Thursday 02 Apr 2015

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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from: (click)

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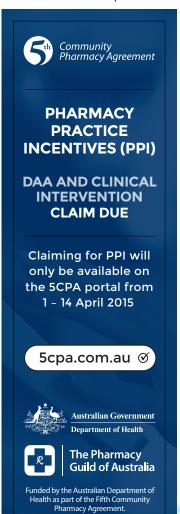
2014 CM reviews

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration said it initiated 190 reviews of complementary medicines' compliance and finalised 300 last year.

Of these, 222 were Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods listed medicines with 41 random reviews and 181 targeted.

Of the random reviews, 27% were found to have breaches with a further 32% having an uncertain compliance status.

Sixty percent of the targeted reviews showed breaches with a further 25% also in question, it said. **CLICK HERE** for the report.



Call to extend 5CPA 2 years

THE Consumers Health Forum, Cancer Voices Australia and the Chronic Illness Alliance have called for an overhaul of the "antiquated" pharmacy agreement and an extension of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement (5CPA) until 30 Jun 17.

In a joint statement, the groups said the recommendations by the Competition Policy Review to remove location and ownership rules (**PD** 01 Apr) provided "further

Ischaemic heart disease kills most

ISCHAEMIC heart disease was the leading underlying cause of death in Australia in 2013, accounting for 19,766 or 13.4% of all deaths registered in that year, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has said.

This was down from 18.5% in 2004, it said.

Dementia and Alzheimer's overtook cerebrovascular disesases as the second leading cause of death at 10, 933 deaths in 2013.

National Heart Foundation ceo Mary Barry said more action was needed to prevent chronic disease, and the Foundation looked forward to working with government on solutions.

CLICK HERE for more.

Guild plain language

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has lodged a plain language draft of the Pharmacy Industry Award with the Fair Work Commission.

In spite of criticism that developing a plain English draft would delay the process (*PD* 23 Jan), the Guild commissioned the Plain English Foundation to make comment on the Exposure Draft and provide recommendations about more clearly expressing some clauses (*PD* 06 Mar).

Guild national president George Tambassis said employment law was complex and should not be compounded by language difficulties, such as intimidating legalistic terminology. impetus" for a "substantial overhaul" of the Community Pharmacy Agreement.

The groups said the government should extend the current agreement for two years to allow "inclusive, transparent and accountable monitoring" of the current agreement and consultation on the next.

This would also allow a review of the Australian National Audit Office report findings (*PD* 06 Mar), the groups said.

The next Agreement should be consumer-focused, which would see improvements such as generic medicines prices, removal of the aforementioned regulations and greater support for home medicine review programs, the groups said.

The Guild has previously said it was "imperative" a new Agreement was negotiated to provide certainty and stability for community pharmacy providers.

Delaying the 6CPA would lead to job losses for pharmacy staff, it said (*PD* 18 Mar).

Quadrivalent flu vax soon available

FLUQUADRI and FluQuadri Junior from Sanofi Pasteur will be available on private prescription and able to be administered by pharmacists in states and territories with appropriate regulation (**PD** 14 Jan) from 20 Apr.

The vaccine will be available through API, Sigma and Symbion.

CLICK HERE for more.

Easter break

DUE to the Easter break, the next issue of *Pharmacy Daily* will be published on 07 Apr.

In the meantime, we wish all our readers a safe and happy Easter break!

Harper comments

REACTIONS to the Competition Policy Review final report recommendations (*PD* 01 Apr) have been varied.

One reader asked whether the recommendations meant a "side door" for Coles or Woolworths.

On Twitter, Pharmacy Guild Victorian branch president Anthony Tassone said it was a report to government not by government, with recommendations "based on theory".

Royal Australian College of GPs national standing committee for quality care chair Evan Ackermann asked whether this was a "serious opportunity for new models of care to benefit patients and pharmacists".

Inaugural masterclass

CHEMMART is hosting a professional development and training program designed to advance pharmacists' customer communication skills from 12 to 14 Apr in the Pullman Melbourne.

The program would include research-based outcome-oriented workshops, Chemmart said.

With support from Apotex, the course was free to Chemmart members and accredited for 63 Group 3 CPD credit points, it said.



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- Pharmacist in Charge Great Ocean Road, VIC (Job# 2011128)
 Be part of small town life yet close to majors and not far from Melbourne.
- Pharmacist Canberra, ACT(Job# 2011230)
 Full-time permanent Pharmacist role with professional services emphasis.

