

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news plus a full page with the MIMS monthly update for Aug.

599 SHPA abstracts

THE upcoming 41st Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia National Conference has already generated a strong response, with 599 abstracts submitted in the lead-up to the event which takes place in Melbourne 03-06 Dec this year.

Medicines Management 2015 will once again provide a showcase for innovative research, with SHPA president Michael Dooley saying the avalanche of submissions "shows how keen pharmacists, technicians, interns and students are to share their work, and how passionate they are about their profession".

This year the program has been extended to three days, with the "patient's and practitioner's journey" as the focus - for more details see mm2015shpa.com.

Primary care consultation

HEALTH minister Sussan Ley yesterday released a new discussion paper developed by the Primary Health Care Advisory Group (PHCAG) (PD 05 Jun), with options for health system reform.

The discussion paper suggests a range of possibilities such as enrolling patients to a single provider who would coordinate multi-disciplinary care, setting chronic disease payments for a defined package of care rather than remuneration for individual services and adopting international methods of best practice.

Ley said it was essential to review chronic disease health care because Medicare items covering these areas had surged almost 17% in 2013-14 to over \$587 million.

"We are committed to finding better ways to care for people with chronic and complex conditions and ensure they receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time," the minister said.

Guild president George Tambassis

said the Guild welcomed the public consultation process.

With more than 5,450 community pharmacies spread across the country there was an "opportunity to engage people along the health spectrum and hard-to-reach populations who do not use other health services, particularly in rural and remote locations," he said.

"The time is right for better and broader use of community pharmacy as a primary health care resource and as part of the wider primary health care team".

The PHCAG will now seek feedback via an online survey to launch tomorrow, as well as public sessions in Sydney, Dubbo, Melbourne, Geelong, Hobart, Perth, Brisbane, Cairns, Rockhampton, Adelaide, Alice Springs, Darwin and Broome.

A nationwide webcast will also take place on Fri 21 Aug, and after the consultation period the PHCAG will develop specific recommendations by the end of the year - see health.gov.au.

\$4m Mayne grant

MAYNE Pharma Group will be the recipient of up to \$4 million in government funding after a successful application under the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program.

The money will help support the installation of an \$11 million large scale state-of-the-art fluid bed spray coater at the company's manufacturing facility in Salisbury, South Australia.

CEO Scott Richards said the expansion of Mayne's modified-release manufacturing capability would help handle expected growth in current products as well as the commercialisation of other items currently in the pipeline.

He said Mayne has directed more than 80% of its Australian-based research and development spend to the development of advanced oral drug delivery formulations.

"Today more than half of global pharmaceutical prescription revenues come from dose forms that require more than simple immediate-release tablets," he said.

5/6CPA[~]



Patient Services



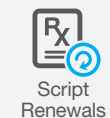
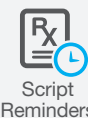
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Guild member survey

PHARMACY Guild members are being asked to complete a brief survey so the organisation can gain insight into their communication preferences, including how they would like to receive updates and what types of information they would like to see from the Guild, as well as where they currently source information and advice.

Members can take part in the brief 8-question survey by contacting their local branch, or by completing it online - [CLICK HERE](#).



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One billion eRx scripts

ERX Script exchange says Australia “achieved a major milestone in patient safety” yesterday, after reaching a total of one billion prescriptions dispensed electronically via eRx.

Fred IT Group ceo Paul Naismith enthused that the achievement was “real cause for celebration for Australian patients, their doctors and pharmacists,” with electronic transfer of prescriptions increasing confidence that the correct medications are being dispensed, while at the same time making dispensing faster and ensuring patient details are correct.

“The achievement of creating

an Australia-wide electronic script network is a direct result of significant support behind the scenes,” he said, including cooperation between the pharmacy and medical professions, industry groups, IT firms and government.

eRx conducted a survey earlier this year, with 74% of pharmacists saying Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement funding for e-scripts was “very important for their ongoing use of electronic scripts”.

Currently pharmacies using eRx are electronically dispensing more than 745,000 e-scripts per day.

SSRI warning

NEW Zealand’s Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring has issued an alert under the Trans-Tasman Early Warning System after receiving a report of a patient who experienced serotonin syndrome after taking just one dose of escitalopram.

The patient experienced symptoms within 24 hours of taking the dose, and while the reaction is a predictable consequence of excess serotonin, the report “highlights that this syndrome may occur after only one dose of an SSRI, without any other concomitant medication”.

Tighten up CAM call

TIGHTER regulation and more research into complementary and alternative medicines (CAM) for menopausal symptoms is required, according to a report in the *Medical Journal of Australia* this week.

Gynaecologist at the Women’s Health and Research Institute of Australia, Associate Professor John Eden, suggested a similar concept to the Heart Foundation’s “Tick” program to ensure treatments are standardised and evidence-based.

He was responding to an *MJA* study which found Australian women are using CAMs for managing vasomotor symptoms of menopause (VMS).

However *MJA Insight* also cited Professor Martha Hickey from the Royal Women’s Hospital in Melbourne, who said it was important to recognise there was no ‘cookie cutter’ approach.

