

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page reminding pharmacies to order their **API Calendars**.

New Chemmart executive director

EBOS Group has announced that former supermarket gm Duncan Phillips (pictured) has been appointed Chemmart's new executive director.

After leading developments for the past six years in the Coles Group and holding senior retail positions in the retail sector in the UK, Phillips will commence his new role 01 Sep.



EBOS Group gm of Retail Services Andrew Vidler, has said he is confident Chemmart customers will benefit from the appointment.

"Duncan's ability to create and implement customer centric solutions that drive real results will be invaluable to the Chemmart brand moving forward.

"This is particularly important given Chemmart's focus on wellbeing and service initiatives," Vidler said.

"His understanding of the retail environment is second to none and he has a proven track record of building and leading high performing teams," he added.

APC convenes Colloquium

THE future of "experiential education" for pharmacists was explored earlier this week during the 2015 Australian Pharmacy Council Colloquium in Canberra.

Delegates from across Australia and New Zealand gathered with a number of online and social media participants.

UK practice pharmacist Ravi

Riley to run RUM

TONI Riley has been named as the new Project Manager of the National Return and Disposal of Unwanted Medicines Limited (the RUM Project), replacing Simon Appel who's headed the scheme with distinction since its inception in 1998.

Riley is a Victorian community pharmacy owner who currently chairs the Victorian Pharmacy Authority, and is also a director of the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy.

Last month the RUM Project confirmed a new three year funding agreement with the government, which will also see research undertaken into the types of medicines returned and why they are unwanted by consumers.

Adherium listing

INHALER technology firm Adherium successfully floated on the Australian Stock Exchange yesterday, raising \$35 million.

The firm has a long term supply and development agreement with AstraZeneca (PD 06 Aug).

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Amneal expands generics, specialties

AMNEAL has announced the creation of Amneal Biosciences, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Amneal Pharmaceuticals to focus exclusively on the commercialisation of high-barrier-to-entry generic and specialty pharmaceuticals such as injectables, oncologics and biosimilars to healthcare providers globally.

Amneal co-ceo and chairman Chirag Patel said, "Amneal has a robust pipeline of both small-molecule injectable generics as well as biosimilars, and we expect to bring the first of these to market in early 2016.

"Our experienced Amneal Biosciences team provides the high degree of expertise these specialty products require."

Heading Amneal Biosciences as president is pharmacy veteran Charles Lucarelli, MS, RPh.

Sharma proposed a "Pharmacist 2.0" model providing professional mobility, while Dr Chris Freeman highlighted the need for clinical residencies to support the pharmacist learning experience.

Other presentations included Dr Ian Larson who demonstrated the use of simulation technology to enhance the pharmacist learning experience, while Judy Burrows stressed the need to address variations in practice in order to produce a "well-rounded, high performing pharmacist".

The day included an entertaining "profession debate" in which the negative team, led by Dr Erica Sainsbury, convinced delegates that it's more than just the pharmacy profession that can "bake the cake" of forming successful pharmacists, with universities, preceptors, mentors, role models and even patients playing a key role in preparing students and interns for their pharmacy careers.

PBAC agenda out

THE agenda for the Nov 2015 meeting of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee has been released, with more than 70 new and amended listings to be considered, as well as reports from the Drug Utilisation Sub Committee.

One of the submissions is for an Unrestricted listing for GSK's Arnuity Ellipta (fluticasone furoate) for the treatment of asthma.

Consumer comments on the agenda close on 07 Oct - for details see www.pbs.gov.au.

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ASMI innovation focus

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry will highlight the importance of innovation to drive growth in the "crowded and highly competitive consumer healthcare marketplace," with a presentation at the upcoming ASMI conference by Robert Buckeldee, head of Consumer Healthcare for Nielsen's Innovation Practice in Europe.

Buckeldee said compelling new product development is difficult in the health and personal care categories, with many areas already crowded and highly competitive.

However "even in difficult economic times, consumers enjoy trying new products," he said.

Buckeldee said in the fast moving consumer goods and OTC segments new products represent a relatively small economic risk to consumers due to modest price points, with Nielsen identifying six key ways

to approach innovation in the health and personal care area - each of which will be explored by Buckeldee in his ASMI conference presentation on 11 Nov.

Buckeldee's appearance is being supported by Bayer Australia.

The conference takes place at the Waterview Convention Centre, Sydney Olympic Park in Sydney with delegates from all sectors of the non-prescription medicines industry encouraged to attend.

ASMI said there are also still opportunities to sponsor parts of the program - for more information see www.asmi.com.au.

UK 'Sunshine Rule'

UNDER new conditions announced this week, the British Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced that all National Health Service hospitals and General Practitioner groups will be required to keep a list of every gift and payment from pharmaceutical companies to health service staff, reports *Policy and Medicine*.

Under the new 'Sunshine Rule', dismissal or even jail time awaits any NHS personnel who accept such transfers of value from drug companies and fail to declare them within a specified time.

Low vit D link to MS

A NEW study based on the DNA profiles of 'tens of thousands' of people of European descent has added to the growing body of evidence supporting the link between genetically influenced low vitamin D status and multiple sclerosis (MS), *BBC Health* reports.

CLICK HERE for details.

Botox, growth FAQs

FURTHER detail has been provided relating to the changes to Growth Hormone and Botulinum Toxin S100 programs (*PD* 29 Jun) which become effective 01 Sep.

New Frequently Asked Questions have been prepared, with PBS-subsidised botox to no longer be supplied via community pharmacy.

Prescribers may order botulinum toxin products from hospital pharmacies in advance of providing valid PBS scripts to cover the supplies - for more details see www.pbs.gov.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

TWO plus two equals five? Blame mum's hormones.

A report in the *European Journal of Endocrinology* has found that low levels of thyroid hormones during pregnancy are strongly correlated with children being bad at maths.

Scientists from VU University Medical Centre in The Netherlands studied almost 1,200 kids five years after birth, concluding that the hormonal indicator was associated with a 60% increased chance of the children scoring poorly in arithmetic tests.

The researchers will now continue to follow the children as they grow to see whether the problems persist into adulthood.

They postulated that the link could mean that in the future hormone tests could be used to identify children who will need extra help in mathematics.

"It is possible that these children could benefit from hormonal supplements to boost their brain development in the womb," suggested lead researcher Dr Martijn Finken.

However he noted that such treatment had been tried in the past but "as yet has failed to improve cognitive ability".

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 SA or NT to send the correct answer to the following question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Is Aromababy based on research?

[CLICK HERE](#) for a hint

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Lorraine Brouard from Symbion.

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