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ALLEVYN Life's fresh look

SMITH & Nephew has introduced ALLEVYN Life to replace ALLEVYN Gentle Border and Thin, with new pharmacy packaging.

See **page three** for more.

Guild: industry conf agreement

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has said it is hopeful a conference prior to any hearing would help it and union parties reach an agreement on variations sought to the Pharmacy Industry Award.

In a letter from the Guild's lawyers submitted to the Fair Work Commission regarding the four yearly Awards review, the Guild said a draft determination, reflecting its position on penalty rates, would be filed on 13 Feb.

The Guild has previously said it would seek a reduction in weekend and public holiday penalty rates, prompting anger from Professional Pharmacists Australia members (**PD** 09 Jan).

The letter said the Guild had employed the Plain English Drafting Association to ensure the Award was clear and easy to understand.

To read more, **CLICK HERE**.

API: no 6CPA change to CSO

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries (API) ceo Stephen Roche has said the company believes the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement (6CPA) would not see any "material adjustments" in wholesaler remuneration, or the community service obligation

Pharmacy Alliance supports King Island

PHARMACY Alliance said it has taken "all measures" to ensure its member pharmacy, King Island Pharmacy, was supported to provide continued service to the community, since its destruction by fire over the weekend (**PD** 27 Jan).

This included co-ordinating with external partners, with IT providers preparing a new dispensary computer, printer and scanner, to be delivered on Tuesday, an emergency order prepared by Sigma and delivered this Tuesday and pharmacy members helped by provision of supplies including dispense labels, it said.

The King Island pharmacy owners were committed to re-building the pharmacy "bigger and better", a Pharmacy Alliance spokesperson said.

(CSO).

At the company's AGM yesterday, Roche said API believed the 6CPA would be executed in "the next few months" and that it did not expect any substantive change to the existing PBS reforms process.

Roche also flagged vaccinations as an opportunity to grow services, important in order to retain and grow pharmacy accounts.

An API spokesperson said the pharmacy services team was looking at how this service could be further leveraged and rolled out.

He said based on current financial year results to 24 Jan, including a total sales growth rate of 7.5% and 20 new stores expected by May, API expected net profit after tax to be up about 20 to 25% on last year's underlying profit of \$16.2m (**PD** Breaking News yesterday).

Roche said the retail market was particularly soft prior to Christmas and consumers had continued their caution into the first few months of the current financial year, with no "real improvement in consumer sentiment" expected this year.

CLICK HERE to read more.

Hep C screening in opioid sub therapy

RESEARCH has found that screening for hepatitis C in opioid substitution therapy (OST) settings increased detection of infection among people who inject drugs.

The 15 year observational cohort study out of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and published in *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* found incident hepatitis C virus notification was "significantly higher" during periods of OST compared with periods out of OST.

CLICK HERE to read more.

Australia renews Gavi commitment

THE Australian government has confirmed it will commit another \$250m from 2016 to 2020.

This follows its previous contribution of \$250m over five years, Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop's office said.

MSF recently urged the government to back its call for GSK and Pfizer to drop the cost for the pneumococcal vaccine (**PD** 21 Jan).

WIN WITH NUTRI-SYNERGY SKINCARE

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Plunkett Pharmaceuticals** are giving readers the chance to win a great Nutri-Synergy Lips and Hands prize pack, containing NS-5 Hand Cream, NS-5 Cuticle Cream and Nail Complex and NS-3 Lip Balm.



Nutri-Synergy skincare is based on natural formulas that work with the skin. NS does not contain irritants like petro-chemicals, parabens, colours or fragrance. This pack has everything you need to give your hands the treatment they deserve, and make your lips soft and smooth.

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

The Nutri-Synergy range is 100% Australian owned and made - true or false?

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

Congratulations to yesterday's winners **Vahid Mohebati** from Main St Pharmacy WA!

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PH01302 - 01/15

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.

- 1 Feb:** Provide First Aid; Bankstown; see: www.psa.org.au
- 1-4 Feb:** 22nd Australasian Clinical Pharmacy Educational Seminar: Therapeutic Update; St Kilda; see: www.aacp.com.au
- 6-8 Feb:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy Practice; Melbourne; for more details visit: 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
- 21 Feb:** Pharmacy in Focus: Bridging the Gap Workshop; Wagga Wagga; more details at: www.psa.org.au
- 21-22 Feb:** Pharmacy in Focus: Cardiovascular Weekend; Wagga Wagga; for more details visit: www.psa.org.au
- 22 Feb-1 Mar:** Pharmacy Study Tour; Deer Valley/Park City, USA, more info at www.medic.com.au/events
- 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
- 12-15 Mar:** Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2015, Gold Coast - see www.appconference.com

Kiwis unsure if MVs work - take anyway

A SURVEY has found 43% of respondents were unsure if multivitamins worked but enjoyed taking them anyway.

The Canstar Blue survey of 1,198 New Zealanders who had purchased and consumed multivitamins in the last 12 months also found that, in a separate question, 72% of respondents were convinced that multivitamins were effective, which indicated there was a small group of New Zealanders who were a bit confused as to the effectiveness of multivitamins, a Canstar spokesperson said.

