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## 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 four** for details.

## Sanofi ceo fired

**SANOFI'S** board has ended Chris Viehbacher's six year tenure as ceo.

In a statement, the board of directors said it had unanimously decided to remove Viehbacher in a meeting on Wednesday (CET).

The board said Sanofi needed to pursue development with a management "aligning the teams... and focusing on execution with a close and confident cooperation with the board".

Chairman Serge Weinberg would fill the role until a new ceo was appointed, Sanofi said.

## Psychiatrist barred for false scripts

A **PSYCHIATRIST** has been denied re-registration for at least two years on four counts of professional misconduct.

The misconduct related to record keeping and prescription falsification across three counts and one of suffering from an impairment that detrimentally affected or was likely to affect his capacity to practise the profession.

The scripts being written 'for patients' but which he took delivery of and admitted to self administering were Schedule 8 drugs of addiction, mainly dexamphetamine.

Dr Kim Street's impairment was drug addiction, the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal said.

**CLICK HERE** for the case summary.

## 2/3 for variable dispense fee

**MORE** than two thirds, or 69% of pharmacists support different levels of fees for dispensing based on the amount of patient interaction, according to the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) Pharmacy Barometer.

The fourth Barometer involved 268 pharmacists completing an online questionnaire from July to August, 18% of which were owners, 24% owner managers, 43% pharmacy managers or pharmacists in charge and 12% employed pharmacists.

It found there was wide spread support for a variable dispensing fee based on patient interaction, regardless of status, described by the Barometer commentary as "conceptually a major move away from current practices and previous agreements".

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) director Warwick Plunkett said resistance to this model could be due to it being difficult to put a floor on the minimum dispensing value.

While 76% of those surveyed said services provided the greatest opportunities for community pharmacy over the next three years and 56% supported the use of agreement funds to implement changes to assist the move to a

more services based model, the Barometer found there was "wide spread" uncertainty as to whether the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement funding should be reallocated from dispensing fees to services, with 30% supporting or strongly supporting this, 34% unsure and 36% not supporting or strongly not supporting the idea.

Only one third of pharmacists wanted to change the current distribution of funds (97); this group on average wanted to see the dispensing fee and mark up reduced by 12.8% and funding for programs and services increased by 12.6%.

Most (57%) of the relevant group surveyed (277) believed their pharmacies would decrease in value in the next 12 months, up from 63% in the 2013 Barometer, which had 226 respondents.

Of this 57%, while 91% said they would increase generic substitution to replace the lost revenue from price disclosure and 87% said they would implement new services, 64% said they would cut staff cost, which UTS Graduate School of Health head Professor Charlie Benrimoj said was a major concern for the profession, and a "major worry" for pharmacy graduates.

## National asthma plan

**HEALTH** Minister Peter Dutton has said a new national asthma strategy will be developed by the National Asthma Council to address the effects on the lives of Australians with asthma.

Funding to the tune of \$200,000 would be provided, with Council set to consult on the strategy, including with pharmaceutical and medicine bodies, the Minister's office said.

The strategy is slated to be ready by early 2016.

**CLICK HERE** to find out more.

## Chemist Warehouse ad complaint upheld

A **COMPLAINT** regarding Chemist Warehouse advertisements published in *The House of Wellness* in February has been upheld.

The complaint alleged the publication included, among other things, unapproved advertisements for therapeutic goods and illegible required statements, with the Complaints Resolution Panel raising additional issues itself.

In a 13 page decision, the Panel said Chemist Warehouse commercial manager Damien Gance had responded saying there was no corporate or legal entity named Chemist Warehouse, and instead this was a trading name that pharmacies who had a service agreement with Administration Marketing Solutions (AMS) used.

The Panel said a subsequent response from AMS legal representatives "appeared to amount to a complaint about the content of the complaint".

It noted advertisements on more than 10 pages of the publication appeared likely to have breached the Therapeutic Goods Act.

The Panel ordered the withdrawal of the advertisements found in breach of the Act.

**CLICK HERE** to read more.

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## Reducing cancer risk with supplements

**CALCIUM** supplements and multivitamins have been shown to have a beneficial role in reducing the risk of colorectal cancer, according to a recent meta-analysis published in the *International Journal of Cancer*.

Database mining through Medline, Embase and Cochrane gave up the data but found that associations between vitamin A, C, D and E, garlic and folic acid were inconsistent with confounding lifestyle factors also present.

The authors were guarded about recommendations until there was an extensive assessment of dietary supplement use and a better understanding of modes of action.

**CLICK HERE** to access the abstract.

## GSK Ebola vaccine

**THE** European Medicines Agency has given GSK 'rapid scientific advice' on its development of an Ebola vaccine using an accelerated procedure.

## EMA aids biosimilars

**THE** European Medicines Agency (EMA) is to implement a new policy which will enable medicines developers to use a comparator authorised outside the European Economic Area (EEA) during the clinical investigation of a biosimilar.

The new guideline will take effect 30 Apr 2015.

A spokeswoman for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) said it would consider whether to formally adopt this policy within its normal processes, but that the major change outlined in the EMA revised guideline had already been implemented.

"This has allowed sponsors to develop a biosimilar using a non-Australian approved reference comparator product in studies as long as they present sufficient justification that the reference product used is representative of an Australian approved product."

