

Panadol syringe dose

SYRINGE dosing of Children's Panadol 1-5 Years Colourfree Suspension has presented a challenge to some parents because of the point on the syringe barrel (pictured) at which the dose is to be measured, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has said.



The point of dose measurement with most syringes is at the end of the plunger, but in this case the correct dose is at the widest part of the plunger touching the side of the barrel, as pictured.

Paracetamol was safe and effective when taken as directed on the label, the TGA said, but warned against overdose, and it was working with GSK to address any potential for accidental over-use.

It might consider an update to the packaging, the TGA said.

TGA on Trasylol

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has posted information about Trasylol, prompted by a report of an Australian man's death in 1978 following the drug's administration.

The *Sunday Night* report accused Bayer of ignoring data about increased risk of heart attacks, kidney disease and strokes.

The TGA said the product was withdrawn from market on 06 Nov 2007, and was first available before implementation of the Therapeutic Goods Act or formation of the TGA.

It was withdrawn after preliminary trial results suggested an increased risk of death, it said.

Bayer told *PD* it had sold the worldwide rights, excluding the US, to Nordic Pharma in 2012.

Nordic told *Sunday Night* it was in discussions with the TGA and international regulators had approved the medication in appropriately managed patients.

CLICK HERE for more, **HERE** for the TGA statement, and **HERE** for Nordic's response.

Comp report 'not Crusoe'

PROFESSOR Ian Harper has said the Competition Policy review draft report is not "Robinson Crusoe" in its recommendations for pharmacy ownership and location rules.

Speaking at a public forum for the Competition Policy Review draft report (*PD* 23 Sep) yesterday, Harper told *PD* that, along with a number of others over time, the panel had said the rules were "plainly" uncompetitive.

"There are no ownership and location rules that apply to GP practices.

"A private hospital can be owned by a pharmacist but a private hospital cannot own a pharmacy."

The panel was not recommending that anyone but a suitably qualified professional pharmacist should dispense medicine, he said, as this had nothing to do with competition but was a matter of public safety.

"Our question is this: what's [sic] location and ownership restrictions got to do with any of that?"

The rules stopped people owning pharmacies, including younger pharmacists, who could not get the money to buy into a pharmacy, and to the disadvantage of people living in rural areas, he said, who had to wait for a pharmacist who wanted to establish a pharmacy in the area.

CHF AGM notice

CONSUMERS Health Forum of Australia (CHF) has advised members of its Annual General Meeting to be held at the Citadines on Bourke, Melbourne on 10 Nov.

For agenda and details **CLICK HERE**.

Harper referenced the Chemist Warehouse submission to the panel, which detailed not being able to give shares to a non-pharmacist employee.

The Guild has said it rejects the recommendations, with executive director David Quilty saying regulation ensured consumers could get timely and equitable access to PBS medicines wherever they lived (*PD* 23 Sep).

The Guild submission to the panel said location rules meant the even distribution of pharmacies facilitated access for people who could not travel to major shopping precincts.

CPD by the SEA to merge with NCE'15

THE Pharmacy Guild NSW branch has confirmed that CPD by the SEA will be consolidated with NCE'15.

The Guild said it recognised the first six months of the year were "heavily congested" with competing events, and acknowledged pharmacists' time constraints.

CPD by the SEA had run successfully for the past four years and the decision was difficult, it said.

A Guild spokesman said the move had been reviewed and discussed for some time.

Community pharmacist Patrick Reid penned an open letter recently calling for consolidated pharmacy conferences (*PD* 05 Sep).

NCE'15 would be held in the third quarter of 2015, the Guild said.

AMA fights back

THE Australian Medical Association (AMA) Victoria branch has said it will fight recommendations for expanded pharmacist roles, saying a doctor could not be substituted by a pharmacist.

Following the recommendations of the Victorian Legal and Social Issues Legislation Committee of an extended role for pharmacists including a pilot of pharmacist provided vaccinations, the treating of minor ailments and screening for chronic diseases (*PD* 15 Oct), the branch said it would fight all three, as task substitution compromised patient healthcare.

President Tony Bartone said doctors should remain at the centre of care, not as a second opinion.

Diversion into treatment doubles

ONE in four clients who received alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment in 2012-13 had been diverted from the criminal justice system, a total of 24,069 people, according to a new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

This represented 24% of all AOD clients and more than double the treatment episodes in the 10 years to 2012-13, the report found.

Episodes were about twice as likely to involve cannabis as the drug of concern compared with non-diversion clients at 43% compared with 20%, followed by alcohol at 21% compared with 46%, and amphetamines at 18% compared with 13%, the report found.

CLICK HERE for more.

NZ funds 10 new meds

PHARMAC in New Zealand has agreed to fund 10 new medicines from two companies.

These include new treatments for dementia, the respiratory condition chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, multiple sclerosis, chronic myeloid leukaemia and a type of brain tumour.

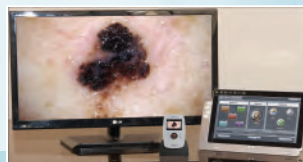
CLICK HERE for more detail.

Pharmacists are one of the most
Trusted Professions
Add another layer of care and detection...

