

### TGA online payment

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has said payments will be made through its upgraded online payment portal from 30 Sep.

Changes include that payments could be made without an invoice.

**CLICK HERE** to access the portal.

### Antibiotics + obesity

**REPEATED** use of broad spectrum antibiotics in children under two years old has been associated with early childhood obesity in research published in *JAMA Pediatrics*.

The cohort study from 2001-2013 looked at the e-health records of 64,580 children in Philadelphia, and found cumulative exposure was associated with later obesity.

However, lifestyle factors were not explored, *BBC News* reported.

**CLICK HERE** for more.

## \$237m to support dying well

**A REPORT** by the Grattan Institute has detailed ways to improve the quality of dying in Australia, with 70% of Australians wanting to die at home, but only 14% able to do so.

The report said extending Home and Community Care funding to reach comparable levels with other countries of people dying at home, about 30%, would require \$237m.

However the resulting reduction in residential care and hospital costs would leave a gap of \$4m.

It said in the last year of life,

many experienced a "disconnected, confusing and distressing array of services," and public discussions were needed about end of life care.

Individuals needed to plan better to ensure desires for end of life were met and services for those dying of chronic illness needed to shift focus from institutional care to supporting people to die at home, the report said.

Visiting fellow and report co-author Professor Hal Swerissen said pharmacists should be included in planning how to provide support for dying at home, and conversations about community based care programs.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia national president Grant Kardachi said palliative care was an area of increasing involvement by pharmacists wishing to further utilise their skills for community benefit.

Community pharmacists played a key role in the care of palliative care patients, including dispensing medications and providing advice, he said.

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

### MA on DoH sub

**MEDICINES** Australia (MA) has responded to the Department of Health's (DoH) submission on its 18th Code of Conduct, and to others including Dr Ken Harvey's (PD 28 Jul).

The DoH submission said the Code should refer to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, to which MA said it was not possible to refer to "every statement guideline which governs the prescription medicines industry."

However it said it had adopted various amendments suggested by the Department, including to section 17.

In response to Harvey's submission that member companies could refuse to deal with healthcare professionals who did not consent to having information published, MA said this could prevent interactions that would ultimately improve patient care - **CLICK HERE** for more.

### Rabbitohs burrow

**RICHARD** and Philip Walsh and staff invite all Rabbitohs fans to come along to their South Maroubra Village Pharmacy for a Channel 7 "live" telecast of enthusiastic supporters tomorrow night at 6.30 pm.

All South Sydney supporters are invited to roll up wearing as much red and green as possible.

### ASMI funds research

**THE** Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI) is sponsoring a program for complementary medicine (CM) researchers that brings 12 early to mid career CM researchers to the University of Technology, Sydney, for an undisclosed amount.

The researchers hear guest speakers and academics and participate in sessions on topics such as research skills training.

ASMI executive director Dr Deon Schoombie said the organisation was committed to funding independent research and supporting researchers to build the evidence base for CMs.

### New AusPARs

**OBINUTUZUMAB** (Gazyva) and Certolizumab (Cimzia) have been added - **CLICK HERE** for more.

### WIN A NAD'S PACK

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Nad's** are giving five readers the chance to win a Nad's wax pack.

World First DIY nose wax is a specially formulated sensitive hard wax and comes with a unique SAFETIP applicator designed to comfortably remove nose hairs. Facial Wand Eyebrow Shaper gives you salon finish eyebrows. This precision applicator makes ease of eyebrow shaping, giving you complete control and confidence. Body wax strips are a quick and easy way to remove hair in minutes.

Made with natural beeswax, the soft fabric conforms to the body's curves.

Visit: [www.nads.com](http://www.nads.com)

To win, be first from WA to send the correct answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Is the Nad's Facial Wand Eyebrow Shaper formula made from the original natural gel?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner from QLD, **Alannah Priddle** from the **Pharmacy Guild of Australia**.

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## Drug overdose study

A UNIVERSITY of NSW study of 431 drug abusers over an 11 year period has reported recent non-fatal overdoses amongst the Australian Treatment Outcome Study (ATOS) cohort, and identified characteristics that predict overdose.

In the 11 year period, 67.5% of participants had overdosed and 24.4% had experienced five or more overdoses.

In the 12 month period prior to the follow-up survey, 4.9% (21 participants) had overdosed, 11.8% having used heroin in that period.

Of the 21 overdosers, only two (9.5% of the total) were enrolled in a treatment program at the time.

Most commonly abused products were opiates other than heroin (57.1%), benzodiazepines (61.9%), methamphetamine (38.1%) and cocaine (19.0%).

The authors concluded that while prevalence has declined, a history of overdose and polydrug use were strongly predictive of repeat risk.

**CLICK HERE** to read the abstract.

## World Heart Day pumps

WORLD Heart Day on Monday, with a theme of creating heart healthy environments, saw a range of events held to celebrate and inform about heart disease and stroke, including the Heart Research Institute's Ride for Research.

The last leg of the 40,075 km ride, completed in 29 days, saw participants ride 1,500 km collectively on stationary bikes in Martin Place (pictured).

