

Become a ParcelPoint

ONLINE shoppers can now collect and return parcels the easy way - at their local pharmacy.

You can become a convenient hub for local customers shopping online and drive new foot traffic into your store, with a simple to activate service which has no set up costs.

See **Page 3** for more information.

KidneyCheck program

AMCAL and Guardian pharmacies are launching a new program to enable Australians to monitor the health of their kidneys.

Kidney Health Australia is a partner in the program, with ceo Anne Wilson saying one in three Australians were at increased risk of developing kidney disease.

The KidneyCheck self-management program for people diagnosed with diabetes or high blood pressure was launched this week to coincide with Kidney Health Week.

It enabled patients to check their urine at home for protein, one of the first signs of kidney damage, following a consultation with an Amcal or Guardian pharmacist, who received extra professional education on kidney disease, Sigma Pharmaceuticals said.

New ACT AMA pres

DR Elizabeth Gallagher, a fellow of RANZCOG, is the new president of the Australian Medical Association in the ACT and will hold the position for the next two years, replacing Canberra dermatologist, Dr Andrew Miller.

Fostering a rural future

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has announced the winners of the Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme 2014.

Forty students from across the country have been awarded the scholarship which is designed to foster students' ties to rural and regional Australia.

Scholarship holders would receive \$10,000 a year for up to four years of study and participate in a mentor program, the Guild said.

Guild national president George Tambassis said the mentoring program helped the students develop a learning plan.

"It's an important support for students who have come from rural and remote areas and are studying

away from their family support base."

The Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme is an initiative of the Rural Pharmacy Workforce Program and scholarship holders are encouraged to pursue a career in pharmacy in a rural or remote area of Australia after graduation, while during their studies they will also promote rural pharmacy as a career choice to secondary school students.

The scholarship is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

Winners include four students from SA, 14 from QLD, one from ACT, two from TAS and 16 from NSW, including Charles Sturt University School of Biomedical Sciences first year pharmacy student Lindsay Minehan, who said he was very happy with the scholarship, which would make it easier for him to study.

Rural pharmacy was important because access to healthcare was often difficult in rural areas, he said.

For a list of the winners, **CLICK HERE**.

Complaints resolution

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has posted the findings of its Complaints Resolution Panel from its 20 Feb 2014 meeting.

Complaints were made about an advertisement for LaCorium Health Australia Pty Ltd's Wart Stop, advertisements for Clinic Care Pty Ltd's Dermastamp and Dermalroller product, advertisements for Court Management Pty Ltd T/A Kalypso Trust's AHCG Drops and advertisements ONI Global (Australia) Pty Ltd's various GNC Livewell products.

All complaints were ruled at least partially justified by the Panel, with actions required including withdrawal of representations and withdrawal of advertisements.

TGA guidance

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has released a number of guidelines.

This follows its improved communication, education and stakeholder engagement activities, outlined in its blueprint for the future (**PD 27 Mar**).

The new publications include updates to guidance on literature based submissions, to help applicants compile such a submission, as well as guidance on fixed combination medicines and how to register one.

Also recently published was guidance on medicines for use in special populations such as paediatric or elderly populations.

Longer Souvenaid trials

SOUVENAID creator Professor Richard Wurtman said trials for the medical food needed to be longer to assess whether it had any effect in delaying Alzheimer's Disease (AD).

Wurtman presented at the Sydney General Practitioner Conference & Exhibition last week, joined by University of Newcastle School of Medicine and Public Health discipline of general practice and Souvenaid advisory board member Professor Dimity Pond, who gave case studies of its use.

An NPS Medicinewise article in January said there was no evidence that Souvenaid had any effect in decreasing the rate of cognitive decline or delaying AD progression, but said there might be an effect on memory performance in drug-naïve persons in the early stages of the disease.

Wurtman said the question became how long would a study have to be run to reliably demonstrate cognitive decline in untreated people.

The general view was a year and a half, and this would not occur before a six month study and one year study, he said.