Join Our Trial!

DermaCHEMIST

www.dermachemist.com.au



Students apply now

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia is alerting graduates of pharmacy study to apply for provisional registration and to return supporting documentation to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency by mail to complete their application.

For more information, **CLICK HERE**.

Red Cake Day 2014

BIOGEN Idec Australia hosted the Haemophilia Foundation of Australia celebration of Red Cake Day 2014 at its North Ryde office on Monday.

Haemophilia awareness week is held from 12 to 18 Oct.

CLICK HERE for more information.

Travel Specials

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

Ayers Rock Resort

'Stay Five Pay Three' deal

Ayers Rock Resort is offering yet another reason to escape to the spiritual heart of Australia with a special 'Stay Five Pay Three' nights offer.

So round up your loved ones for some well-deserved relaxation and adventure at one of the world's most beautiful natural wonders, Uluru.

'Stay Five Pay Three' nights packages start from as little as \$372 per person, twin share.

Packages include five nights at Outback Pioneer Hotel in a standard room, daily indigenous guest activities program, Ayers Rock Resort airport transfers, resort shuttle service, optional full buffet breakfast special for \$25 per person per day and children stay free using existing bedding.

With over 65 activities in and around Ayers Rock Resort, whether you want to relax and soak in the culture or be very active, it's all there waiting.

CLICK HERE for details.

25% expectations not met

A STUDY of 638 Australian pharmacists found 25% of those surveyed felt their role was not meeting their expectations.

The study was conducted by a joint venture between the iLearning Group and ACA Research, Pharmacy Insights, online by pharmacists enrolling in Pharmacy Club between May and July 2014.

It found 19% felt the role fell below the expectations they had when they had finished training and 6% felt it fell significantly below expectations, while 60% felt it generally met expectations.

Comments included that job security and public respect were diminishing, and there were many pharmacists and not many jobs.

ACA Research healthcare research director Nicola Scott said this was a high proportion of pharmacists feeling their expectations had not been met for a career that required "significant investment and years of dedication to training".

The push towards retail and increased competition, for jobs and business success, in the sector were key reasons for the reported dissatisfaction, she said.

The positivity and security of the

sector was seen to be diminishing, she said.

Those who felt the role exceeded expectations, or significantly exceeded, clocked in at 13%.

Nearly 70% said they were having to offer additional specialist health services/monitoring in order to differentiate themselves from competition, while half said they offered additional education services, the report said.

PBS reforms were identified by 87% as posing a challenge, while 56% believed the challenge from grocery was making it harder to do business, and 55% said online retailers presented a challenge, the report found.

It found 30% of those surveyed reported their retail stock sales had decreased in the last 12 months.

Prostate cancer talk

WESLEY Research Institute's final 2014 free health talk is titled 'Focus on Prostate Cancer'.

The talk will be presented on 11 Nov at The Wesley Hospital in Queensland.

For more, email

rspv@wesleyresearch.com.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

TRAVEL increases skills.

Remember that employee who left your pharmacy to travel and you said in a warm farewell statement there will always be a place for you here?

If so, you may get more than you bargained for.

Nigel, an African Grey English speaking parrot who flew from his Californian home, finally returned after four years, speaking Spanish, according to a story in *Orange News*.

No longer sporting his stiff upper beak British accent (his Californian owner was British), he came back saying things like "Que pasa?" meaning "What's up?", his owner told the *Daily Breeze*.

Nigel's identity was confirmed by his microchip.

MINIMISING stamp duty.

If you're looking to sell your pharmacy, would you consider including the office pet?

One Melbourne family managed to get a pet into the bargain when they bought their new home, after the daughter of the most enthusiastic buyers fell in love with the owner's fluffy cat named Tiffany, reports *News Corp*.

Triggered by a skillful creative real estate sales person, the deal was sealed by the house purchasers agreeing to buy on the condition that Tiffany was included in the deal for an additional \$140,000.

There is no news on whether the tax department is interested in the feline element of the deal.

ALL Blacks challenge.

An NZ character, dressed all in white, could prove a challenge to the mighty All Blacks, so get ready to cheer for Fred the ram the next time the Wallabies play the World Champs.

The white-fleeced 100 kg sheep seems to enjoy accurately head butting a football back to its owners, *The Southland Times* reported.

WIN A BIO-OIL PACK

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Bio-Oil** are giving five readers the chance to win a Bio-Oil Fit & Fab pack.

Spring is the perfect time to get fit outdoors, but don't let your skin suffer as a result of exposure to the sun or wind. With Bio-Oil, it's easy to ensure your skin gets the TLC it needs. Bio-Oil includes a range of skin-loving oils such as chamomile, rosemary, lavender and calendula for outstanding results. Valued at \$109.90, the Bio-Oil Fit & Fab prize pack includes Bio-Oil in 60ml and 125ml, a sports watch, water bottle and a sports towel.

Visit: <https://www.bio-oil.com/en-us/>

To win, be the first from SA or NT to send the correct answer to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



Name Bio-Oil's breakthrough ingredient.

Congratulations to yesterday's winner,
Bronya McLeod from **API**.