Pharmacy DAILY —

Thursday 25 Jun 2015

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Pharmacy to fill gap

THE National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) is calling upon pharmacies to build on the momentum of increased participation in the program (*PD* 23 Jun) and fill a gap in the system.

Bowel Cancer Australia ceo Julien Wiggins said the role of pharmacies is crucial for the uptake of early detection kits which are provided free to Australians aged 50, 55, 50, 65, 70 and 74 only.

He said guidelines recommend screening every one to two years from age 50 and "this is where community pharmacy can help save lives" by recommending the kits.

API calendars

A DISCOUNT of 5% is on offer for online orders for 2016 API Calendars - see page 4 of *PD* today.

TGA regulation revamp

UNNECESSARY duplication of regulatory efforts in assessing therapeutic goods in Australia where they have been approved elsewhere in the world are to be removed or streamlined, following a report released yesterday by Health Minister Sussan Ley.

The review of the TGA regulatory

MA slams backflip

MEDICINES Australia (MA) has blasted a "last-minute decision" by Health Minister Sussan Ley to abandon a proposed Strategic Agreement (*PD* 28 May).

The pact had aimed to provide "a level of stability and clarity... in return for supporting a \$6.6b savings package, of which \$4.2 billion was to directly impact our members," MA ceo Tim James said.

He said MA had also offered to work with the govt on "serious patient safety concerns" which will allow biosimilar substitution by pharmacists - but the minister had now closed down negotiations.

framework, commissioned late last year (*PD* 27 Oct 14), was led by Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom, former Medicines Australia ceo Will Delaat and Professor John Horvath, former chief medical officer for the Department of Health.

The review highlighted the high global standing of the TGA, and included recommendations to expand the pathways by which sponsors can seek marketing approval for products and improve transparency and predictability of processes and decisions.

The reviewers said this would streamline access to medicines and medical devices that have not been approved for use in Australia.

Ley said the report also showed Australian patients are being forced to wait up to 15 months longer to access new medicines than in the US or Europe "because drug companies are delaying bringing them down under".

New APC constitution

THE Australian Pharmacy Council last month approved an updated constitution, which included a range of minor changes as well as an increase to the APC President's term from one to two years.

There were also slight alterations to membership terms and resignation notice periods.

The new document was tabled during an Extraordinary General Meeting of APC members held on 25 May, with the constitution also formally incorporating the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee and replacing several clauses relating to examination, accreditation and credentially with a new By-law structure.

"These changes were made and approved by members to ensure the APC's Constitution remains current, relevant and meets best governance practice," the Council said in an update this week.

To view a copy of the updated APC constitution **CLICK HERE**.



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Bali by bicycle!

SPICEROADS Cycle Tours is offering a bonus cultural evening as part of all of its Bali tours which depart before the end of the year.

The special is applicable to either its 3-day Bali Explorer or 7-day Mountain Biking Adventure tour which includes a visit to the Monkey Forest of Ubud as well as other key highlights

The three-day trip departs every Monday and is priced from US\$525, while the US\$1250 mountain bike tour travels 170km and departs 12 Jul, 02 Aug, 06 Sep and 18 Oct - spiceroads.com.

Phuket travel bargain

HOOT Holidays has limited availability remaining for an 8 night holiday in Phuket, Thailand.

Priced from \$1060 per adult - a saving of \$250 - the trip includes return airfares flying Thai Airways from Australia, 8 nights in a superior room at the Centra Ashlee Hotel with daily breakfast and free internet access.

That's for select travel dates from 13 Jul-31 Oct - 1300 791 909.

Self-care push welcomed

A RANGE of industry stakeholders have endorsed the report of the Global Access Partners (GAP) on self-care (PD yesterday), with the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, the Australian Self-Medication **Industry and Consumers Health**

APC exam fees rise

THE Australian Pharmacy Council has revised the fees levied for sitting the KAPS (Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences) and CAOP (Competency Assessment of Overseas Pharmacists) examinations.

