-2012', said about one third of new drugs introduced in the US from 2005 to 2012 were approved on the basis of a single large clinical trial, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

This variation highlighted the agency's "flexible standards for approval", the paper said.

This meant a customised approach for approval, which meant the agency could rapidly approve potentially effective therapies for life-threatening diseases, or for disease where there was no existing treatment, the study said.

However, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the authors said the variations should be more clearly communicated to the public.

### NICE tightens BMI belt

CERTAIN minority ethnicities such as African, Caribbean and Asian are up to six times more likely to develop type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke according to the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

Professor Mike Kelly, Director of the Centre for Public Health at NICE said, "... it's vital that local authorities are supported in taking action to prevent these illnesses in people who have a high risk of developing them."

He went on to say that a "BMI of 23 kg/m<sup>2</sup> should be the threshold to trigger action" in these groups.

This compares with 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup> for other populations.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

### DISPENSARY CORNER

BABY one more time.  
Too eager to hold your newborn?

US couple Gerard and Katie Bessette have you covered; their business, 3D Babies, aims to create customised baby figurines for expectant parents, using a 3D printer and ultrasound images as a guide.

The figurines (pictured) would be offered in three sizes: mini, half size and full size, ranging in price US\$200 to US\$600.

The couple are currently crowdfunding to raise US\$15,000 to buy the 3D printer they require.







we're that somebody



## are you that somebody?

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- Broad knowledge of technology in healthcare, especially ETP and PCeHR
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- Proven ability to identify emerging trends, directions and outcomes, plan and implement strategies and develop appropriate performance measures
- Proven ability to communicate effectively with people of all levels both verbally and in writing
- Demonstrated ability to organise workloads effectively in a climate of competing priorities
- Project Management skills

### HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this highly rewarding position, visit <http://careers.nationalpharmacies.com.au/eR21/VacancyList.aspx> and register your details to formally submit your application.

## Dispensary Development Manager ADELAIDE CBD FULL TIME

National Pharmacies recognises that the future of community pharmacy and optical businesses lies in providing outstanding advice, customer service and professional services, as well as accurate and timely dispensing of prescriptions.

### ABOUT THE ROLE

National Pharmacies is currently offering a unique and challenging opportunity as Dispensary Development Manager to join our high performing team based in our National Support Office. A market leading organisation, National Pharmacies is a values driven organisation that recognises the key to success is our people.

This newly created role is a fantastic opportunity to take the next step in your Pharmacy career and apply your professional knowledge and exceptional leadership abilities to drive initiatives and achieve business objectives.

Reporting to the General Manager, Dispensary and Logistics, you will be responsible and accountable for the development and implementation of practices and programs that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our dispensary operations.

By applying broad knowledge of primary healthcare and e-health technology, and working with senior personnel in the Merchandise and Retail Operations teams, you will implement identified projects and initiatives to drive dispensary and middle shop profitability.

If successful you will be involved in the development and implementation of programs that improve compliance and build script retention and loyalty.