

Guild: News Ltd story 'misleading'

THE Pharmacy Guild has said a report published by News Ltd outlets yesterday (**PD** 12 Feb) misrepresented pharmacy.

The Guild said the Pharmacy of the Year finalist Super Pharmacy Plus, which contains an IGA x-press, was accredited under the Quality Care Pharmacy Program and thus was not allowed to sell alcohol or cigarettes.


"The Guild maintains its opposition to the co-location of pharmacies within supermarkets because the big supermarket duopoly in Australia promotes and relies heavily on alcohol and cigarette sales, and because their large corporate structures put shareholder returns ahead of public health."

MEANWHILE Minister for Health Sussan Ley told News Limited the nomination indicated "an openness for discussions" and she would seek to clarify the Guild's position going forward - **CLICK HERE** to read more.

New NHMRC ceo

THE National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) will have a new ceo as of April in Professor Anne Kelso.

Previously director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Influenza, Kelso had a "distinguished" career in medical research with a track record in internationally competitive research in immunology and influenza, Minister for Health Sussan Ley said.



Acne Prone skin

find out more

COSBOA backs pharmacy

INDEPENDENTLY owned pharmacies provide "difference" in communities, which would be lost if pharmacy could be owned by supermarkets, Council of Small Business of Australia (COSBOA) ceo Peter Strong has said.

Writing in *SmartCompany*, Strong said should the "duopoly" of Coles and Woolworths be allowed to incorporate pharmacies, the difference and vibrancy experienced when small businesses clustered together would be lost, as supermarkets thrived on forcing competitors out of the market place or by jumping into partnership with developers and becoming part of large shopping malls that became "local retail monopolies", he said.

The duopoly only paid time and a half to staff on Sundays, compared

ACCC 'generous' with Medicines Australia

THE Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) was being generous in giving Medicines Australia until 01 Oct 2016 to implement its proposed transparency regime as part of its 18th Code of Conduct, a submission has said.

Professor Philip Morris commended the ACCC for a balanced approach to proposed conditions for authorisation, and said he did not object to the time extension and agreed with the \$120 meal cap.

Bond University Gold Coast Professor of public health Chris Del Mar echoed these statements, also saying the ACCC was being generous in its extension.

He also agreed with the \$120 meal cap.

Monash University School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine Adjunct Associate Professor Dr Ken Harvey said the ACCC had reached a "suitable compromise", including the decision not to impose ongoing food and beverage, or drug name reporting, requirements.

CLICK HERE to view the submissions in full.



back to school
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with double for pharmacists, and should pharmacy move into supermarkets, employment would fall as duties were incorporated by checkout operators, Strong said.

Strong told **Pharmacy Daily** that should regulations for pharmacy be removed, there would be two levels of service provided; one in a mall and one wherever else service could be found.

He said people with special health needs, such as methadone program participants, might be refused access to shopping malls.

It was also unlikely Coles or Woolworths would run a methadone program, as it attracted people fighting drug addiction who probably did not have surplus money, he said.

"You're not going to have a methadone clinic in aisle six."

Strong said the competition policy recommendations of removing the pharmacy ownership and location regulations were a textbook, and shallow, view of the world.

The Pharmacy Guild is a member of COSBOA.

Strong said other members had regulations as the pharmacy industry did, for instance, the need for a real estate agent to have a license to practise.

A spokesperson for Coles said the organisation did not have any comments to make on the article.

The Australian National Retailers Association, of which Coles and Woolworths are members, did not respond to requests for comment.

CLICK HERE to read the article in full.

CSL posts US\$692m in profit

CSL has posted reported net profit for the half year to 31 Dec of US\$692m (A\$904m), up 7% year on year.

This was on the back of revenue of US\$2.8b, up 6% year on year, with bioCSL posting sales of A\$276m, up 15% in constant currency terms.

Influenza vaccine sales grew "strongly" to A\$116m, up 24%, driven by a severe season in the northern hemisphere.

CSL ceo Paul Perreault said a key achievement in the first half was the completion of the agreement to acquire the Novartis influenza vaccine business, which would see CSL sit at number two in the global influenza vaccine industry.

CLICK HERE to read more.

MA: no new PBS saving measures

MEDICINES Australia (MA) has said the government should commit to imposing no new unilateral Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) savings measures are introduced in the 2015-16 Budget.

Ceo Tim James said the organisation's pre-Budget submission called on the government to commit to working with industry to maintain a sustainable PBS and recognise the need for predictability for industry, as well as a commitment to grow the investment opportunities for innovation and research in the pharmaceutical sector.

CLICK HERE to read more.