Currently, Souvenaid trials have spanned 24 weeks.

It would be more accurate to say there was no evidence yet, he said.

Longer trials were in the works, he said.

ACT PSA newly elected

THE ACT branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has announced the make-up of its Committee elect and office bearers, to take effect from 01 Jul.

The president elect is Canberra community pharmacist and ceo of Leading Aged Services Australia (LASA), Patrick Reid who said it was an exciting and challenging time for the pharmacy profession.

"I look forward to helping pharmacists across the ACT during these times and into the future.

"We are facing many pressures in the way we practise our profession and I am committed to ensuring that PSA is there to represent all of our members in all sectors of the profession as we move forward."

Reid also thanked outgoing president Dr Greg Kyle for his work and contribution.

Bill Kelly and Elise Apolloni were elected as vice presidents.

Now's the time to stop manually packing!
Sign-up and receive over \$2,000 value

Outsource your DAAs to APHS Packaging before 30 June and receive:

FREE setup valued at \$1,000 **A \$30 rebate** for every new patient you sign up

FREE point of sale materials and best practice DAA training

Best of all you'll increase your productivity, reduce costs and provide scalability for the ageing population.

Conditions: You must sign-up 50 patients, per pharmacy, before the offer applies. The \$30 rebate will be paid as a credit on the July invoice. Offer only valid for new APHS Packaging customers.

Contact the APHS Packaging Customer Service team for more details and to sign-up on...

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WHAT'S YOUR SCAN RATE?

“eRx is the best innovation to be added to dispense programs for the last 5 years”

– Chris Walsh, Amcal Pharmacy Drysdale

eRx.com.au/ScanRate 

GSK UK fraud inquiry

GLAXOSMITHKLINE (GSK) has been informed by the UK's Serious Fraud Office (SFO) that it has opened a formal criminal investigation into the Group's commercial practices.

GSK said it is “committed to operating its business to the highest ethical standards and will continue to cooperate fully with the SFO.”

The investigation follows corruption charges faced by GSK's former China and Hong Kong manager and other colleagues (**PD 16 May**) for allegedly bribing officials in Beijing and Shanghai to boost sales.

Authority review terms

THE terms of reference for the post market review of authority required Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme listings have been published.

It will consider the criteria used to determine the listings and review all current listings.

The review would be undertaken in tranches, the Department of Health said, based on the regulatory burden the listings placed on prescribers.

The first tranche, to be reviewed in time for consideration by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory

Committee (PBAC) at its November meeting, would include drugs for the treatment of many types of cancer, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and other arthritis medicines.

The second tranche would include drugs for the treatment of eye conditions and psychiatric conditions and cardiovascular disease, for the March meeting.

The third tranche would include all remaining drugs as well as medicines used in palliative care, presented to PBAC at its July 2015 meeting, the Department said.

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) ceo Helen Dowling said the SHPA believed the system was unwieldy, with eight different authority categories.

“There is a substantial administrative burden for pharmacists, as well as prescribers, and timely access to many medicines is compromised due to onerous authority requirements.

“An example that SHPA has previously raised is how this cumbersome process affects access to chemotherapy in private hospitals.”

To read more, **CLICK HERE**.

Qld measles outbreak

NPS MedicineWise is advising people to check their vaccinations are up to date following reports of six measles cases in Queensland this week.

Design and development manager Aine Heaney said while vaccination had made measles relatively rare in Australia, there had been outbreaks across a number of states recently.

“The outbreak in Queensland right now will hopefully prompt people to check that everyone in their family is up to date on their immunisation schedule.”

Travel Specials

WELCOME to Pharmacy Daily's travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry.

Nanuku Resort & Spa

Fiji's newest luxury escape, Nanuku Resort & Spa, has extended sales of its 'stay five nights – pay only four' offer until 31 Jul.

The special offer includes all accommodation in one of the resort's five striking beachfront residences, all meals, personal butler and nanny services plus return private car transfers from either Nadi International Airport or Suva International Airport.

