



Debbie Rigby to speak in Borneo

WELL known pharmacist Debbie Rigby, who's also a current director of NPS MedicineWise, will speak at the Borneo Pharmacy Conference in Sep this year.

She will update delegates on Asthma and COPD; polypharmacy, drug interactions and deprescribing; medication-related causes of dry mouth; and benefits, risks and harms of NSAIDs.

More information on **page four**.

Slim fit warning

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has warned that a product labelled Slim Fit capsules should not be taken because it contains the undeclared substance sibutramine, which was withdrawn from world markets in 2010 due to increased risks of cardiac events and stroke.

TGA investigations have shown a number of people in Australia may have bought the product online.

PSA backs AMA plan

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia will hold a forum in Sydney on Mon 24 Aug to discuss the GP-pharmacist collaborative practice model proposed to the government by the Australian Medical Association (PD yesterday).

"This collaboration will create greater efficiencies for general practices, better care for patients, new career opportunities for pharmacists and significant Budget savings," according to PSA president Grant Kardachi.

FSM 'troubled' by Uni deal

FRIENDS of Science in Medicine (FSM) has raised concerns about Blackmores' \$1.3m sponsorship of the new Sydney University Chair in Integrative Medicine (PD yesterday), saying the "controversial decision is troublesome".

While welcoming independent, quality research into therapies which have not as yet been adequately tested, FSM said the very naming of the Chair after the complementary medicines company founder "raises serious concerns to anyone who understands the principles behind the movement championing 'Integrative Medicine'".

The organisation said the aims of Integrative Medicine would see alternative and complementary practitioners "enter into a partnership with scientifically educated doctors, nurses and allied health clinicians."

"The intention of integrative medicine is not to test the efficacy or otherwise of alternative or complementary treatments, but to add these in parallel to medical therapies supported by credible scientific evidence of clinical effectiveness," FSM claimed.

FSM said many pharmacies had embraced this approach and offer the services of a "pseudoscientific practitioner" in their stores.

With regard to Sydney University's new Chair, FSM said "it is important that an industry sponsor not use the acceptance of its funds to suggest that the university, in so doing, is endorsing the ethics and

scientific credibility of the donor".

The debate has also been raised in an article on *The Conversation*, with Monash Professor of Medicine Paul Komisaroff, and industry watchdog Ken Harvey taking part.

Komisaroff argues "constructive engagement between educational institutions and industry is desirable, but it needs to be subject to rigorous controls" with "mechanisms for public scrutiny and effective enforcement".

Harvey, who famously quit La Trobe University over the institution's \$15m deal with Swisse to form a complementary health research centre (PD 06 Feb 14) argued against the arrangement.

"This could cause a number of potential conflicts of interest," he said, suggesting that a more appropriate funding model would be for industry to anonymously fund the NHMRC for complementary medicines research.

Victorian PSOTY

AMANDA Horiniak (pictured), Monash University pharmacy student, has been named Victorian



Pharmaceutical Society of Australia Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY).

National Pharmacies pharmacist area manager Nancy Goubran, Quality Pharmacy Group's (QPG) managing pharmacist Anna Baos and QPG community pharmacist Rachel Walker were judges.

The competition was described as "very close" with judges saying all competitors displayed great depth of knowledge combined with strong counselling communication skills.

Judges said Horiniak was a highly motivated, enthusiastic and passionate student who was looking forward to her future career as a pharmacist.

PHARMACY MANAGER

The future of a successful Community Pharmacy calls for added focus on advancing the development of the retail business in line with the extended scope of professional services.

Terry White Chemists Myer Centre, Brisbane are looking for a full-time Pharmacy Manager with strong retail experience to lead a large fast paced pharmacy. Terry White offers a strong supportive culture with development opportunities working within an award winning team.

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- **Pharmacist Manager** - South Coast, NSW (Job# 2011373)
3 month locum opportunity, leading to permanent, accomm, travel offered.
- **Pharmacist** - Central Highlands, VIC (Job# 2011341)
2 hours NW of Melbourne, nestled between several mountain ranges.
- **Pharmacist** - Rural South, WA (Job# 2011067)
Within few hours of Perth - Fred dispense, Sole Pciat at times \$90K+

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Symbion honours supplier partners

SYMBION Pharmacy last night hosted its annual Engage Awards, with a gala event taking place at the Melbourne Pavilion in Kensington.

TV personality Shelley Craft acted as MC for the awards which saw 200 guests hosted by Symbion Pharmacy gm Brett Barons.

The top Supplier of the Year award went to Novartis, which was recognised for its “unwavering commitment to the pharmacy industry,” with other suppliers winning a total of 15 categories including Hospitals Supplier of the Year (Gilead Sciences), Chemmart Pharmacy Supplier of the Year (Health World) and Pharmacy Choice Supplier of the Year (Inova Pharmaceuticals).

Apotex won the Ethical Generics category, while other winners included Bayer, Beiersdorf, Mundpharma and Johnson & Johnson Pacific.

EBOS Group ceo Patrick Davies said Symbion was “proud to be at the forefront in developing a customer-centric world-class supply chain.

“The Engage Awards are an important opportunity for us to acknowledge the tremendous work Symbion



suppliers do in helping us meet our customers’ needs.”

Davies said the company’s relationships go much deeper than traditional supply and demand, with supplier partners playing “a vital role in ensuring we continue to provide excellent service...their dedication and efforts to innovate do not go unnoticed.”

