



AE software tender

AN ADVERSE Event Management System is being called for in a new tender posted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

The TGA said each year it received increased numbers of adverse event reports, and this was expected to continue.

"Without improvements to the business processes and IT systems, the TGA's ability to effectively and efficiently process increased numbers of adverse event reports and identify and manage safety signals will be reduced."

The services would start in Feb 2015 with complete implementation by end of 2015.

CLICK HERE for details.

Cosmetics on S5

A SCHEDULE 5 entry for cosmetic and household cleaning products containing more than 5% of 3,7-Dimethyl-2,6-octadienal isomers, which include citral, should be created, is the interim decision on scheduling proposals referred to expert advisory committees.

Delegates accepted the advice of the Advisory Committee on Chemicals Scheduling and the Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling, saying this would avoid capturing therapeutic goods that used these substances, where risk assessment could occur on an individual product basis, it said.

Public submissions can be made until 14 Oct.

CLICK HERE for more.

70 NICE new standards

SEVENTY new standards on topics ranging from antibiotic prescribing to domestic violence will be developed by the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

CLICK HERE to see more detail.

Focus on chronic illness

A CALL for pharmacy to reorient in order to successfully manage the complexity of people living with multiple chronic health conditions has been issued.

Writing in *Australian Pharmacist*, University of SA School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences Professor Libby Roughead said one in three Australians were living with three or more chronic conditions, compared with one in 10 in the 80s.

"Up to two-thirds of older people are now taking five or more medicines, and more than 20% are taking 10 or more.

"This creates challenges for both patients and health practitioners to manage medicines, and obtain and maintain safe and effective use."

Pharmacy needed to reorient in order to meet the challenge of patients with chronic multiple illnesses, she said, with services needing to expand to include medication reconciliation, adherence services and multidisciplinary, agreed, care planning.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australian (PSA) national president Grant Kardachi said Roughead was looking to a greater emphasis in multiple chronic conditions which

were more likely to occur in the ageing population and therefore need more targeted approaches, and adaptation of some existing services.

A good initial approach was the PSA Health Destination Pharmacy, he said.

NPS MedicineWise Phone Line Services manager Sarah Spagnardi said health care and medicine use was becoming more complex.

Healthcare professionals needed to think broadly about an individual and all their conditions when looking at multiple medications and illnesses, being aware of factors such as medicine-disease state interactions also, she said.

API refinances

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries Limited (API) has announced that it has successfully renegotiated its two year \$345m securitisation facilities for a further three years until May 2018.

The end result is a reduction of approximately \$1m in financing costs for the Company, demonstrating the strong support that it receives from its financing partners, the company said.

Pharmacy 4 Less offer

PHARMACY 4 Less is expanding across Australia, and is inviting pharmacists to join the group before 30 Nov.

For further details see **page three** of today's issue of **PD**.

Friday's comp winner

FRIDAY'S winner of the Nad's Wax Pack was **Stephanie Myles** from Chemmart Pharmacy.

This week **PD** is giving readers the chance to win an **In Essence** vaporiser pack - see **page two**.



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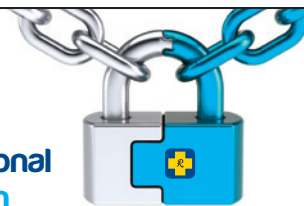
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EMA landmark policy

TRANSPARENCY is the driver behind the European Medicines Agency (EMA) adoption of what it calls a landmark policy of publication of clinical reports.

Based on extensive stakeholder consultation, the unanimously voted policy forced publication of the clinical reports that underpinned the decision-making on medicines approved by the EMA, the organisation said.

The policy comes into force 01 Jan 2015 and will apply to clinical reports contained in all applications for marketing authorisations submitted after that date.

EMA executive director Guido Rasi said the policy set a new standard for transparency in public health and pharmaceutical research and development.

"This unprecedented level of access to clinical reports will benefit patients, healthcare professionals, academia and industry."

CLICK HERE for the announcement.

