

## Last week to order

WITH only one week left in which to order your pharmacy's personalised API 2016 calendar for delivery mid-November, pharmacies are being urged to jump online and save a further 5%.

Calendars in bulk can be as inexpensive as 95c each, have beautifully designed scenic photographs and are presented on high quality print.

The API calendar offers a high value daily exposure to your customers - see **page three** today.

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## VPA warns of S8 breaches

A "DISTURBING number" of pharmacists are continuing to ignore requirements for secure storage and maintenance of accurate records for Schedule 8 poisons, according to the Victorian Pharmacy Authority (VPA).

The VPA has resolved to convene Panel Hearings following cases of alleged serious breaches of S8 legislation, and during Jul heard four cases, two of which involved premises where S8 poisons were not stored in a controlled drug safe.

In one of these cases there was found to be a failure of good pharmaceutical practice at the premises, which were also not maintained in a clean and hygienic manner, along with the S8 breaches.

The proprietors were reprimanded and a condition was placed on the pharmacy business

## RGH Phcy E-Bulletin

THIS week's bulletin explains the acronym 'SAME-TT2R2', the clinical measure by which effective anticoagulation with Vitamin K antagonists (i.e. warfarin) is determined, maintaining International Normalised Ratio (INR) within therapeutic range.

A distinction is drawn between the value of the acronym for warfarin patients versus those prescribed the novel anti-coagulants (NOACs).

**CLICK HERE** to access the bulletin.

## FDA nods Promacta

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has extended the use of Promacta (eltrombopag) by Novartis to treat low blood platelet count in pediatric patients, aged one year and older, with a rare blood disorder called chronic immune thrombocytopenic purpura.

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- Disturbed Sleep and Insomnia ☒

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ETH7552\_07/15

## Homeopathy queries

BOTH the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) are reviewing their regulation of homeopathic drugs, says the *FDA Law Blog*.

The FTC had issued a 'comment' to the FDA requiring claims for homeopathic drugs to be supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

This conflicts with the FDA's current position allowing marketing of these products without proof of efficacy; a workshop is planned for September - **CLICK HERE** for more.

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## Aged care feedback

THE Australian Aged Care Quality Agency has issued a discussion paper as part of a consultation on the measurement and monitoring of quality in aged care services.

Feedback forums will run in Brisbane, Adelaide & Parramatta in Sep, with online submissions of input which will see a report submitted to the Department of Social Services to help inform a review of current standards.

View the paper at [aacqa.gov.au](http://aacqa.gov.au).

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## New weight loss supp

**ADDRESSING** the less dramatic 'overweight epidemic' as opposed to pure 'obesity', Omega Pharma has released XL-S Medical, made from Litramine, a fibre complex sourced from prickly pear.

The product was assessed in a double-blind randomised placebo-controlled study - [CLICK HERE](#).

## Guild Update

### 'My Aged Care'

**PRESCRIPTION** repeat folders have been sent to community pharmacies to help raise public awareness about recent changes to the way older Australians access aged care services.

From 1 July 2015, the 'My Aged Care' service will help improve the quality of aged care in Australia, giving older people more choice and flexibility, and helping them stay independent in their homes and communities for longer.

To help spread the message about this major reform, the Department of Social Services has invested in a national prescription repeat folder campaign to assist in raising awareness of the availability and functions of the My Aged Care website and contact centre.

The Guild has called on pharmacies to support the new campaign by using the prescription repeat folders.

Each community pharmacy was sent 1,500 folders promoting the service to their customers.

The Department recognises pharmacies as a key contact point for older Australians to the health care system.

## Skiing's fastest pharmacists



**MT BULLER** was the venue this year for the annual Medici Capital Pharmacy Ski Race where the fastest pharmacists on snow went head-to-head on a challenging course in perfect sunny conditions on Skyline run.

Fastest pharmacist on the day and the winner of the Medici Capital Pharmacy Ski Cup was Michael Williams of Thompson's Pharmacy Eltham with a time of 28.47 seconds down the course.

Mark Henry of Amcal Pharmacy Mansfield finished second, with Andrew Rewell of Priceline/API also

on the men's podium.

This year's ski race was hotly contested with less than 0.13 seconds separating Michael, Mark and Andrew.

The Henry Family from Amcal Pharmacy Mansfield were very successful on the day with Cathy Henry taking out the Women's Division and Bridget Henry winning the Junior Division, with the fastest time of the day.

**Pictured** are, from left to right, Mark Henry, Bridget Henry, Frank Sirianni Managing Director of Medici Capital, and Cathy Henry.

## DISPENSARY CORNER

**A COURT** hearing in the US became a matter of life and death last week after one of the lawyers managed to convince the judge he really needed a continuance.

Attorney Marc Daffner filed an urgent request with the Pittsburgh magistrate hearing a case he was involved with - because his wife was going into labour.

The formal document read "Defense counsel's wife went into labour at approximately 11.15am today, and defense counsel will be killed by his wife if he does not get to the hospital immediately".

Although there wasn't a legal basis for the delay, the judge and opposing counsel agreed to the move, meaning Daffner made it to the birth in time.

**IN AN** example of true inspirational determination, a 21-year-old quadriplegic has managed to complete a gruelling 20km Tough Mudder course in his wheelchair.

British student Rob Camm (pictured below) was paralysed from the neck down in a car accident two years ago.

He decided to take part in the challenge in a special off-road wheelchair linked to a quad bike. "I wanted to do a Tough Mudder before the accident and still wanted to do it now," he said.

Although he wasn't able to complete some of the obstacles - such as the monkey bars - Camm managed to navigate most of what the organisers described as the UK's "deepest, darkest mud and soul-crushing terrain".



## Win with Aromababy

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and Aromababy are giving readers the chance to win an Aromababy prize pack worth \$39.95.

Celebrating 20 years, Aromababy is well known as an affordable, pharmacy-focused alternative to mass produced baby care. Aromababy was Australia's very first, natural baby skincare brand to combine research with the use of organic ingredients. Aromababy is used in select hospitals and may be used on sensitive skin.



To win, be the first person from QLD to send the correct answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Is Aromababy still Australian made?

[CLICK HERE](#) for a hint

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Amanda Pippia from Leeton Pharmacy.

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