

Australia's only
online pharmacy
degree. Apply now.

U
ne
University of
New England

Ebola clinic success

THE Australia and NZ funded Ebola clinic in Sierra Leone has discharged its first patient free of the disease, Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop has said.

The clinic has admitted 37 patients with 26 currently receiving treatment.

MEANWHILE the antiviral brincidofovir is being tested on a voluntary basis on Ebola patients at a Medecins Sans Frontieres centre in Liberia, the *BBC* reported.

CLICK HERE to read more.

RACP submission

THE submission made to the Competition Policy Review draft report was from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) not the Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) as stated in yesterday's *Pharmacy Daily*.

Travel Specials

It's Chef's Shout at Castaway Island, Fiji

Luxuriate in Fiji's exclusive resort with all meals and a free excursion to Cloud 9 for stays between 25 Jan and 31 Mar.

The Summer Feast offer includes full buffet or à la carte breakfasts, buffet or à la carte lunch, gourmet pizza, buffet dinner or à la carte dining at the acclaimed adults-only 1808 restaurant.

Also included in the Summer Feast is a return high-speed boat trip to the Cloud 9 floating bar and restaurant moored off the island on nearby Ro Ro Reef.

A minimum five night stay applies for the offer on sale until 28 Feb and is valid for two adults and up to two children with accommodation rates starting from FJ\$5,700 (approx A\$3,516).

Visit www.castawayfiji.com and quote code 'SummerFeast15'.

CHF: Keep med checks onshore

THE Consumers Health Forum (CHF) has said the government must not outsource safety checks to foreign regulators.

Ceo Adam Stankevicius said in its submission to the Expert Review of Medicines and Medical Devices Regulation, the CHF had argued that relying on overseas regulators for quality and safety checks would "dumb down" Australia's ability to decide which new drugs should be allowed into the country.

The Review's discussion paper, submissions for which closed this week, raises several questions for consideration about regulatory approval of medicines, including that the government had said it would adopt a new principle where regulators would not impose additional requirements beyond those already applied under trusted international regulators, unless there was good reason (*PD* 15 Oct).

The discussion paper queried what the Therapeutic Goods Administration should do when a medicine had received approval from one regulator but had been

rejected by another, and whether an 'approved' product should be identical to that provided here.

The CHF said an independent Australian therapeutic goods regulator should be retained an effectively resourced to undertake its own review of medicines and that any shift towards reliance on overseas regulators should be "enshrined in legislation", not overlaid into the existing scheme.

Any medicines considered for the Australian market should be the identical form of the product approved overseas, it said.

CLICK HERE to read more.

Natural therapies rebate evidence

A LEAKED draft report on the review of the government rebates on private health insurance for natural therapies has reportedly found that based on the evidence considered, there were no health conditions for which there was reliable, high quality evidence that the therapies considered were clinically effective.

The *Australian* reported it had received a leaked draft which said in most cases, the overall body of evidence was not sufficient to draw definite conclusions regarding the clinical effectiveness of the therapies, which included homeopathy and aromatherapy.

The draft said that absence of evidence did not mean that the therapies did not work but that there was no high quality research available, the publication reported.

Complementary Medicines Australia ceo Carl Gibson said the outcomes were disappointing and inconclusive, with the scope of the report too narrow, not taking into account more than 35,000 studies.

The Department of Health said the report was being considered with no time frame for when it would be released.

CLICK HERE to read more.

Rural phmcy funding

A SHORTAGE of state funding and a resultant high dependence on federal funding was evident when Australian community pharmacists in rural settings were employed on a sessional basis by their local hospital according, to a review article published in the *Journal of the Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association*.

The study was built on structured one-on-one interviews with eight pharmacists with sessional experience and four who were seeking sessional appointments.

The authors concluded that there was a need for sharing of information between these pharmacists and for a stable remuneration pathway and business model.

CLICK HERE for the article.

DISPENSARY CORNER

PIZZA hospital ban.

If you're a hospital pharmacist who has noticed a puzzling smell of pizza wafting around the wards, it may be that one of the patients has decided to get takeaways delivered.

Because yes, that happens - but no longer at the Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, where pizza delivery has been banned as a health measure, the *Daily Mail* has reported.

A new Pizza Hut was built in the hospital's own multi-storey car park, anticipating a large volume of business.

The hospital said it had provided "healthy sandwiches" and other options within the hospital, the publication reported.

PORRIDGE hut instead?

Here's a dish the hospital would support, according to new research out of Harvard University and published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

More than 100,000 people were followed for 14 years and those who ate the most grains, such as brown rice, porridge (oats) and corn were at lower risk of total and cardiovascular disease mortality, independent of other lifestyle factors, the research said.

CLICK HERE for the abstract.

ANNOTATION woes.

A reader has posted a study aide for pharmacy students involving a video of a run down on generic medicines in Australia to our Facebook page.

Using the annotations isn't a recommended study option, however, given YouTube transcribes 'generic medication' as 'beetle imaginary medication' and 'therapeutic bodies' as 'teason peabody's'.

CLICK HERE to view.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

Sign up free at www.pharmacydaily.com.au.

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

Publisher: Bruce Piper

Editor: Alex Walls info@pharmacydaily.com.au

Reporter: Mal Smith

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Travel Daily

CRUISE
WEEKLY

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy
DAILY

Travel
Daily