

Para'Kito display pack

OPTICA Life Accessories is offering your pharmacy a 12 piece display stand for Para'Kito natural mosquito protection supporting the National Breast Cancer Foundation in a special deal through your chosen wholesaler.

See **page three** for details.

Polio reminder

POLIO survivors will meet at Parliament tomorrow to remind the government that the legacy of polio is still a daily concern for 400,000 Australians in the annual 'We're Still Here!' campaign, Polio Australia has said.

Polio Australia said the National Disability Insurance Scheme would not support the survivors of polio epidemics over 65 when rolled out, which the campaign highlighted.

CLICK HERE for more.

CSL buys Novartis vax

CSL Limited has agreed to buy Novartis' global influenza vaccine business for US\$275m (AUD\$312m), to incorporate into CSL's vaccines subsidiary, bioCSL.

The combined business, which was expected to post sales close to US\$1b per year over the next three to five years, would become the second largest player in the global influenza vaccine market, the company said.

CSL said the Novartis influenza vaccine business had net sales

in the year to December 2013 of US\$527m, and CSL md and ceo Paul Perreault said it would "transform" bioCSL by giving it global scale, and product and geographic diversity.

Chief financial officer Gordon Naylor told *The Australian* the business was expected to be profitable within two to three years.

The transaction is pegged for final settlement in the second half of 2015, subject to regulatory approval.

The move follows GlaxoSmithKline's global purchase of Novartis' vaccines division, excluding influenza, in April (**PD** 23 Apr), with the Australian acquisition currently under consideration by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

For more information, **CLICK HERE**.

Guild campaign at Parliament House

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia officially launched its 'Discover More. Ask your pharmacist' campaign at Parliament House yesterday.

The campaign focused on four areas: pain management, after hospital care, health checks and advice, and in-home care, the Guild said.

An animated TV commercial for the campaign began playing last Sunday (**PD** 20 Oct).

GMiA hails TGA move

REDUCING duplication and the regulatory burden on medicine manufacturers in Australia will result in patients being able to access more affordable generic medicines sooner, the Generic Medicines Industry Association (GMiA) acting ceo Belinda Wood has said (**PD** 27 Oct).

MIMS Android launch

MIMS has released an Android app via Google Play.

The app allowed users to search the MIMS Abbreviated and Full Product Information database, its evidence based drug decision support tools and a comprehensive pill identifier database, MIMS said.

RGH weekly E-Bulletin

'**NEUROPATHY** and drugs' is the topic of this week's RGH E-Bulletin where the causes, terminology and many manifestations of neuropathy are summarised.

CLICK HERE to access the bulletin.

Antimicrobial survey

TO COINCIDE with Antibiotic Awareness Week from 17 to 23 Nov, acute healthcare services across the country are again being encouraged to participate in the National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey (NAPS).

The NAPS team will provide additional clinical support for sites without specialist infectious diseases advice or an antimicrobial pharmacist.

For more information, go to www.naps.vicniss.org.au.

TGA website upgrade

EFFECTIVE tomorrow, the website for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) will be a new experience with a new search engine in place and improved navigation design.

CLICK HERE for more detail.

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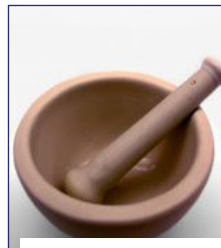
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Zovirax retail recall

GSK in association with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued a retail level recall notice to healthcare professionals for all unsold Zovirax Ophthalmic ointment (3% aciclovir), with the added alert that this may cause a product shortage.

Metal particles were found in three different lots of aciclovir used in making 11 batches of the ointment, two of which were supplied in Australia.

The TGA is negotiating to supply through alternative arrangements.

Guild condolences

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has expressed its condolences to the family of former national president and honorary life member Jim Matthews OAM, who died this week.

To read more about Matthews' life, [CLICK HERE](#).

Saline supply

SODIUM chloride bag and sterile water for injection shortages in the US will not affect supplies here.