“It’s become fashionable to say that all CAMs are rubbish.

“But the fact is, women are worried about [side effects of] hormone replacement therapy - and rightfully so,” she said.

Sister Sam joins Priceline

PRICELINE Pharmacy has announced that Australian model Samantha Harris (**pictured**) has become the newest Priceline Pharmacy Sister, joining actress Ada Nicodemou, media personality Ita Buttrose and the entire Adelaide Thunderbirds Netball team.

With a 12 month contract, Harris will commence her role immediately, helping launch Priceline Pharmacy’s Festival of Beauty campaign this month.

Harris was previously an ambassador for Priceline’s You Beauty campaign in 2014, with the company’s gm of marketing, Mark O’Keefe, saying “our past work with her has been hugely successful and shown that she is a perfect fit for our brand”.



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Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Painmaster Micro-current Therapy

Painmaster Micro-current Therapy supplies extremely low electrical current to the affected pain area, reaching injured cells, potentially restoring and regenerating them to alleviate chronic pain. Painmaster is self contained, non-invasive, with no electrical sensations, lasts up to 300hrs and its cumulative effect assists in long term healing, the company says. Painmaster is not a pain blocker but may provide some relief from muscle pains and spasms in the lower and upper back, the neck, sciatic regions, tennis elbow and other joints, fibromyalgia and arthritic disorders.

Stockist: 1300 558 252

RRP: \$45.00

Website: www.painmaster.com.au



Diesel Loverdose from L'Oreal Luxe

Diesel Loverdose is designed to make any woman feel irresistible. Loverdose has floral, spicy fragrance opening with notes of star anise and mandarin, developing with notes of sambac jasmine, licorice and gardenia petals. The fragrance dries down with notes of amber, vanilla and woods. Cut like a diamond with many faces, the bottle is made of glass with pink amethyst highlights.

Stockist: 1300 651 991

RRP: \$70.00 for 30mL

Website: www.loreal.com.au

Head & Shoulders For Men Hair Retain Shampoo

Head & Shoulders for Men Hair Retain Shampoo surrounds the hair fibre to protect it from damage and breakage caused by dandruff that can lead to hair falling out without weighing thinner hair down. The light ingredient combination and tailored blend of actives features anti-dandruff technology ZPT and menthol to cool down the scalp skin immediately to soothe and refresh.

Stockist: 1800 028 280

RRP: \$6.75 for 200mL

Website: www.headandshoulders.com.au



Age Perfect Intense Nutrition Rich Repairing Night Cream



L'Oréal Paris **Age Perfect Intense Nutrition Rich Repairing Night Cream** contains 10 oils to nourish your skin and deeply restore it with nutrients during sleep. The six nourishing oils include passionflower oil, rosehip oil, apricot kernel oil, cameline oil, rice bran oil and corn oil. The sleep-enhancing oils include sweet orange oil, camomile oil, marjolaine oil and neroli oil. The cream is easily absorbed deeply into the skin.

Stockist: 1300 659 359

RRP: \$34.85 for 50mL

Website: www.lorealparis.com.au



DISPENSARY CORNER

RUMOURS of this woman's demise were somewhat exaggerated - and it caused her significant problems.

40-year-old Alexandria Goree from St Louis in the USA is suing a group of credit reporting agencies after spending some months attempting to convince them that she was alive.

According to court documents filed last week, she found a "deceased" notation on files held by Experian, Equifax and TransUnion - which explained why she had found it fairly difficult to get a home loan.

"Words can't really explain how I felt," she said on discovering the glitch, which had seen her having to deal with a host of rejections from credit card companies and business financiers.

"Anything that would require monthly payments" was a problem: "I was only able to purchase with cash".

A ONE-LEGGED chicken in the US is about to get a new lease on life, in the form of a prosthetic limb created on a 3-D printer.

It's not quite in the league of the Six Million Dollar Man, with the first-of-its-kind procedure estimated to cost about \$2,500.

The three-month-old chook will undergo surgery after presenting at a veterinary surgery with a torn tendon in her right leg.

The vet suggested either a prosthetic or euthanasia, with her chicken-loving owner instantly opting for the technical solution.

"It was a no-brainer," according to Andrea Martin from Black Thistle Farm near Boston.

"She needs to be able to live a normal life," she added.

If the procedure works Martin plans to write a children's book about the experience.

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NEW PRODUCTS

Daklinza (daclatasvir) is a highly selective inhibitor of hepatitis C virus (HCV) nonstructural protein 5A (NS5A) replication complex. Daklinza is indicated in combination with other medicinal products for the treatment of chronic HCV infection in adults with compensated liver disease (including cirrhosis). The combination of Daklinza with peginterferon alfa and ribavirin is contraindicated in women who are pregnant or may become pregnant and men whose female partners are pregnant because of the risks of birth defects and foetal death associated with ribavirin. Daklinza is also contraindicated in combination with drugs that strongly induce CYP3A4 and thus may lead to lower exposure and loss of efficacy of Daklinza. Contraindicated drugs include, but are not limited to, phenytoin, carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenobarbital, rifampicin, rifabutin, dexamethasone and St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Daklinza is available as 30 mg and 60 mg tablets in packs of 28's.