The TGA had adopted the previous version of the guideline, along with others related to biosimilars, the spokesperson said.

## New telehealth app

**EPIC** Pharmacy has launched a new patient-focused telehealth app as part of the group's digital healthcare strategy.

The app operated across every platform including Google Glass and had already been successfully used by emergency departments, ambulances and medical education applications in the US, Epic said.

Managing partner Cathie Reid said the app would be the cornerstone of training within the group but primarily would also enable privacy-assured telehealth consultations between pharmacy staff and patients.

## Monitoring quality

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has posted a video of the postmarket sampling and testing program conducted as a regular monitoring process, employing the same standards as the drug approval process for identity, strength and purity.

**CLICK HERE** to see the post.

## Botox 8th PBS listing

**EFFECTIVE** 01 Nov BOTOX (botulinum toxin type A) will be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the treatment of overactive bladder (OAB), a condition affecting more than three million Australians, manufacturer Allergan has said.

Patients with 14 or more episodes of OAB per week who fulfil other criteria will qualify for the product.

## NSW medical records de-identification

**THE** NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal handed down a decision under the Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 denying a claim by a patient who was also an employee of the local health district, *Lexology* reported.

The applicant had sought orders requiring the health district to de-identify her records because of her dual position and the sensitivity of some of the records.

There was no allegation of a breach of a health privacy principle.



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## Events Calendar

**WELCOME** to *Pharmacy Daily's* events calendar, opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

- 02 Nov: Senior First Aid Certificate; Parramatta; visit [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 11 Nov: Better Living With Your Lung Disease Regional Patient Seminar; Mandurah; for more details see: [www.lungfoundation.com.au](http://www.lungfoundation.com.au)
- 12 Nov: New Asthma Guidelines Workshop; Parkville; details at: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 12 Nov: Better Living With Your Lung Disease Regional Patient Seminar; Port Macquarie; more at: [www.lungfoundation.com.au](http://www.lungfoundation.com.au)
- 16 Nov: Victorian Pharmacy Pharmacotherapy Training Program; University of Melbourne; see: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 17 Nov: International Lung Cancer Awareness Day; for enquiries email: [enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au](mailto:enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au)
- 18 Nov: Victorian Pharmacy Pharmacotherapy Training Program: Part 2; online webinar; go to: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)
- 18 Nov: Keeping It Going QCCP Maintenance; Sydney; for more details see: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)
- 19 Nov: World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Day; visit [www.lungfoundation.com.au](http://www.lungfoundation.com.au)
- 25 Oct: Mental Health First Aid Workshop; Wagga Wagga; details: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)
- 24-28 Nov: Asbestos Awareness Week; email: [enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au](mailto:enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au)

## Novartis wins Sigma supplier

**NOVARTIS** Consumer Health has picked up the Sigma Supplier of the Year award.

The Sigma Suppliers Awards were held in Melbourne last night, with Novartis Consumer Health also taking out three other awards including Merchandise Supplier of the Year, while Novartis Pharmaceuticals took out Branded Supplier of the Year.

Sigma ceo Mark Hooper said it was "a measure of the consistently high level of engagement Novartis has demonstrated, not only in seeking improvements in business as usual activities, but also through their commitment to business initiatives and joint objectives across our retail and wholesale business".

Aspen Pharma Australia won the Generics Supplier of the Year award while MSD won Professional Services Supplier of the Year.

The awards night raised \$30,000



for Save the Children Australia, Sigma said.

## New stats software

**THE** Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) has released free software which enables researchers to analyse, model and visualise scientific datasets.

The software, called Workspace, facilitated the presentation of data in visualisations and would save hours of analytical time, freeing researchers up to spend more time focused on their scientific expertise, CSIRO said.

**CLICK HERE** for software access.



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**PREPARE** for the zombocalypse.

It's Halloween, so prepare yourself to greet hordes of zombies, ghouls and more heading through your pharmacy door today.

Just to prepare you for what to expect from be-costumed customers, or to help you prepare your own front of shop costume, *Huffington Post* has published a handy map, created by SumoCoupon, of the most Googled costumes this year in the US.

The West coast seems to be opting for zombies, Alice in Wonderland and **dog spider** costumes while the East coast appears to favour banana costumes.

Going from a banana-y encounter *PD* had on Wednesday night near Town Hall, where three bananas wandered around the QVB, this latter might prove to be popular in Australia too.

**CLICK HERE** to view the map.

**DRIVING** while undead.

However, keep an eye on those dressed as zombies wandering around your pharmacy - they might actually be three sheets to the wind, going from a report in New York that a woman wearing a zombie costume and makeup was charged with drunk driving twice in three hours.

Catherine Butler was arrested on Saturday after attending a zombie prom party and was taken to the police department, *Associated Press* reported.

Apparently Butler was picked up by a friend - and then got straight back into her car, only to be picked up again three hours later, the publication reported.

Her mug shot, of course, features the zombie make up and fake cuts.

## 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 VIC or TAS to send the correct answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Where are you likely to purchase the MOR Essentials collection?

Hint: [www.morboutique.com](http://www.morboutique.com)

Congratulations to yesterday's winner,  
**Cathy Ashton** from the **Pharmacy Guild of Australia**.



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