

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news, plus a full page from **Pharmacy Alliance**.

US Auvi-Q recall

THE US Food and Drug Administration in cooperation with Sanofi has announced the recall of all lots of the company's Auvi-Q epinephrine injection product line, because the devices may not deliver the correct dose.

The US recall includes all 0.15mg and 0.3mg autoinjectors with lot numbers 2299596-303720 and labelled expiration dates of Mar-Dec 2016.

Sanofi said it had received 26 reports of suspected "device malfunctions," and has advised patients to contact their healthcare provider to obtain a prescription for an alternate autoinjector.

New registration standards

PHARMACISTS will be required to develop a CPD plan to assist in identification of areas in need of further development, under a revised Continuing Professional Development registration standard which has been published by the Pharmacy Board of Australia.

The new CPD standard is joined by revisions to the recency of practice standard, with the changes taking effect on 01 Dec.

The revised Recency of Practice standard includes an additional option for applicants to meet the minimum practice requirements, allowing this to be satisfied by 150 hours during the preceding 12 months, in addition to the current option of 450 hours during the previous three years.

The revised standards and CPD guidelines also contain additional

detail to facilitate pharmacists' understanding of the minimum requirements, including the consequences of failure.

"Clearer wording and structure have been used to make the requirements easier to understand," the Board said.

Other changes to the CPD standard specify that pharmacists must maintain records for a minimum of three full CPD periods, as well as providing guidance for temporary absence from practice.

There are also changes to supervised practice arrangements, requiring preceptors to have "suitable relevant training or experience," as well as additional requirements for supervised practice when undertaken concurrently across multiple training sites to facilitate the achievement of suitable training outcomes for interns.

Revised Frequently Asked Questions on CPD and an *Intern pharmacist and preceptor guide* will also be published on the Board's website in the coming weeks.

A revised professional indemnity insurance standard will be published shortly, which will become effective from early 2016.

Latuda PBS listed

NEW medication, marketed by Servier Laboratories in Australia, to treat atypical schizophrenia has been PBS listed effect as of 01 Nov.

Professor David Castle from Melbourne said the availability of Latuda (lurasidone HCl) had been "eagerly anticipated by the psychiatric community".

The treatment has been available in the United States since 2011, Canada since 2012 and Europe since 2013.

OTC de-listings

THE Health Department has finalised its list of over-the-counter items recommended for de-listing or amendment on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme effective from 01 Jan 2016.

The deletions will result in all forms of four items being deleted from the PBS: aluminium hydroxide with magnesium trisilicate and magnesium hydroxide; ferrous fumarate; ferrous fumarate with folic acid; and chloramphenicol.

Other items affected include aspirin, bisacodyl, oral electrolyte replacement, folic acid, glycerol, hydrocortisone, nystatin, hydroxocobalamin and paracetamol.

Some items delisted will be transferred to the Repatriation Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits while others will stay on the PBS but only for patients identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders - www.pbs.gov.au.

Honour for Rhonda White

RHONDA White AO has won the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's most prestigious Queensland pharmacy award, the Bowl of Hygeia.

White, who has played a key role in the development of the Terry White Chemists group which she co-founded, was cited for her "visionary skills in developing the systems and disciplines for her organisation...her commitment to the education of staff members at all levels of pharmacy became the driving force".

The Bowl of Hygeia award recognises exceptional service to the profession, with White pictured accepting the accolade from PSA Queensland Branch President, Bruce Elliot.

Elliot also awarded well known



Mossman pharmacist John Anich OAM with Life Membership of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, with both awards presented at the PSA's Queensland Branch President's Dinner and Awards Night which took place last Fri in Brisbane.

Research snippets

- Medication reconciliation procedures are required in hospitals to minimise medication discrepancies and enhance patient safety, a Spanish study published in the *International Journal of Clinical Practice* has shown - [CLICK HERE](#)
- An Irish study on vitamin D in adolescents, published in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, supports its role in muscle function in males suggesting the need for more research - [CLICK HERE](#).
- Vitamin D should be considered for prevention of osteomalacia in at-risk individuals, according to a meta-analysis of large randomised controlled trials of calcium and/or vitamin D supplements completed in the last 15 years - published in *Climacteric* - [CLICK HERE](#).

