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Thuasne available

COVIDIEN is now distributing the Thuasne orthopaedic support range via Australian pharmacies.

The products comprise 15 models including wrist, thumb, elbow, ankle, knee and lumbar braces, with Thuasne now operating in more than 20 countries worldwide and distributing eight million products annually.

Customers can use a specially designed in-store app to identify the item which will work best for their injury or condition, while Thuasne says it's committed to providing "significant product training" to pharmacy staff via events and clinical presentations.

Enquiries to 1800 252 467.

Ampicillin alternative

THE TGA has granted approval for ampicillin-ratiopharm 1.0g injection to be supplied temporarily in lieu of a range of ampicillin and amoxicillin injection products currently in short supply (PD 04 May).

Previously alternatives had only been available via the Special Access Scheme, but there is now no need to use the SAS to supply ampicillin-ratiopharm 1.0g injections.

Compounding expiry delay

THE introduction of new guidelines covering the expiry of compounded parenteral medicines will be delayed for three months, with the Pharmacy Board of Australia seeking clarification on some aspects of the proposal.

The Board had previously advised of the commencement of the overall *Guidelines on compounding of medicines* effective 28 May, but the delay to the section on expiry of parenteral items will provide time to "consider feedback and information," with the Board currently consulting with the TGA.

Frequently asked questions have been published on the Board website to provide pharmacists and the public with additional

Low volume Q&A

FURTHER questions and answers about the TGA's new Annual Charge Exemption (ACE) scheme for low turnover items have been posted on the TGA website.

The TGA says the ACE scheme is more equitable, reduces red tape and provides administrative efficiencies for TGA, recognising that most of the organisation's post-market monitoring costs are incurred for products that have been placed into the market.

This month TGA is informing sponsors of which existing entries have been assessed for an initial ACE qualification, and then sponsors must self-declare that the entry had \$0 turnover in the previous financial year to maintain the exemption.

For more details **CLICK HERE**.

clarification on a range of issues relating to the compounding of medicines - **CLICK HERE**.

The Board communiqué also covered the revised English language and criminal history registration standards (PD 22 May).

And the Board and AHPRA have been following the Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sex abuse and its implications for the regulation of health practitioners, the communiqué concluded.

NSAID warnings

THE labels of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) will be required to carry new warnings about the potential for liver damage as part of a revised proposal following a Therapeutic Goods Administration consultation.

Tablets containing ibuprofen, diclofenac, naproxen, flurbiprofen, ketoprofen or mefenamic acid will require an additional advisory statement to the effect that excessive or prolonged use can increase the risk of heart attack, stroke or liver damage, with the TGA proposing that the expanded information be used as an extension to the existing required statement.

Accordingly from Jul 2016 the drugs will be required to be labelled with the overall statement *Do not use for more than a few days at a time unless a doctor has told you to. Do not exceed the recommended dose. Excessive use can be harmful and increase the risk of heart attack, stroke or liver damage.*

Vaccination is key

A NEW paper from Australia's Office of the Chief Scientist has highlighted the importance of vaccination, and Australia's proud history in advancing its benefits.

Professor Ian Chubb said Australia had one of the highest rates of vaccination coverage worldwide, and said "we have an obligation to maintain and extend the protection we now enjoy to the generations to come" - www.chiefscientist.gov.au

Win with Nutri-Synergy

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Plunketts** are giving away a pack of Nutri-Synergy skincare each day, including NS Dry Skin Moisturiser and NS Soap Free Wash.

New packaging for Nutri-Synergy skincare is now being introduced into pharmacy - brighter and more modern. NS combines natural therapeutic actives to effectively treat dry, sensitive and problem skin and works in synergy with the skin, to restore and maintain its healthy condition. NS is natural dermatology. For more info go to www.NutriSynergy.com.au

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

Is the NS Soap Free Wash formula foaming or non-foaming?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Michelle Ashley from Symbion.

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Far North, QLD (Job# 2011303)
Not just a job - genuine career progression with employer of choice.
- **Pharmacist** - Sunraysia Region, VIC (Job# 2011415)
Perfect career opportunity for newly registered pharmacists.
- **Stock Controller** - ACT (Job# 2011413)
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Share your career vision with us and we'll help get you there!

