



IF YOUR CUSTOMERS
ARE TAKING A COURSE
OF ANTIBIOTICS

a probiotic such as Inner Health Plus may assist in maintaining the balance of good bacteria.

INNER HEALTH PLUS
Always read the label. Use only as directed.

Friday's comp winner

FRIDAY'S winner of the Carmex lip balm prize pack was Tina Pham from Chemmart Pharmacy.

This week, **Pharmacy Daily** and **Aromababy** are giving five readers the chance to win an Aromababy gift pack - see **page 2** for details.

FDA teething trouble

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stated that teething is a normal part of childhood that doesn't need a "cure" with prescription or over-the-counter (OTC) medications.

In particular, the Administration warns parents against using drugs such as viscous lidocaine for treating teething in infants or young children, saying if too much is used it can result in seizures and severe brain injury.

CLICK HERE to read the FDA alert.

**FREE
Carry Bag**

When you buy

ULTRALIEVE⁺
ULTRASOUND THERAPY



Worth
RRP
\$24.95



Offer valid 1.7.14 - 15.8.14
or while stocks last.
Order through wholesalers.

API: 572.500 Symbion: 344.435

Pharmacists overloaded

PHARMACISTS may be failing to comply with Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA) guidelines with relation to dispensing medicines due to excessive workloads requiring them to dispense above the recommended rate, says the PBA in its latest Communiqué.

Excessive workloads on pharmacists contribute to work-related pressure and stress with the potential to hinder the ability of pharmacists to meet their professional obligations such as review of the patient's medication history and provision of medication counselling, and may contribute to the occurrence of dispensing errors, the Board said.

The Board further reminded pharmacists that "if dispensing levels for a pharmacist are in the range of 150-200 items per day, trained dispensary assistants and/or intern pharmacists should be utilised, and if the dispensing workload exceeds 200 items per day, additional pharmacists or dispensary assistants may be

TGA vacancies

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration is seeking members for a number of its statutory advisory committees, which provide independent expert advice on specific scientific and technical matters to assist with regulatory decision making.

Expressions of interest are sought from experts in a number of fields to fill vacancies arising in 2014 and 2015, with applications due by 5pm AEST on Mon 11 Aug 2014.

Details at www.tga.gov.au.

Pardon - you what?

AN AUSTRALIA-wide joint public health initiative by Sigma and Australian Hearing over a five week period evaluated the hearing of 2,967 people.

The tests were conducted in Amcal, Amcal Max and Guardian pharmacies, with a surprising 54% of people tested showing some form of hearing loss, of whom 1,590 were recommended to take further follow-up testing.

required."

Robotic and other automated dispensing technologies also need to be taken into account, said the Board, also acknowledging that workloads may vary from hour to hour and day to day, and that pharmacists may be required to dispense above the recommended rate in unforeseen circumstances.

The Communiqué places the responsibility to manage the pharmacist workload on pharmacists themselves as well as pharmacy managers, directors of hospital departments and pharmacy owners.

The Board has drafted revised *Guidelines for dispensing of medicines* and will be seeking feedback from the industry over the coming months, including feedback on the proposed guidance on 'Pharmacists' workloads'.

The Pharmacy Council of New Zealand has had this issue in their sights for some time and offers a resource titled *Workplace Pressures in Pharmacy: Practical advice for New Zealand pharmacists, pharmacy staff and employers* - **CLICK HERE** to see the document.

PATH B Hep B support

A NEW educational resource, designed to improve the lives of people living with chronic hepatitis B, is now available in Australia.

Patients and Professionals Acting Together for Hepatitis B (PATH B) aims to improve communication between those living with chronic hepatitis B and their healthcare professionals to improve understanding and management of the condition.

To access the resource go to www.hepatitisinfo.com.au.

New NEHTA chair

STEVE Hambleton, immediate past president of the Australian Medical Association (AMA), has been appointed the new Chair of the National E-Health Transition Authority, taking over from David Gonski who has been in the role for the last six years.

New Qld process

COMPLAINTS about health practitioners in Queensland will be directed to the state's Office of the Health Ombudsman (OHO) from 01 Jul 2014, under new arrangements which will see the matters either managed by the office or referred to the relevant National Board.

Complaints that were made to AHPRA or National Boards before 01 Jul will generally continue to be managed by the AHPRA on behalf of the National Boards.

However under the new Qld *Health Ombudsman Act* the OHO can request that a matter be referred to them, in which case AHPRA will inform both the notifier and the practitioner who is the subject of the notification.

See www.oho.qld.gov.au.

James LaValle at A5M

ONE of America's top pharmacists will present at the upcoming 8th Annual AustralAsian Academy of Anti-Ageing Medicine (A5M) conference, which takes place 16-17 August in Melbourne.

Dr James LaValle has garnered a host of accolades during his career and is the author of four books on integrative medicine.

He believes pharmacists play a key role in helping reduce the risk of nutrient depletion in patients, and will present on "various examples of widely prescribed medications that may precipitate micronutrient deficiencies".