Have you arranged a Locum for your next break? call us to sort it!

Pharmacy

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TGA safety update

THE Medicines Safety Update from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for April includes 2015 influenza vaccines with reference to the two new strains of virus, Valdoxan's (agomelatine) need for liver function monitoring as well as NSAID and diclofenac reviews with Product Information and labelling changes related to cardiovascular risks (PD 16 Jan, 05 Feb).

CLICK HERE for the TGA update.



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Croatia on sale

BEYOND Travel is offering Discover More Credits on eight escorted tours through Croatia and the Balkans.

Available for tours this year, customers will receive \$200 in Credits per couple on the five day Croatian Delight package from Zagreb to Dubrovnik, which is priced at \$1,040 per person twin share for departures in May through September.

CLICK HERE to read more.

Vit supplements to reach US\$60b by 2020

PERSISTENCE Market Research has said the annual growth of the global vitamin supplements market between 2014 and 2020 will be 6.8%, taking it to US\$60b.

Complementary Medicines Australia ceo Carl Gibson said several factors were driving this growth, including the Asia-Pacific region's ageing population and increasing need for vitamin D, increased consumer awareness of health issues especially in North America, and in Europe, the growing incidence of chronic disease.

The Asia-Pacific market was the largest in 2013 at US\$11.5b, growing 6% from 2010 to 2013, the report said.

CLICK HERE to access the report.

NPS PPI learning

NPS MedicineWise has launched a learning program about the use of proton pump inhibitors (PPI) in the treatment of uncomplicated gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, focusing on best use of PPIs and with tools for step down theory.

CLICK HERE to access.

APhA oppose lethal drug execution

THE American Pharmacists Association (APhA) has issued a statement discouraging pharmacists from participating in executions by providing lethal drugs, on the basis that such activities are "fundamentally contrary" to the role of pharmacists as providers of healthcare.

CLICK HERE for more.

\$75m for new PBS meds

THE Minister for Health Sussan Ley has said the government will fund three new drugs on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to the tune of \$75m.

Lemtrada (alemtuzumab) would be listed for patients with relapsingremitting multiple sclerosis and Afinitor (everolimus) would be extended to include patients with pancreatic cancer.

Lucrin (leuprorelin) would be listed for the treatment of central precocious puberty for the first time, the Minister said, with 520 patients per year expected to benefit.

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Think again before tucking into that hot cross bun on a break from the busy dispensary.

Apparently a team of Australian researchers found you would have to have 10,000 people eat 100 grams of dark chocolate a day for more than 10 years to lower blood pressure and blood cholesterol enough to prevent 85 heart attacks and strokes, an article in The Conversation says.

Well, if someone has to do it... Alas, for hot cross buns, the average treat has 1,070 kJ, taking about 8,200 steps to burn off, the article says.

If such statistics don't make you hot ('n') cross, CLICK HERE.

THAT'S a lot of pregnancy tests. If you've recently sold a whole bunch of pregnancy tests to one customer, you may have unwittingly stocked an advocate of true love and sound business.

According to news.com.au, an advertisement on a Melbourne Facebook group page offered to sell positive pregnancy tests for \$20 each with the opening line "Ladies, want your man to propose?!".

The publication reported that administrators removed the post, which finished off with the fairly manic statement "Make that man vours!!!".

If there was ever a sound foundation to a marriage...

A LEECH, my good apothecary. Maybe pharmacy should start stocking this ninth century Anglo-Saxon salve for eye infections, made from onion, garlic and part of a cow's stomach, given scientists have found it almost completely eradicated staphylococcus aureus, BBC reports.

CLICK HERE for more.

WIN A BIO-OIL PACK

This week PD and Bio-Oil are giving away five 'Love Yourself Fit' mini prize packs to the value of \$110, including Bio-Oil 200mL, Bio-Oil 6omL, a Bio-Oil sports drink bottle and a Bio-Oil Watch In tin.

Bio-Oil is a specialist skincare oil that helps to improve the appearance of scars, stretchmarks and uneven skin tone. It has also been proven effective on ageing skin and dehydrated skin, the

company says. With a plethora of skincare awards under its belt, Bio-Oil has become the No.1 selling scar and stretchmark product in 18 countries since its global launch in 2002.

To win, be the first from **SA** or **NT** to send the correct answer to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What is the breakthrough ingredient used in Bio-Oil?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Eva Goodlich from Yokine Pharmacy.

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Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

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