Additional extras include use of a golf buggy and all non-motorised watersports equipment, free WiFi and daily hosted drinks and canapés with resort management.

Nanuku Resort & Spa's location in the heart of the Pacific Coast, aka 'Fiji's Adventure Capital' presents guests with access to myriad activities ranging from golf, zip lining, surfing and diving.

The resort also offers its guests a dedicated spa, yoga classes and resident fitness instructor.

Located on the Pacific Coast of Viti Levu, Nanuku Resort & Spa is the first all-villa boutique resort to be built on the main island.

Pricing for the special offer starts from AU\$3,360.

The offer is valid for travel until 19 Dec 2014, inclusive of all school holiday periods.

DISPENSARY CORNER

DR Wikipedia scores 1 out of 10. In spite of the apparently well referenced medical articles found in Wikipedia, US scientists who have made a more detailed evaluation of the entries have said that they contain errors in nine out of ten pieces.

According to *BBC News*, the scientists compared entries about conditions such as heart disease, lung cancer, depression and diabetes with peer-reviewed medical research.

The US authors of the research, published in the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, said that the open-access nature has “raised concern” among doctors about its reliability, especially being the sixth most popular site on the internet.

DO you take poetry?

If someone tries to pay their bill at your pharmacy with words written on paper, don't be surprised - one Australian person with the handle 'sweatyman' might just pull it off.

They've put a scrap of paper with the word “The” written on it up for sale on eBay, with a detailed description of the item:

“Handwritten with blue ballpoint pen, on a torn piece of Reflex A4 paper, this versatile word can be used in literally thousands of sentences.

“Looks great sitting on a MacBook Pro, and emits a mysterious beauty when leaning against sea shells.”

The listing is up to a whopping \$10,300 and still has five days to go.

SPEAKING of paying with paper.

'sweatyman' won't be the only person to try to make bank from an unusual source.

David Thorne of www.27b/6.com has an hilarious email trail on his website where he tries to pay his overdue account with a drawing of a spider, which he valued at \$233.95.

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

WIN A PLUNKETTS PACK

Every day this week **Pharmacy Daily & Plunketts** is giving one reader the chance to win a Nutri-Synergy moisturiser pack.

Nutri-Synergy effectively moisturises dry, winter skin without petrochemicals, parabens, colours or fragrances - natural goodness and no nasties. This prize pack includes moisturisers for dry skin & rough skin as well as lip balm and hand products. Nutri-Synergy – Natural Dermatology – better for you!

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

How many carefully selected natural & organic ingredients are in Nutri-Synergy formulations?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner **Anna Michael** from **APHS Pharmacy**.



DRIVE LOCAL CUSTOMERS TO YOUR PHARMACY



ParcelPoint places your pharmacy at the heart of online retail.

Customers using ParcelPoint can collect and return their online purchases the easy way – at their local store, when it suits them.

With 1,200+ locations already signed up, ParcelPoint is the leading network of local stores offering extended-hours parcel services.

WHY OFFER PARCELPPOINT?

- ✓ Earn commission on every parcel
- ✓ Increase foot traffic
- ✓ Access new customers
- ✓ No set-up cost

WHAT DO I NEED?

- ✓ A computer with internet access
- ✓ A secure storage space

“We have found the ParcelPoint service very easy and convenient for both our staff and customers. Set-up and usage is easy. The process doesn’t interrupt with our core business at all – it is quick and simple.

Customers find it easy and it has been driving revenue – we have been keeping track and approximately 30% of customers are purchasing other products in store, which is a fantastic result!”

KELLY SEDDON

Manager, Palmyra Chemmart Pharmacy

“The ParcelPoint service has been great so far. Our experience has been good and staff have taken well to it.

We find it easy and it brings more customers to the store. Customers seem to be happy with the service rather than missing deliveries.

I would definitely recommend ParcelPoint to other pharmacies”.

PETER O’CONNOR

Owner, Carnovale Pharmacy

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