

Competition winner

CONGRATULATIONS to Paul Higgins from EBOS Group, Friday's winner of the Nutri-Synergy skincare pack.

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Milky Foot Active** are offering a daily prize - see **page 2** for details.

VPA register reminder

THE Victorian Pharmacy Authority (VPA) reminds Victorian pharmacists that payments for renewal of licences and registration of premises must be made before 01 Jul in accordance with the Pharmacy Regulation Act 2010 with no allowance for late payment.

BPAY is now a payment option, VPA has said.

SHPA handbook works

MEDICINES safety in hospitals has been significantly improved by training nurses how to use the SHPA's *Australian don't rush to crush* handbook.

According to a study published in the Jun issue of SHPA's *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, introducing education for nursing staff and providing info to prescribers doubled the proportion of medicines being safely prepared and administered.

Pharmacist contact urged

PHARMACISTS in Australia should help consumers "navigate" Consumer Medicines Information leaflets, with major potential advantages in forming relationships with their customers in terms of avoiding adverse medicines events.

That's the key thrust of an editorial in the latest issue of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, in which Alison Marcus from the Consumers Health Forum says "too often pharmacists are not having enough contact with consumers when they drop off prescriptions to be filled".

Marcus said that with 230,000 Australians admitted to hospital each year due to adverse medicines events, pharmacists should "take every opportunity to talk to their customers to avoid this worrying statistic".

"Pharmacists can help consumers understand CMI's...it's all part of building health literacy for the consumer, providing reassurance and an accessible point of contact," Marcus added.

She said pharmacists can also take more of a role in preventing aged care adverse medicines events, with an educational role for residents and staff.

"RMMR pharmacists also need to keep abreast of medical notes and pathology results, which are a shared responsibility between all involved professionals, especially for high-risk medicines," she added.

GORD education

RECKITT Benckiser has launched part two of the "GORD Matters" CPD accredited training for pharmacists.

The GORD Matters 2 module, online at rbhealthhub.com.au, has been designed to give a greater understanding of what causes the symptoms of GORD and the complications which can arise.

It also highlights the limitations of proton pump inhibitor treatments and introduces Gaviscon Dual Action as an alternative method of treatment.

Qld PSOTY from QUT



QUEENSLAND University of Technology's Samuel Turner (pictured) has been named the Queensland Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY).

Other finalists in the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia contest were Adam Parker (Griffith University), Brooke Snow (James Cook University), Cassandra Lee (Griffith University), Danielle Silvestro (James Cook University), Jessica Hopgood (University of Queensland), Kristy Leathart (Queensland University of Technology) and Zara Gannon (University of Queensland).

Judges said the standard was universally high making the decision very difficult with an impressive level of professionalism and communication by all students.

Turner will now compete against winners from all other States and Territories for the national title at PSA15 this year.

GSK Boostrix update

GLAXOSMITHKLINE (GSK) confirms uninterrupted supply of Boostrix (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Polio vaccine) to the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and to state-based vaccination programs using Boostrix in Australia.

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Weekly Comment

Welcome to **PD's** weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Mark Nicholson, Partner at JR Pharmacy.**



Planning for 6CPA

WITH the advent of a new financial year and the impending commencement of CPA6 it is timely for all Pharmacy owners to create (or revisit) a one page action plan that addresses their own business challenges, goals and priorities.

When undertaking this task with clients I like to prioritise according to both fundamental and operational considerations. Fundamental considerations are those that are so critical that they can cripple a business regardless of the skills of owners and staff. These include the size and position of the Pharmacy, the rent rate for that space and debt servicing/drawings requirements. If fundamental risk exists then that's where most focus should be prioritised as the potential solutions usually take a reasonable amount of time to implement.

Prioritising and achieving best practice for operational settings (wages/staff, margin, branding, service lines, category management, fitouts, etc) require setting measurable targets but more importantly removing barriers that restrict the attainment of optimal performance.

For many pharmacies this requires first assessing cultural and behavioural activities of owners and leaders who are the standard bearers for delivering superior customer outcomes and financial results.

If you and your staff are not all on the same page then it may be time to create your one page action plan.

UNESCO, FIP renew pact

MELBOURNE'S Monash University will undertake a major project to develop a "global community of practice for pharmacy educators," under the renewal of a partnership between the United Nations and the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP).

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has formally renewed the Global Pharmacy Education Development Network (GPhEd) initiative, which is a collaboration with FIP and the University College London School of Pharmacy.

First launching in 2010, GPhEd brings together pharmacy schools from across the globe "with the aim of synchronising powerful development in pharmacy and

pharmaceutical sciences education."

In renewing the agreement UNESCO cited "very good results achieved" including the development of a Global Pharmacy Workforce Observatory, and the creation of a Centre of Excellence which works to enhance pharmacy education in Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Namibia & Malawi. The renewal will support further work to enhance education, development and workforce planning at a global level, including the Monash venture, said GPhEd coordinator, Professor Ian Bates.

Frazer honoured

UNIVERSITY of Queensland's Professor Ian Frazer, co-creator of the cervical cancer vaccine, Gardasil, has won a 2015 European Inventor Award.

Frazer and co-creator Dr Jian Zhou, whose widow accepted the award on his behalf, won the Popular Prize section, which was decided by public vote and announced at a ceremony in Paris on 11 Jun.

Relaxed parenting

NATIONAL Heart Foundation physical activity spokesperson Trevor Shilton, has called on Australian parents to relax a little more and allow their children the freedom to play freely outdoors. "At present, a staggering eight out of ten Aussie children fail to meet the minimum national standard of at least 60 minutes physical activity per day," said Professor Shilton, adding that inactive kids live their whole lives under the shadow of chronic health conditions like heart disease, obesity and type 2 diabetes.

Win with MILKY FOOT

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Biorevive** are giving away one Milky Foot Active (RRP\$32.95) each day.

New Milky Foot Active from the Milky Foot range is a new innovative DIY foot treatment than contains tannic acid (tea derivative) to combat foot odour. Standing all day, restrictive shoes, nylon stockings, exercising in sport shoes can all contribute to funky smelling feet. Milky Foot Active has an intense peeling process that starts at about 3-5 days – so by the end of the week, your feet are beautifully soft, fresh and odour-free! Available in one size: up to 11 for men, 13 for women.

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

What active ingredient in Milky Foot Active fights foot odour?

Need a hint? [CLICK HERE.](#)

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.

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EMA simplifies labels

THE European Medicines Agency (EMA) has simplified product labelling requirements so that one summary of product characteristics (SmPC) can be adapted to cover all doses.



DISPENSARY CORNER

WHEELY fast tortoise - hare beware!

Now reportedly "zooming around the garden", Touche the tortoise has a wheel to replace his damaged (and surgically removed) left rear leg thanks to creative thinking by veterinary surgeon Sonya Miles in Bristol, *UK Telegraph* reports.

Miles used a special resin to adhere the wheel to the underside of Touche's shell (**pictured**), and within an hour, the little fellow was grazing and moving freely around in the garden, apparently unfazed about his circular prosthetic.



OTHER slow-moving facts....

Did you know that tortoises orbited the Moon about three months before humans, when the Soviet space program sent them in their 1968 launch of the Zond-5 space probe?

The official collective term for a group of turtles is known as "bale" as in "a bale of turtles".

Tortoises are mainly land-based with feet adapted for land; turtles are water living with flippers; and terrapins are a combination of both, being partly water dwelling.

Consider yourselves educated!

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