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Guild Update

My Health Record

The Guild welcomes the announcement that one of the trial sites for the new My Health Record will be a Primary Health Network with a strong representation of community pharmacy.

Northern Queensland PHN was selected as one of only two PHNs in Australia to trial the Federal Government's "opt-out" My Health Record from early 2016 – benefitting around 670,000 people in the region.

The new system – changed from opt-in to opt-out – will see Australians get easier access to their medical records.

Community pharmacies have always been early and conscientious adopters of beneficial technology for patients, and we believe pharmacy will get behind the My Health Record and contribute to its success in the interests of better patient outcomes.

Given the strong involvement of community pharmacy in the Northern Queensland PHN, it is particularly pleasing that this vibrant and vital collaboration has been included in the early trials.

Community pharmacies will play a key role in improving the flow of information, decreasing duplication, and helping doctors and pharmacists make more informed decisions.

RBK sees boom from Asia

IT'S not just Blackmores and Swisse that are benefiting from strong demand in Asia for quality Australian complementary medicines.

RBK Nutraceuticals, founded by David Mumford, James Ro and Kate Ro in 1996, has announced a record 161% increase in its exports of health supplements to Korea since the recent conclusion of Free Trade Export Agreements between Australia and key North Asian markets.

The Sydney-based manufacturer began in Epping working with four people above a fish and chip shop, but today employs 40 people in the western suburb of Seven Hills.

RBK said it currently trades with a range of other markets, including China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam, Japan and the USA, with new markets being developed in

Saudi Arabia and Myanmar.

Around 80% of its business is in exports under a range of brands including Mothernest, Blue Gum, True Blue, Kiwi Harvest and V-Plus, said Mumford.

"People in North Asia really like our products, because Australia's got a good reputation for its 'clean and green' natural products.

"Our products are also known to be completely safe, because of the strict regulations that the TGA imposes on our industry," he said.

The 'Open for Business' campaign, introduced by the federal government in consultation with Austrade and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, aims to encourage small and medium business owners to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the new Free Trade Export Agreements.

For more on trade agreements with Korea, Japan and China, visit www.openforbusiness.gov.au.

RGH Phcy E-Bulletin

THIS week's RGH Pharmacy E-Bulletin reviews treatment options for relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma.

Access to relevant drug therapies in Australia is summarised along with variations in pharmacokinetics, combinations and toxicities.

CLICK HERE to access the Bulletin.

Reviews extended

CONSULTATION on the draft terms of reference for the post-market reviews of COPD medicines and ezetimibe has been extended to 13 Nov 2015.

Details are found at pbs.gov.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

US PHARMACIST Terry Kepka, the owner of Seitz Drug Company, Ellsworth, Kansas, has received a patient "thank you" note with a difference, reports the US National Community Pharmacists Association.

The touching posthumous missive was delivered at the behest of a grateful customer after she had died.

Showing the potential importance of the relationship between customers and their highly accessible pharmacists, the letter read: "Terry and employees of Seitz Drug, my gratitude to all at the store for all you have done to help me these past years.

"Thank you and may God bless you all. It has been so good to know someone like you.

"You have been so much help to me, and I am so thankful to have had a friend like you and everyone at the store".

HALLOWEEN sweets can provide a cash bonus, at least if you live near a dentist based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, who is intent on reducing the cavity creation due to excessive Halloween treat-eating by children.

Byron Wall, of Cosmetic Dentistry of New Mexico, has offered to buy candy treats back from young trick-or-treaters, 14 years or younger.

AAP reports that his office pays \$1 for every pound of candy up to \$5, and forwards the sugar-lode to Blue Star Moms, a nonprofit organisation supporting New Mexico soldiers.

Blue Star Moms packages the sweets along with clothing and food into holiday boxes for shipping to the troops during November.

His office reportedly collected over 500kg of candy last year.

WIN with Hydralyte

This week **Pharmacy Daily** and **Hydralyte** are giving away a Hydralyte pack each day.

Stay hydrated over the festive season! Did you know that for each standard alcoholic drink consumed, you urinate 100mL more than you drink, leading to dehydration? Hydralyte contains the correct balance of fluid, electrolytes and glucose, to restore hydration effectively. Visit www.hydralyte.com.au for more information.

Always read the label. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist consult your healthcare professional.

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



What are the common symptoms of dehydration?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Serena McMurray from Alphapharm.

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