**CLICK HERE** for a summary of activities in Australia.

MEANWHILE World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Population Salt Reduction head Jacqui Webster wrote in *The Conversation* that the government needed to get tough on the food industry to reduce salt content in processed foods, as a high salt diet could lead to high blood pressure, a contributor to heart disease.

**CLICK HERE** to read more.



## Prevent 80% CV events

FOUR out of five men could avoid a heart attack with simple lifestyle adjustments, according to a new longitudinal study following 20,721 Swedish men aged 45 to 79 over an 11 year period.

Published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, the study found that almost 80% of heart attacks or cardiovascular (CV) events could be prevented by managing weight, eating healthily, being active, not smoking and limiting alcohol intake.

**CLICK HERE** for the abstract.

## FDA flags Xolair risk

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has identified a slightly increased risk of problems involving the heart and blood vessels supplying the brain among patients being treated with the asthma drug Xolair (omalizumab from Novartis) than in those who were not, and has added this data to the drug label.

A spokesperson for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) said the company was aware of the FDA decision and the potential for increased risk of arteriothrombotic events.

"The TGA will review the available information on this issue to see whether any action is required in the Australian context.

"The current Australian Product Information already contains information relating to the possibility of an increased risk of arteriothrombotic events occurring in patients."

Patients should continue to take medication as prescribed, the FDA said.

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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)

### Caboo brings soft, sustainable bamboo and sugarcane tissues to Australia

Globally humans cut down around 900,000 trees daily for paper products and 27,000 trees for toilet paper alone, Caboo says. That's a lot of trees. Bamboo and sugarcane are grasses, not hardwoods, are fast growing and do not require replanting. Caboo brings the answer with chlorine-free bleaching and beautifully soft texture, unlike many recycled products, as well as extra strength.

Stockist: 0499 581 007

RRP: Various

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



### New limited edition OPI nail lacquers with Coca-Cola inspirations

OPI and Coca-Cola, both iconic bottles recognised around the world, announce the launch of nine new limited edition nail lacquers inspired by some of the most recognised brands of The Coca-Cola Company. Coca-Cola by OPI offers a range of colours and hues representing everything from classic red for Coca-Cola to metallic silver for Diet Coke, dark red and black for Coke Zero, black cherry for Cherry Coke, cream and warm pink for Vanilla Coke, shimmering citrus green for Sprite and glitter-packed orange and deep purple for Fanta Orange and Fanta Grape.

Stockist: 1800 812 663

RRP: \$19.95

Website: [www.opi.net.au](http://www.opi.net.au)



### Philosophy Living Grace mini-fragrance layering set gift box

Philosophy is a brand that approaches personal care from a skin care point of view while celebrating the beauty of human spirit. Living Grace mini fragrance layering set includes your shampoo, bath & shower gel, firming body emulsion and spray fragrance. All Philosophy products are based on a rich, scientific heritage coupled with inspirational messaging to create a fresh approachable attitude towards beauty, because effective skin care can give better skin and inspiration can give better days.

Stockist: 1800 812 663.

RRP: \$30

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



### New Fever Bugz Physiologic Stick-on fever indicators for kids

Fever Bugz 48-hour temperature monitoring system is fast, safe and effective. Kids love to wear them and they are hypoallergenic and accurate within 0.5 degrees Celsius. There are eight stickers per pack with four colourful fun characters: a bee, a butterfly, a caterpillar and a lady bug. This children's fever monitoring playful stick-on system is ranked as number one selling counter item in the northern US, says Fever Bugz. The pack comes with a Clip Strip & Ready Shelf package included.

Stockists: 0422 822 832

RRP: \$9.95 per unit

Website: [www.fever-bugz.com](http://www.fever-bugz.com)



### DISPENSARY CORNER



#### HYGIENE, bye-giene.

If you've noticed your sales of soap dropping, it's not just you.

The latest Roy Morgan Research Single Source data, with an average annual sample of 18,912 Australians, found the proportion of Australians who bought soap in an average four week period has shrunk by nearly 10% over the last five years.

Now, 52.8% said they purchased bath or toilet soap in an average four weeks in the year to June, down from 58.6% in 2010, the research found.

Thankfully, Roy Morgan Research consumer products group account director Angela Smith said there had been a growth in the proportion of Australians buying shower gel or body wash in the same period.

#### SET sail for Tunisia.

If you're looking for a new pharmacy post, and you're a keen sailor, a hospital in the shape of a sailing ship is being planned for the €50b Tunisia Economic City, slated for completion in 15 years.



The White Sails Hospital and Spa (pictured) has been designed with the aim of helping people feel calm and peaceful, architect Vasily Klyukin has said.

Apparently, even medical uniforms will be styled as marine uniforms.

With any luck, the level of care will be better than that found on sailing ships of yore.

CNN reported on 1,000 British Royal Navy Medical Officer journals from 1793 to 1880, which contained treatments such as gargling diluted sulphuric acid for scurvy and pumping tobacco smoke into lungs to cure being drowned (which actually worked).

CLICK HERE for more.