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## PBAC chair heads to WHO

**PHARMACEUTICAL** Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) chair Dr Suzanne Hill will step down after the PBAC's March meeting in order to take up a role with the World Health Organization (WHO).

The search for a new chair had begun, the Department of Health said.

Professor Robyn Ward and Professor Andrew Roberts were reappointed to the PBAC and Dr Elizabeth Marles and Dr Thomas Snelling were appointed for four years, the Department said.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

## APC meets with PBA

**THE** Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA) said it met with the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) president and senior staff to discuss work carried out on behalf of the PBA.

The APC accredits education providers and programs as well as assessing overseas qualified pharmacists seeking registration in Australia and more.

The work program and costs of delivering accreditation were discussed by the organisations, which would assist the PBA in determining the amount of funding required for these functions, it said in its latest communiqué.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

## More than med deliverers

**PHARMACISTS** are more than just deliverers of medicine in aged care, and need to promote themselves in areas of subacute clinical work, Leading Age Services Australia ceo Patrick Reid has said.

Speaking as part of a panel at the Consumer Directed Care Summit yesterday, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) ACT branch board member and Guild member Reid said while medication management and supply was key, there was a much wider scope of things pharmacy could provide to both residential and home care, including respite and chemotherapy.

Pharmacists had been underutilised or not recognised in subacute clinical care, and had not promoted themselves in this vein, Reid said.

Pharmacy had a lot to offer, to fill some of the niche areas, he said.

Organisations needed to promote this work to members more, but pharmacists also needed to prove their capability, Reid said, and the PSA was currently looking at a paper involving pharmacist integration into residential care, as well as GP surgeries, which was "very exciting".

Pharmacy Guild NSW branch committee member Peter McBeath, who asked the panel members why pharmacy was not mentioned in

the 'Living Longer, Living Better' reform documents, said he believed pharmacy should be an "integral part" of these.

There had been a lot of discussion around coordinated aged care with one point of contact, he said, and there was probably a need for pharmacy to also go through a central contact point.

Going forward, it was likely the system would see more people in their homes instead of aged care facilities, and to visit a hundred places instead of one was a drain on resources and required a different skill set and structure, which had not been addressed, he said.

## ASMI: support for improved labelling

**THE** Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI) has said it welcomes the TGA consultation on the labelling of OTC non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

Regulatory and scientific affairs director Steve Scarff said the industry supported improved labelling.

"For OTC medicines the label provides the necessary information to help a consumer understand if the medicine is right for them and when to seek advice from a pharmacist or doctor."

The next update for the Required Advisory Statements for Medicine Labels is intended to be scheduled in December, coming into effect 12 months later, the TGA said.

## New Bayer Pharm gm

**BAYER** Pharmaceuticals gm and Bayer HealthCare ANZ country representative Rene Klemm will become senior Bayer representative in the Andean Region as of 01 Apr.

**PD** understands Klemm will be replaced by Nelson Ambrogio, Bayer Portugal gm.

## Baby feeding module

**WITH** a focus on the 2012 NHMRC Infant Feeding Guidelines, Pharmacist Club and Aspen Nutritionals have produced a new online CPD accredited module for pharmacists around infant breast and bottle feeding issues.

[CLICK HERE](#) for all modules.

## Aus, NZ behind on cancer therapies

**A REPORT** released in December 2014 by the UK Office of Health Economics states that Australian and New Zealand cancer patients are relying more on older therapies as opposed to those approved in the last five years.

Australia ranks second last (12th), only in front of New Zealand, and down from 10th in 2009, relative to similar developed countries, the report said.

Medicines Australia ceo Tim James in a statement marking World Cancer Day 2015 (04 Feb) welcomed the recent

announcement of a Senate Inquiry into the availability of innovative specialist cancer drugs in Australia.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the MA statement.

### WIN WITH PROPRAIRA SPF 50+



This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Propaira** are giving readers the chance to win two lots of Propaira SPF 50+ sunscreen 80mL.

Propaira SPF50+ Sunscreen is designed to protect cancer prone skin from harmful UVB and UVA. The term "SPF (Sun Protection Factor) UVA/UVB Broad Spectrum" used on sunscreen labels represents UVB protection but has less emphasis on UVA protection, the company says. Propaira SPF50+ Sunscreen has very high UVB protection as well as very high UVA protection to further prevent the development of skin cancers, Propaira says.

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

**What is the size (mL) of Propaira SPF 50+ sunscreen?**

Need a hint? [Click here.](#)

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Simonne Cramer from Scaffidi Group!

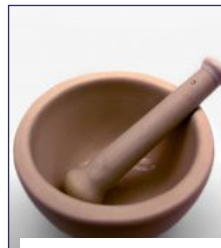


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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist Manager** - Capricornia Region, QLD (Job# 2011101)  
Brilliant new reg opportunity with great team/customer focus/PPI's/\$\$
- **Pharmacist** - Melbourne's West, VIC (Job# 2011116)  
32hrs/wk over 4 days with a focus on health and wellbeing services.
- **Pharmacy Manager** - South West Slopes Region, NSW (Job# 2011106)  
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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).