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Friday 12 Jun 2015

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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.

16 Jun: Professional Services in Pharmacy: C your O2 in action; Wollongong; for details visit: www.guild.org.au

19 Jun: Australian Seminar Series; Adina Apartment Hotel, Sydney; for details visit: www.cpdconferencing.com.au

20-21 Jun: Evidence Based Seminar; Sydney; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

24 Jun: Cardiovascular Update: Dyslipidemia; Newcastle; see: www.guild.org.au

5 Jul: Provide First Aid; Parramatta RSL Club; visit: www.psa.org.au

7 Jul: Cardiovascular Update: Atrial Fibrillation and Anticoagulants; Central Coast; visit: www.guild.org.au

6-9 Jul: Pharmacy Alliance Members' Forum; Honolulu USA; more details at: www.pharmacyalliance.com.au

10-12 Jul: Clinical Pharmacy Practice Seminar (foundation); Mercure Hotel, Sydney; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

14 Jul: Making the most of your aged care services; St Leonards; details at: www.guild.org.au

17 Jul: Effective Workplace Relationships workshop; AIM Brisbane; more info at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

31 Jul-2 Aug: PSA15; Sofitel Sydney Wentworth; visit: www.psa.org.au/psa15

7-8 Aug: Critical Care Seminar (advanced); Rydges Sydney Central; further details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

Regulator KPIs

THE Federal Government has developed a framework to measure the performance of regulators, based on a set of six KPIs.

The KPIs include facilitating and not impeding the efficiency of regulated bodies, using effective communication, acting proportionally to the risk being managed, employing streamlined monitoring approaches, being open and transparent, as well as contributing to the continuous improvement of the framework.

The KPIs apply from 01 Jul.

New stroke standard

EARLY assessment and management of patients with stroke is the focus of a new Clinical Care Standard launched this week at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital by Federal Minister for Health Sussan Ley and NSW Minister for Health Jillian Skinner.

EMA PI update

UPDATES to the templates of the product information that accompanies all medicines authorised for use in the European Union have been posted on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.

The changes are intended to improve the way information is presented on medicines, EMA said.

TGA consultation

CHANGES relating to the Poisons Standard amendments being considered by the Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling (ACMS) are the subject of a Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) consultation.

Changes relating to hydroxyethyl methacrylate, levocetirizine and proton pump inhibitors lansoprazole, omeprazole and rebeprazole are proposed.

CLICK HERE for details.

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DISPENSARY CORNER

SURGEONS in China have successfully removed more than 400 kidney stones from a man who eats far too much tofu.

According to the *Qianjiang Evening Post*, the mostly small stones (pictured) were in his left kidney, and removed in a two hour operation after he presented with severe abdominal pain.

The patient, only known as Mr He, had not been drinking enough water, doctors said.

"Soy products - especially gypsum tofu - are very high in calcium, the excess of which cannot be excreted from the body without a sufficient intake of water," said one of the surgeons.



KIWI commuters were faced with a major hygiene issue yesterday after a man defecated in one of the capital city's main arteries.

Wellington's Mt Victoria tunnel was closed for overnight maintenance when the man - believed to be inebriated - jumped from the walkway to the road and "attended to the call of nature" at about 6am.

A clean-up crew was scrambled and the tunnel eventually opened about 45 minutes late.

Officials defended the time it took to remove the offending item, with a spokesman for the New Zealand Transport Authority saying it was important for both hygiene and safety reasons.

"If you think about it, a little bit goes a very long way," he said.

It didn't take long for things to start flowing smoothly again after the tunnel reopened.

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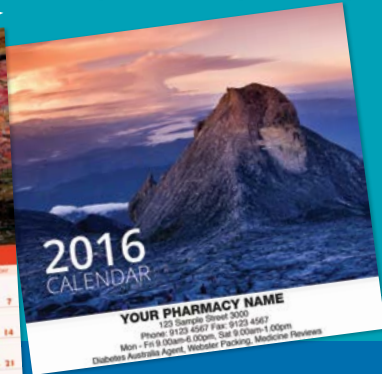
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