The survey found respondents spent almost \$300 a year on multivitamins, with 40% saying they took vitamins for perceived health benefits.

CLICK HERE to read more.

41% growth in meningitis vax sales

NOVARTIS saw 41% growth (constant currencies) in meningitis vaccine sales last year to US\$454m.

Strong performance from Bexsero, Menveo and Menjugate drove the increase, the company's annual report said.

Novartis is due to sell its influenza vaccine business to CSL and the rest of its vaccines business to GSK.

CLICK HERE for the annual report.



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Coroner: GPs advise pts to report OC

WESTERN Australia coroner Sarah Linton has recommended GPs advise patients prescribed the oral contraceptive (OC) pill that it is a medication which should be reported when asked if they are taking any medications.

The Coroner made the recommendation in the inquest into the death of Petra Zele, who died from hypoxic brain injury following cardiac arrest in association with pulmonary hypertension.

The Coroner accepted the opinion that the hypertension was due to chronic thromboembolic disease, most likely due to the fact that Zele had a Factor V Leiden mutation and was taking the Yasmin contraceptive pill.

Linton said the patient ought to have been questioned about her medications more closely and recommended GPs impress upon patients the need to report oral contraceptives when asked about medications.

CLICK HERE to read more.

AusPARS added

AUSTRALIAN Public Assessment reports for prescription medicines (AusPARS) have been added for Dapagliflozin (Xigduo XR) and DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine (Hexaxim).

CLICK HERE to read more.



DISPENSARY CORNER

CRIKEY, I feel crook, cobber!

Should a customer tell you they might chunder or feel crook, would you know what they were saying?

To help those from international backgrounds, not accustomed to the music of Australian colloquialisms, the University of Queensland has long offered a language program for first year pharmacy students to acquaint them with various Australian sayings that could be used in a health context.

Phrases like having a 'gut-ache', calling an 'ambo', being 'on the plonk' and whether something is 'ridgy-didge' are apparently on the course list, as is 'map of Tassie', which the resident Kiwi had to ask colleagues about...

To check out some other stellar examples, **CLICK HERE**.

WEED appreciate a vote.

With various states running or intending to run medical marijuana trials, and a medical marijuana company recently listing on the ASX (*PD* 22 Jan), it's probably no surprise that attitudes towards general legality have changed, with 31.8% of Australians thinking smoking marijuana should be made legal, up from 26.8% in 2004, according to Roy Morgan Research.

The survey of 51,969 Australians aged 14 years and older from January to December 2014 found that those aged 65 years and older had seen the largest proportional increase in favour of legalisation, rising from 16.9% to 25.5%.

This was still behind young Australians, aged 18 to 24, who at 35.7% were the age group with the most support for legalising marijuana, the survey found.

CLICK HERE to read more.



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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist Manager** - Upper Hunter Region (Job# 2011094)
A glass of red or a few bubbles at sunset
- **Pharmacist** - Sunraysia Region, NW VIC (Job# 2011095)
Does wine, food and good old fashioned fresh country air interest you?
- **Pharmacist** - Gympie/Hervey Bay Region, QLD (Job# 2011064)
Part-time or full-time role working - within easy drive of Sunshine Coast.

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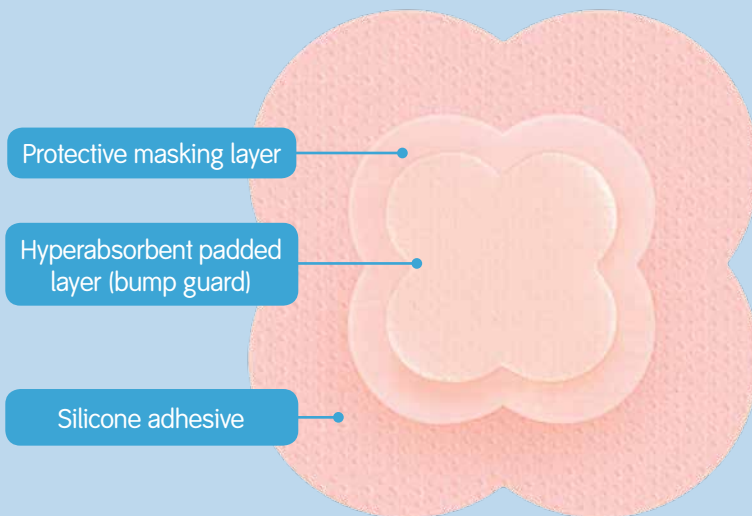
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The only dressing available in retail pharmacy with a change indicator.



No border coverage
dressing can remain in place with strikethrough masked



50% border coverage
consider changing dressing



75% border coverage
change dressing

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Make the switch to ALLEVYN[®] Life.

Description	Pack	Symbion PDE	Sigma PDE	API PDE	Replaces
ALLEVYN Life small (10.3cm x 10.3cm)	2	155861	170829	911658	ALLEVYN Gentle Border 7.5cm x 7.5cm Pk 2
ALLEVYN Life medium (12.9cm x 12.9cm)	2	156221	170787	911631	ALLEVYN Thin 10cm x 10cm Pk 3

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