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- **Pharmacist** - Central Coast, NSW (Job# 2011124)
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- **Pharmacist** - Pharmacist - South West, WA (Job# 2011067)
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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.

- 14-16 Feb:** Pharmacy Re-Entry Course: Refresher Training for Australian Community Pharmacy; St Leonards; more details available at: 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
- 1 Mar:** Apply First Aid; Hawthorn; see: www.guild.org.au
- 6-8 Mar:** Annual Therapeutic Update; Terrigal; for more details visit: www.psa.org.au
- 7 Mar:** Better Pharmacy Futures Forum; Terrigal; more details at: www.psa.org.au
- 7-8 Mar:** Oncology - Foundation Seminar; Melbourne; see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 10 Mar:** Cardiovascular Update: Dyslipidemia; St Leonards; see: www.guild.org.au
- 12-15 Mar:** Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2015, Gold Coast - see www.appconference.com
- 15 Mar:** Bridging the Gap Workshop; St Leonards; more details at: www.psa.org.au
- 21-22 Mar:** Mental Health First Aid; Parramatta; for more details visit: www.psa.org.au
- 31 Mar:** Cardiovascular Update: Atrial Fibrillation and Anticoagulants; St Leonards; more at: www.guild.org.au
- 7 Apr:** Pharmacy Live webinar; details at: www.psa.org.au

PSA to develop ACT site

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) will relocate its Canberra office this weekend to temporary premises, making way for the redevelopment of its Pharmacy House site in Deakin.

The society has entered a joint venture with a Canberra developer which will see the existing premises, built more than 30 years ago, demolished and redeveloped.

The PSA said the new building would become a "pharmacy hub", housing the organisation as well as offering space to other pharmacy bodies.

PSA ceo Dr Lance Emerson said the new property would be a "state-of-the-art three level building which would symbolise PSA's progressive and forward-looking approach.

"PSA, and the role of pharmacists, have grown over the years... the

new landmark building will be a symbol of excellence in pharmacist care in Australia for the next 50 years."

The existing Pharmacy House was built thanks to the support of PSA members, "and we will continue to recognise these founders in the new building," he said.

PSA members would once again be "provided the opportunity to contribute to the development" of the new property.

The temporary address is Level 1, 25 Geils Court Deakin ACT 2600.

Fatigue tool online

NPS MedicineWise has released a new online tool for health professionals to use in consultations with patients with fatigue.

The tool aided discussion on the possible causes of fatigue and identified and addressed lifestyle factors that could be relevant, NPS MedicineWise said.

Clinical adviser Dr Andrew Boyden said the tool also addressed the appropriateness of diagnostic testing for fatigue.

CLICK HERE to access the tool.

Not so natural...

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is warning that MMC 100% Natural Product capsules should not be taken.

The capsules contain the undeclared substance sildenafil.

WIN WITH PROPAIRA FOR ACNE PRONE SKIN

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Propaira** are giving readers the chance to win one Propaira Purifying Cream 30mL and Propaira Foaming Cleansing Gel 100mL.

Propaira for Acne Prone Skin contains clinically proven key ingredients to help reduce redness, blemishes, black and white heads, the company says. Propaira says that used in combination, the formulation also helps to reduce sebum production and calm the skin. Australian-made, Propaira is also simple to use, without the worry of common side-effects such as irritation, dryness, scarring, or adverse reactions when the skin is exposed to the sun, the company 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

How many items are there in the Propaira for Acne Prone Skin range?

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

Congratulations to yesterday's winner Chelsea Millward from Symbion!

DISPENSARY CORNER

MARMITE-Y love.

If you're looking for new stock for your pharmacy, you could get in theme for Valentine's Day and order in some Marmite body paint.

We predict your sales will suffer, however.

Apparently in development in the UK, the *Telegraph* reported the edible body paint is being produced following

"high demand for Marmite-themed products" from customers, which we find very hard to believe.



The official Marmite Facebook page broke the story with the words "because toast shouldn't have all the fun", which put **PD** staff off toast for about 10 years.

GRANDMA, please!

Speaking of disturbing Valentine's Day tales, the Monumental Women's Writing Group, part of the Women's Institute in the UK, generally known to be a bastion of proper behaviour and decorum for older ladies, has published its own version of '50 Shades of Grey'.

The group published a compilation of short stories to raise funds for charity, including 'The Conquering Gibraltarian Adonis', which comes with a warning to readers of "a delicate disposition", the *Telegraph* reports, and includes phrases such as "throbbing manhood".

No one from the group is giving away the author's identity, who said her "gran would be furious", but considering the content included in the article is actually readable, she can't be E.L. James.

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