Guild Update

PPI Claiming Now Open

IF YOU have not yet claimed for the 1 June to 30 September 2014 Pharmacy Practice Incentives (PPI) Clinical Interventions and/or DAAs claiming period, simply login to the [5CPA Registration and Claiming Portal](#) and click on the 'NEW CLAIM' Tab.

The claiming period is available until 14 October 2014 as detailed in the [PPI Programme Specific Guidelines](#).

To assist you when completing your PPI claim a 'Calculating your PPI claim for DAAs' worksheet and a 'How to claim for PPI in the 5CPA Registration and Claiming Portal' user guide are available under the 'Resources' Tab at www.5cpa.com.au

Please Note: No documents are required to be uploaded when submitting a PPI claim. Simply click 'Submit' on the upload documents page to proceed with the claiming process.

Mobile heart care for QLD

A **CUSTOMISED** road train (pictured) converted into a specialist medical clinic on wheels for rural and remote Queensland communities opened for business on the long weekend.

The brainchild of cardiologist Dr Rolf Gomes from Brisbane, the 'Heart of Australia' is sponsored by Bayer Australia, with the Federal government pumping in a further \$250,000 to fit out the clinic.

Assistant Minister for Health Fiona Nash said the clinic would have investigation, diagnosis and consultation facilities, as well as telemedicine consultations and teleconferencing.

The purpose built trailer has two



private clinic rooms, a testing room and reception area.

"The vision for Heart of Australia is to bring services to people's doorsteps," said Gomes.

Federal member for Groom Ian Macfarlane said Queenslanders in remote locations knew how hard it could be to access timely specialist health resources.

TGA approves Arzerra

GSK has announced that the TGA has approved Arzerra (ofatumumab), a human monoclonal antibody, in combination with chlorambucil or bendamustine for the treatment of patients in Australia with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia who have not received prior therapy and are inappropriate for fludarabine-based therapy - **CLICK HERE** for more.

PBS ramps up Champix

EFFECTIVE 01 Oct Champix (varenicline) from Pfizer has had its Pharmaceutical Benefits listing amended to allow Australian adult smokers who relapse following a course of the product to have a second course after six months.

Previously, only one course per year was funded.

WIN AN IN ESSENCE VAPORISER

Every day this week **PD** is giving one reader the chance to win an **In Essence** vaporiser pack, valued at \$92.90.

The In Essence Ultra Sonic Vaporiser is a safe, effective and pleasant way to use Pure Essential Oils both therapeutically and for creating ambience.

It has been designed with ultra sonic wave technology, which works on the vibration of water. Pure Essential oil molecules are dispersed into the air, enhancing the effect of Aromatherapy. The unit stays cool to touch, so it is safe for all the family.

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



How many light options are there to select?

DISPENSARY CORNER

RHYTHM of your heart.

If you're looking for a way to get patients to pay attention to their heart health, you may be interested in Metamucil and Heart Research Australia's new app, which produces tracks from the rhythm of the user's heartbeat.

Available on iOS (iPhones) and Android, the app used the phone's camera pressed against the user's finger to detect a heart rate through colour change and then generated custom music in a given genre, Metamucil said.

You can download the app for free by **CLICKING HERE**.

BETTER than last?

You may have to counsel some elderly patients from moving away from Australia, given the Global AgeWatch Index report found Australia ranked 13th in the world when it came to the wellbeing of older people, beaten by New Zealand at 10th place.

The top country was Norway, with Sweden second and Switzerland third while the worst ranked was Afghanistan at 96th.

Launched by HelpAge International, the report showed that economic growth alone would not improve older people's wellbeing, and specific policies needed to be implemented, HelpAge said.

SOME more pharmacy love.

We couldn't help it - the tweets from the #pharmacist tweet-a-thon (**PD** 03 Oct) last week were so sweet, we had to have more.

Paterks (@DarthPaterRX) wrote: "I made someone feel better today..."

Brett Bailey (@jtterb) had a nautical take:

"What do you give a sleepy pirate? ARRRRRRRmodafinil."

While theEDpharmacist (@theEDpharmacist) had a metaphysical moment:

"Shot of wheatgrass to power through my shift. If I was on warfarin I would counsel myself about INR drop."

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