Effective 01 Sep the KAPS examination fee will increase to \$1825, which will be applicable regardless of whether candidates are sitting one paper or both, and whether they are undertaking the exam in Austalia or overseas.

Currently pharmacists sitting the KAPS exam pay \$1400 in an Australian venue or \$1600 overseas.

From the same date the CAOP fee will rise to \$1525, again regardless of whether the examination is being taken in Australia or abroad.

The current CAOP fee is \$1200 in an Australian location or \$1350 if the exam is taken overseas.

Forum all issuing statements in support of the document.

Outgoing PSA president Grant Kardachi hailed recommendations that pharmacies should play a greater role in delivering primary health care, promoting health literacy and supporting responsible self-care.

He said key elements of the proposals were reflected in the imminent implementation phase of PSA's Health Destination Pharmacy model which aims to boost interaction between patients and pharmacists to improve outcomes.

ASMI executive director Deon Schoombie said the report points to the need to reorient the healthcare system towards a "much greater emphasis on the prevention of many lifestyle diseases forecast to drive spiralling cost increases in Australia's healthcare system".

And CHF ceo Leanne Wells urged a "cultural change in health care so that patients...are equipped to manage minor conditions and chronic illness and get the best possible outcome".

IMS oncology pact

IMS Health has announced a collaboration with US-listed Foundation Medicine which aims to "advance the understanding and effectiveness of precision medicines for treating cancer".

Under the partnership research teams in biopharma and life sciences companies will be able to leverage data which combines IMS Health's "Real-World Evidence" platform with Foundation Medicine's "dynamic knowledgebase of comprehensive cancer genomic profiles".

New targeted cancer therapies address the unique molecular drivers of specific cancers, with the collaboration helping researchers better understand unmet needs, treatment decisions and outcomes for affected patients.



SORT YOUR CLAIM IN THE CLOUD

DISPENSARY CORNER

DOCTORS have cited "skinny jeans" as potentially carrying significant health risks, with a report in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry describing a case in which a woman had to be cut out of a pair when her calves ballooned in size.

The fashion victim had spent the day squatting as she emptied cupboards during a house move, with the authors of the report saying she developed so-called "compartment syndrome" which was exacerbated by her pants.

Upon admission at the Royal Adelaide Hospital physicians found her lower legs were severely swollen, and although she had sufficient circulation the muscles and nerves had sustained damage.

It took four days in order for her to walk unaided.

The BBC reported a spokewoman for the UK Chartered Society of Physiotherapists saying that this was an extreme case.

"There's no need to ditch the skinny jeans just yet - simply avoid staying in the same position for too long and keep moving throughout the day," she said.

CHILDREN who have good memories are better liars.

That's the key finding of a study published in the Journal of Experimental Child Psychology which tested 114 six and seven year olds who cheated in a game and were then asked about their illicit actions.

The children who successfully lied about cheating performed better in separate tests of verbal memory, with researchers saying fibbing involved keeping track of large amounts of verbal information in order not to get tripped up.

WIN WITH AROMABABY

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and **Aromababy** are giving away a gift pack each day, including Bath Gel, Pure Hair Cleanse, Nappy Cream and natural healer Barrier Balm, valued at \$50.

Celebrating 20 years, Aromababy is Australia's first I natural and organic baby skincare brand to use research as a guide in providing effective and safe formulations. Used in select hospitals and suitable for eczema and sensitive skin, Aromababy is well known as an affordable, pharmacy-

focused alterative to mass produced baby care.

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

Is Aromababy based on research?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jeanette Drury from Wizard Pharmacy Services!

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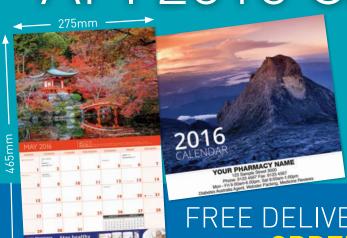








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