Pictured above at the gala dinner last night are, from left: Brett Barons, Symbion Pharmacy general manager; Roopa Mahesh, Jason Melbourne and Denys Patterson of Novartis; and Patrick Davies, EBOS Group ceo.

Methylisothiazolinone rescheduling

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration is seeking feedback on proposed amendments to the scheduling of methylisothiazolinone and methylchloroisothiazolinone.

The move is in response to issues raised in a NICNAS IMAP report, with the scheduling proposal is to list both compounds in Schedule 6 or Schedule 10/Appendix C with concentration exemption cut-offs for preparations containing low concentrations.

Exemption cut-offs will be based on sensitisation potential and, for cosmetic products, will take into consideration reports from the EU Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety and the US Cosmetic Ingredient Review expert panel.

The Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling said exemption cut-offs for other types of products will also be considered, including use in therapeutic goods such as sunscreens.

For details see www.tga.gov.au.

THANK YOU

To all the pharmacy owners, their staff, patients and stakeholders for supporting the Pharmacy Guild as we negotiated the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement (6CPA).

George Tambassis
National President
The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

6th Community Pharmacy Agreement

When the legislation passes, the 6CPA will mean:

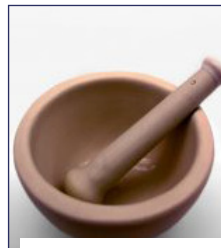
FIVE YEARS OF REAL INCREASES IN REMUNERATION FOR DISPENSING
CONTINUATION OF THE LOCATION RULES
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The 6CPA — strengthening the most successful Public Private Partnership in the health system.



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

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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.

29-31 May: ConPharm 2015; Park Hyatt Melbourne; more info at: www.aacp.com.au

3 Jun: 2015 Quality Learning Seminar; Swisshotel, Sydney; visit: www.cmaustralia.org.au

10 Jun: Cardiovascular Update: Blood Pressure; Newcastle; see: www.guild.org.au

13-14 Jun: Cardiology Seminar; Brisbane; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

14 Jun: PSA Immunisation Training; Rydges, Port Macquarie; see: www.psa.org.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

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

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

Allied health potential

A **CONSULTATION** on potentially expanding the scope of practice of allied health practitioners in Queensland has found that there are "numerous opportunities" to enhance patient care by extending current roles - including prescribing and administering medications.

However health workers are often preventing from expanding their scope of practice through an implied need to 'ask for permission' when the only barriers to extending their role are culture and historical practice.

The report was released by a Queensland Health commissioned Ministerial Taskforce, which

included high level representation from allied health, nursing, unions, medicine, consumers & universities.

444 written submissions were received as well as verbal feedback from over 200 participants.

The support needed to realise opportunities to increase the health system's efficiency includes designing patient-centred models of service delivery, leadership and culture change, funding incentives, appropriate education and training, and clarifying responsibility, accountability and liability for outcomes, the report concluded.

The findings, which are endorsed by the highest levels of state government, were said to "reinforce the perceptions that allied health professionals do not work to their full scope of practice"

EMA vaccine update

THE European Medicines Agency has updated its recommendations for the 2015/16 seasonal influenza vaccine composition.

The new proposal also contains a recommendation on a suitable A/California/7/2009-like virus strain for live, attenuated vaccines which had previously been postponed due to a lack of data on suitability and yield of candidate strains.

FDA ticks IBS-D drugs

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Pantheon Pharmaceuticals' Viberzi (eluxadoline) and Xifaxan (rifaximin) from Salix Pharmaceuticals, for irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhoea (IBS-D) in adults.

WIN A NEW PRODUCT PACK

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and **Innoxa** are giving away a new product pack including Organic Gentle Cleansing Gel (\$14.99 RRP), Organic Hydrating Daily Moisturiser (\$24.99 RRP) and Organic Brightening Eye Cream (\$19.99 RRP).

Introducing NEW Innoxa Organic skincare. This brand new skincare range enriches your skin naturally. The certified organic aloe vera based formulations combine with organic nourishing oils, vitamins and botanicals to deliver healthier, firmer, smoother and more hydrated skin. The organic care regime to beautiful skin includes products to cleanse, enrich, protect, nourish and treat, all affordable at under \$25rrp!

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

How many products are there in the Innoxa Organic range?

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

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Chelsea Millward from Symbion.



DISPENSARY CORNER

SMOKING can be bad for your health - your pet's health, that is.

A judge has acquitted a Chicago man of animal cruelty charges filed after the man posted a video of himself smoking marijuana with a chameleon.

After viewing the video and hearing the arguments of prosecutors and defence attorneys, Cook County Circuit Judge Robert Kuzas ruled on Wednesday that Bruce Blunt's behaviour was "uncalled for and immature" but didn't amount to criminal behaviour.

Blunt posted the video of himself getting blazed with the chameleon, Binna, earlier this year, prompting a complaint from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

After his acquittal, Blunt said he blew smoke into the chameleon's mouth because it seemed to calm the aggressive reptile.

The *Chicago Tribune* reports Blunt said he hopes to get the magic dragon back from Chicago Animal Care and Control.

DERMATOLOGISTS in the US have coined the phrase "Risky Inks" as they call for more monitoring of adverse skin reactions seen in patients after they get tattoos.

Troublesome tattoos are "relatively common" according to a small US study reported in the journal *Contact Dermatitis*.

The researchers asked 300 people if they had any unwanted side effects after getting some permanent body art.

Ten per cent reported symptoms such as itching, pain and scarring, with some reactions lasting longer than four months such as redness, skin infections, allergies, sun sensitivity and prolonged scabbing.



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