Entyvio (vedolizumab (rch)) is a humanised IgG1 monoclonal antibody that binds to the human $\alpha 4\beta_7$ integrin and is produced in Chinese hamster ovary cells. Entyvio is indicated in the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe ulcerative colitis who have had an inadequate response with, lost response to, or are intolerant to either conventional therapy or a tumour necrosis factor-alpha (TNF α) antagonist. It is also indicated in the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe Crohn's disease who have had an inadequate response with, lost response to, or are intolerant to either conventional therapy or a TNF α antagonist. Entyvio is contraindicated with active severe infections such as sepsis, tuberculosis, opportunistic infections, and serious abscesses. Entyvio is available as a powder for injection in a single use vial containing 300 mg of vedolizumab.

Hizentra (normal immunoglobulin (human)) contains functionally intact IgG with a broad spectrum of antibodies against infectious agents. Hizentra is indicated in adults and children as replacement therapy in primary immunodeficiency disease (PID) and symptomatic hypogammaglobulinaemia secondary to underlying disease or treatment. Hizentra is contraindicated in hyperprolinaemia type I or II. Hizentra is available as a 20% (20 g/100 mL) solution for infusion in a 5 mL, 10 mL, 20 mL and 50 mL single use vial.

Otezla (apremilast) an oral small molecule inhibitor of phosphodiesterase 4 (PDE4), works intracellularly to modulate a network of pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory mediators. Otezla is indicated for the treatment of signs and symptoms of active psoriatic arthritis in adult patients and also for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy. It is contraindicated during pregnancy and in nursing women. Otezla is available as a two week titration pack (containing 4 x 10 mg tablets, 4 x 20 mg tablets and 5 x 30 mg tablets for the first week of dose titration and 14 x 30 mg tablets for the second week). It is also available as a four week pack (56 x 30 mg tablets).

ProQuad (measles, mumps, rubella and varicella) is a combined attenuated live virus vaccine. ProQuad is indicated for vaccination against measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella in individuals 12 months through 12 years of age. ProQuad is contraindicated in gelatin hypersensitivity; history of anaphylactoid reaction to neomycin; active febrile illness with fever > 38.5°C; active untreated TB; family history of congenital or hereditary immunodeficiency unless immune competence demonstrated; primary/ acquired immunodeficiency states including HIV, hypogammaglobulinaemia, dysgammaglobulinaemia, cellular immune deficiency; blood dyscrasia; malignancy affecting bone marrow, lymphatic system e.g. leukaemia, lymphoma; concomitant immunosuppressants (excluding topical/ low dose corticosteroids, corticosteroid replacement therapy); and pregnancy. ProQuad is available as a single use powder for injection vial in packs of 1's and 10's.

Sunvepra (asunaprevir) is a selective inhibitor of the HCV nonstructural protein 3/4A (NS3/4A) protease. It is indicated in combination with other medicinal products for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in adults with compensated liver disease (including cirrhosis). Sunvepra is contraindicated in moderate to severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh B or C); decompensated liver disease; concomitant thioridazine, moderate to strong CYP3A inducers (including phenytoin, carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, phenobarbitone, rifampicin, rifabutin, bosentan, dexamethasone, St John's wort, efavirenz, etravirine, nevirapine, modafinil), moderate to strong

CYP3A inhibitors (including itraconazole, ketoconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole, fluconazole, clarithromycin, erythromycin, diltiazem, verapamil, atazanavir, ritonavir, darunavir/ ritonavir, fosamprenavir, indinavir, lopinavir/ ritonavir, saquinavir, cobicistat), OATP1B1 inhibitors (including cyclosporin, gemfibrozil); in combination with peginterferon and ribavirin, also males with pregnant female partners, women of childbearing potential (unless 2 forms of effective contraception used) including 6 months post-treatment of either partner, and pregnancy. Sunvepra is available as 100 mg capsules in packs of 56's.

NEW INDICATIONS

Enbrel (etanercept (rch)) is now also indicated in the treatment of adults with active (active disease is defined as a Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Index (BASDAI) score of ≥ 4), nonradiographic axial spondyloarthritis with objective signs of inflammation as indicated by elevated C-reactive protein (CRP) and/or MRI change who have had an inadequate response to NSAIDs.

As **Neutrafluor 5000 Plus (sodium fluoride)** delivers fluoride topically to teeth and is intended for erupted teeth in adults and children over the age of ten, the increased fluoride dose should not contribute to fluorosis provided it is not used in an unsupervised manner in children under ten years of age.

SAFETY RELATED CHANGES

Advantan (methylprednisolone aceponate) is now contraindicated if ulcera or atrophic skin disease is present.

Dizole One (fluconazole) is now contraindicated with coadministration of the QT prolonging drug erythromycin.

Epilim (sodium valproate), Epilim IV (sodium valproate) are now contraindicated in patients known to have mitochondrial disorders caused by mutations in the nuclear gene encoding mitochondrial enzyme polymerase gamma (POLG eg Alpers-Huttenlocher syndrome) and in children under two years of age who are suspected of having POLG related disorder.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.