CPD points will be available for pharmacists who attend the conference - see www.a5m.net.

TGA e-submissions

THE TGA is inviting the industry to participate in a pilot program for a new electronic submission system for the entry of registered medicines onto the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

To be fully adopted in 2015, the TGA wants to test the new software on suitable electronic Common Technical Document (eCTD) format submissions for new chemical entities, major variations to prescription medicines and generic medicines - to be involved email esubmissions@tga.gov.au.

Weekly Comment

Welcome to *PD's* weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is **Heidi Dariz, General Manager at Raven's Recruitment**



How To Impress Your Boss As A New Employee

CONGRATULATIONS, you've secured your dream role! Now to prepare for your next challenge - the first days on the job.

Here are some tips for leaving a positive impression with your new employer:

• Arrive on time:

Clocking in early signals your enthusiasm about the company and your new role and helps your boss feel more confident they made the right decision.

• Take notes:

Keep a notepad and take notes when your boss or a co-worker dispenses valuable details about your position or a particular policy. This can stop you having to ask about something only hours later, which can make you seem inattentive.

• Ask questions:

If you're given a job, do it as well as you can and don't be afraid to ask questions. Better to ask a question than sit silently hoping that what you need to know will turn up.

• Be flexible:

Expect and embrace the inevitable challenges of your position. A flexible attitude will decrease stress for you and others.

• Get to know your co-workers:

Get to know as many people as you can, especially your teammates and those with whom you will work regularly.

Establish the foundation for a relationship, and trust and information will follow.

Community pharmacy focus

THE Victorian Branch Presidents of the PSA and Pharmacy Guild appeared before the Victorian parliament's Legal and Social Issues Legislation Committee last Wednesday to give evidence to the state government's current inquiry into community pharmacy.

The inquiry is investigating possible opportunities for pharmacies in primary and preventative care, and has until 14 Oct 2014 to deliver its report.

Michelle Lynch from the PSA and Anthony Tassone of the Guild said they felt confident that they were heard, and that the inquiry bodes well for greater utilisation of the skills and capacity of community pharmacy.

"Pharmacists are highly trained, are experts in medicines and medication management, and are located in communities throughout Australia," Lynch said.

"However, their role is far more limited in Australia compared to many other countries," she said, adding that one area of growing concern where pharmacists could make a real difference was the rising number of medication-related hospital admissions amongst the ageing.

Tassone echoed Lynch's sentiments about the role that

pharmacists could potentially play.

"Like the PSA, the Guild feels that pharmacists are underutilised in the Victorian health system.

"Our submission to the committee concentrated on the potential of and benefits of pharmacist delivered influenza immunisation, minor ailment schemes and screening and risk assessment services that are appropriately recognised and remunerated to deliver positive health outcomes and reduce burdens on an already stretched healthcare system."

Tassone said he was pleased at the level of collaboration between the PSA and the Guild in presenting to the inquiry.

CLICK HERE to see the transcripts of the evidence given by the PSA and Guild.

Ego on Current Affair

EGO Pharmaceuticals has clarified that none of their products contain methylisothiazolinone and confirmed that this preservative has never before been used in any Ego products.

The company was responding to the *A Current Affair* story which incorrectly associated the potential skin sensitiser preservative with Ego products.



DISPENSARY CORNER

A SPECIAL clinic has been set up in China to treat a new complaint called World Cup Fever.

Physicians have come up with the term to describe a condition which has proliferated during the FIFA tournament in Brazil, saying it is a combination of listlessness, tiredness and insomnia.

The new clinic is in Chengdu in Sichuan province, where doctors are reportedly on standby to treat symptoms which also include stomach cramps, loss of appetite, anxiousness and paranoia.

They are also equipped to handle psychological issues such as football-induced hysteria.

A WHOLE world in your hands.

Your smartphone carries up to 80% of your personal bacterial "fingerprint" on the screen according to some recent research out of the University of Oregon in the USA.

BBC News reports that personal possessions such as mobile phones might be useful for tracking exposure to bacteria with for example, health workers, as they carry so many of the trillions of different micro-organisms naturally present on and in our bodies.

Studies have shown people touch their mobile phones up to 150 times per day.

"We share more than an emotional connection with our phones - they carry our personal microbiome", lead researcher Dr Meadow said.

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



WIN AN AROMABABY GIFT PACK

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and **Aromababy** are giving 5 readers the chance to win an Aromababy gift pack.

Pure, gentle organic. That's the Aromababy promise. Launched two decades ago as the first, natural baby brand of its kind, Aromababy offers a comprehensive selection of pure products for mother and child including unscented for sensitive skin.

100% Australian made and used in select hospitals, Aromababy offers absolute peace of mind when only the best will do.

Visit: www.aromababy.com

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

Name 2 natural oils in our Barrier Balm that may enhance the suitability & effectiveness for eczema & nappy rash.