The Food and Drug Administration reported shortages of heparin sodium injection, sodium chloride 0.9% injection bags and sterile water for injection solutions last week, and in April, sodium chloride injection (*PD* 01 Apr).

Pfizer supplies sodium chloride, water for injection and Heparin in Australia, but not IV bags.

All current supplies were manufactured in Perth and as such, Australia was not impacted by the shortages in the US, Pfizer said.

Diabetes impact under-reported

REFERENCING a new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report (*PD* 27 Oct), Diabetes Australia ceo Professor Greg Johnson has said that many of these conditions are derivative of diabetes, leaving the disease as the true cause of death under-reported at 4,209 as stated in the report.

"Often people may have had diabetes for many years and yet, when they die of a heart attack or stroke or kidney failure that was directly related to diabetes – the diabetes is not recorded on the death certificate."

MEANWHILE the National Stroke Foundation ceo Dr Erin Lalor said that stroke killed an average of 24 Australians a day, confirming "the need for a nationally consistent integrated health check that will detect those at risk before a life-threatening emergency strikes."

To read the report in full, [CLICK HERE](#).



DISPENSARY CORNER

WORLD'S worst.

If you've watched people parking outside your pharmacy with gritted teeth, viewing this video may, perversely, make you feel things aren't so bad.

It's a clip of a man in China who has been dubbed the country's worst driver after police released a video showing him trying to back out of a park over the course of 10 minutes, hitting the neighbouring car more than 10 times, the *Telegraph* reported.

The man was later arrested and his licence confiscated, with police saying his driving was so poor due to a four year break to study at university – that's what higher education will get you, apparently!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the video.

HOW to keep off the bread, and still enjoy a hearty triple meat burger.

You read it correctly – triple meat – chicken, beef and bacon, hardly a diet food line extension for front of shop.

KFC Korea has gone a step further than most on the path of eliminating bread from their diet with the 'Zinger Double Down King' burger where the buns are substituted with slabs of beef, deep fried of course, according to *Rocket News* 24.

So what is this 'healthy' bread-free alternative made of?

Sandwiched between the two slabs of deep fried beef is a fried chicken patty and a layer of fried bacon, oozing with mayo and barbecue sauce.

Reports from those with the constitution to face it were very positive, the publication reported.

Expect to pay close to AUD\$7.00 for the treat, then promise yourself no more meat or grease for a week.

Guild Update

The importance of community pharmacists

AT THE Guild, we consider it a privilege to be a champion of community pharmacies and their exceptionally professional staff who are so devoted to serving their patients to the best of their ability every day.

Australia has the best community pharmacy system in the world and we should be celebrating this fact and making sure we build on it. That is why the Discover More. Ask Your Pharmacist campaign is so important and we all need to get behind it.

It strongly reinforces the crucial role played by community pharmacies, not only dispensing medicines, but also looking after the broader health needs of their patients.

It reminds the public that community pharmacists are highly qualified health care professionals. The Discover More. Ask Your Pharmacist campaign portrays community pharmacy as delivering the patient-focused solutions that will enable it to fulfil its true potential as a highly accessible, valued and trusted health care destination.

WIN with MOR

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and MOR are giving five readers the chance to win a MOR Essentials Hand & Body Wash and Lotion.

Win a MOR Essentials Hand & Body Wash and Lotion Set, valued at \$39.90 each. Start every day with skin that is cleansed and refreshed through a formula designed to help maintain essential moisture for soft, radiant skin. This wash and lotion duo is an every day essential for well hydrated skin. Extracts of peppermint and honey cleanse and invigorate, while a sheer blend of coconut oil and glycerin creates a weightless lotion that moisturises and soothes, leaving the skin refreshingly fragrant.

To win, be the first from QLD to send the correct answer to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



What are the key ingredients in the MOR Essentials Hand & Body Lotion?

Hint: www.morboutique.com

Congratulations to yesterday's winner,
Niroshni Gunewardhane from MIMS.

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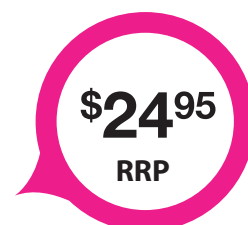
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