**6-8 Feb:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy Practice; Melbourne; for more details visit: [www.cpd.shpa.org.au](http://www.cpd.shpa.org.au)

**14-16 Feb:** Pharmacy Re-Entry Course: Refresher Training for Australian Community Pharmacy; St Leonards; more details available at: [www.psa.org.au/conferences](http://www.psa.org.au/conferences)

**22 Feb-1 Mar:** Pharmacy Study Tour; Deer Valley/Park City, USA, more info at [www.medic.com.au/events](http://www.medic.com.au/events)

**6-8 Mar:** Annual Therapeutic Update; Terrigal; for more details visit: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**7 Mar:** Better Pharmacy Futures Forum; Terrigal; more details at: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**7-8 Mar:** Oncology - Foundation Seminar; Melbourne; see: [www.cpd.shpa.org.au](http://www.cpd.shpa.org.au)

**12-15 Mar:** Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2015, Gold Coast - see [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)

**15 Mar:** Bridging the Gap Workshop; St Leonards; more details at: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**21-22 Mar:** Mental Health First Aid; Parramatta; for more details visit: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**18-19 Apr:** Victorian Pharmacy Conference; Monash University, Parkville; visit [www.psa.org.au/conferences](http://www.psa.org.au/conferences)

**29-31 May:** ConPharm 2015; Park Hyatt Melbourne; more info at: [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)

## Growth hormone scheduling

**THE** scheduling delegate has made an interim decision to include growth hormones in Schedule Four.

The delegate said the proposed implementation date for new entries for Growth Hormone Releasing Hormones, Growth Hormone Secretagogues, Growth Hormone Releasing Peptides and Growth Hormone Variants, as well as new individual substance entries for CJC-1295, ipamorelin, GHPR-2, GHPR-6, hexarelin and AOD-9604 in Schedule 4 and Appendix D, was 01 Jun.

The delegate said reasons for this decision were that the long term safety of performance and image enhancing drugs was not established and had the potential for downstream health effects such as adverse cardiovascular and hormonal effects.

Scheduling of the substances would help ensure there was

appropriate medical supervision of use and could make them more difficult to obtain without a lawful purpose, the delegate said.

In relation to proposals to amend the Schedule Two entry to exempt paracetamol when compounded with caffeine in specific circumstances, and to amend Appendix H to include a new entry for paracetamol/ibuprofen, the delegate's interim decision was that the current scheduling was appropriate in both cases.

**CLICK HERE** to read more.

## Medical tourism talks

**THE** Trade in Services Agreement negotiations led by Australia, the US and the European Union in Geneva this month will include promotion of "offshoring" of health services, according to a leaked discussion paper reported by the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

The resultant potential growth in medical tourism, estimated to be worth around \$7.7t per year, could take funds away from investment in Australian public hospitals, the report said.

## US chains ordered not to sell CMs

**THE** New York State attorney general's office has issued cease-and-desist letters to GNC, Target, Walgreens and Wal-Mart, after investigations found dietary supplements sold did not contain the ingredients shown on the label, *The Washington Post* reported.

The retailers were ordered to stop selling various dietary supplements, many of which were alleged to contain potential unidentified allergens, the report said, with tests finding all but five of 24 products contained DNA that was unrecognisable or from a plant other than the product claimed.

**CLICK HERE** to read more.

## TGA ticks Triumeq

**THE** first single-pill HIV medicine containing the antiretroviral dolutegravir (Tivicay from ViiV Healthcare) has been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

A once daily dose, Triumeq contains three medications: 600mg abacavir, 300mg lamivudine and 50mg of dolutegravir.

**CLICK HERE** for the ARTG entry.

## Pfizer buys Hospira

**PFIZER** is set to buy Hospira for approximately US\$17b.

The acquisition would add a "growing revenue stream" for Pfizer's Global Established Pharmaceutical business, with an expanded portfolio of sterile injectable pharmaceuticals, Pfizer said.

The transaction is expected to be completed by the second half of this year.

**CLICK HERE** for more.



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**GET** your fresh snake oil here.

One Queensland pharmacy may well be accused of peddling snake oil if today's story is anything to go by.

A reptile handler was called in to Warana Pharmacy on the Sunshine Coast this week to catch and remove a small snake, according to *Nine News.com.au*.

Whether the slippery little slitherer surreptitiously snuck in seeking skin softening salve or tasty Killer Pythons, we may never know, but it certainly had impact on one female observer who readily found a classic Australian word to express her surprise, the report said.

The invader was safely removed and the drama was all over in minutes apparently.

**PHARMACY** nap nook.

If you're studying for your pharmacy degree and feel like you need to put your head down for a few minutes between lectures, perhaps your university should take a hint from the University of East Anglia, the student union of which has created a "nap nook".

Based on an idea from a US university, students can book a 40 minute slot in the nook in advance, or walk in, *BBC News* has reported.

The nook features bean bags, sofa beds, anti-microbial pillows, eye masks and blackout curtains, and is open from 12pm to 6pm each day, the publication reports, so for those in 8am lectures, you'll still have to use the centuries-old standby of sleeping on the lecture bench.

Additionally, the US facility is reportedly run by the university's psychology department, raising the question of whether the whole thing is just an experiment.

**CLICK HERE** to read more.