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Research suggests the correct dose of fish oil needed to help reduce the joint inflammation associated with mild arthritis is 2.7 grams of omega-3 daily.

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Veterinary antibiotics

THE European Medicines Agency has expanded its antimicrobial resistance (AMR) strategy to animal health, with the launch of a consultation document with a five year plan to address the risk of AMR being transferred to humans from the use of antibiotics in animals - see www.ema.europa.eu.

FDA swoops on fakes

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in partnership with other government agencies, has announced the results of a year-long sweep of dietary supplements to identify potentially unsafe or tainted items.

A whopping 117 manufacturers and/or distributors were indicted including USPlabs, S K Laboratories and Bethel Nutritional Consulting.

Accusations included deviations from good manufacturing practice regulations resulting in adulterated dietary supplements, and deviations from labelling requirements, causing the dietary supplements to be misbranded.

In addition, unapproved drugs were being distributed and some products contained toxic or unapproved substances.

More than 100 products were implicated and found to contain harmful active ingredients, most commonly marketed for sexual enhancement, weight loss and body building, the FDA said.

PSA courses open to Kiwis

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has announced a collaboration with the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand which will give NZ pharmacists access to the PSA's postgraduate pharmacy courses.

PSNZ ceo Richard Townley said there was currently nothing similar, designed specially for pharmacists, available in New Zealand.

"The learning offered by these qualifications is of a very high quality and is ideal for pharmacists

with leadership or management responsibilities.

"Our members have consistently asked for these types of courses to be made available," Townley said.

The programs are delivered via PSA's online learning platform, meaning PSNZ members can study at their own pace without having to coordinate with timezone differences.

PSA national president Joe Demarte said the Society was thrilled that the qualifications had been recognised as relevant and applicable to NZ practice.

The qualifications now available to PSNZ members include the PSA's Diploma of Leadership and Management which qualifies for 48 Group 2 CPD credits.

There's also the Graduate Diploma of Applied Pharmacy Practice which attracts 44 Group 2 CPD credits.

"The PSA qualifications provide a unique opportunity, not currently available in NZ, for formal postgraduate education in leadership and management tailored to pharmacy," the PSA said.

The flexible courses can be started at any time, with PSA offering mentoring and support throughout to maximise the benefits for students - see www.psa.org.au.

Duggan down under

CATHERINE Duggan, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Director of Professional Development, will visit Australia next month, with activities including a presentation at the University of Sydney Faculty of Pharmacy on 03 Dec as well as speaking at the SHPA's 41st National Conference, Medicines Management 2015 in Melbourne the following weekend.

Duggan is described as the global 'face' of advanced pharmacy practice, and is also the international member on the APC Advanced Practice Credentialing Committee.

Registration for her Sydney presentation is free online at www.pharmacycouncil.org.au, while the SHPA conference details are at www.mm2015shpa.com.

Today's issue of PD

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

Mediband bracelets

SOME **Pharmacy Daily** subscribers

yesterday received an issue which had an incorrect image of the Mediband bracelets which raise awareness of medical conditions such as diabetes and epilepsy plus food and drug allergies.

As well as being colourful and fun to wear, the bracelets (**above**) can provide vital medical and contact information in emergencies and can also be linked to the Mediband Plus web-based medical database.

For more details including pricing, ring 1300 796 401 or **CLICK HERE**.



APC check offline

THE Australian Pharmacy Council has warned that its online eligibility check and portal access will be undergoing maintenance from 10am AEDST on Tue 24 Nov.

The system will be available on an intermittent basis through the day, and fully operational again by 4pm.

Win with remescar

This week Pharmacy Daily and Remescar are giving readers each day the chance to win the new Remescar Spider Veins product, valued at \$44.99.

Remescar Spider Veins is an innovative medical device that instantly prevents and treats superficial discoloured, visual and structural imperfections of skin affected by spider veins. Remescar Spider Veins works by forming a long lasting protective shield over and around the affected area. This thin, transparent silicone film hydrates, protects and restores the upper layer of the skin, hides imperfections, and reinforces and protects blood vessels. Visit <http://remescar.com/au>.

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

Has Remescar Spider Veins been clinically trialled?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Antonella Panajia from Main Street Pharmacy.



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The deal is on offer through until 31 Mar 2016 - see this and other special offers online at www.pacificresort.com.

Cruise deal for Hugli and Ganges Rivers

ACTIVE Travel, specialists in Asian river cruising, have a special 10% discount deal for Australians wanting to cruise the historic Hugli and sacred Ganges Rivers in India.

The offer is valid for any Assam Bengal Navigation river cruise next year for bookings confirmed before 23 Dec 2015.

Cruising aboard Assam Bengal Navigation's deluxe, colonial-style river vessels provides a comfortable way to travel through the Indian countryside.

Prices start at US\$1,272 per person twin share including the discount for the seven night Historic Hugli cruise, with other itineraries also available.

For more information go to www.activetravel.com.au.

China to tighten import laws

THE current industry bonanza which is seeing Australian pharmacy shelves stripped of baby formula and complementary medicines could be under threat from a proposed regulatory change in China, where authorities are expected to tighten requirements for imported items sold online.

At present manufacturers such as Swisse and Blackmores, as well as makers of infant and toddler

formulas, are seeing a huge spike in retail demand within Australia as purchasers buy the items for resale online in China.

The proposed changes would bring the Chinese online sales sector into line with other retailers, with the introduction of strict checks at ports, stronger food safety protocols and requirements for labelling in Chinese, according to the *Financial Review*.

Currently in draft form, the new rules aim to "standardise the supervision and administration on the safety of foods imported via cross-border commerce".

They also aim to address the key issue of product counterfeiting.

Phcy students teach about drug abuse

IN THE "this seems like a very good idea" department, the USA's West Virginia University School of Pharmacy students are giving instruction to middle and high school students about prescription drug abuse and illicit drug use.

The lessons form part of their introductory pharmacy practice experiences, are tailored to address current state concerns and meet objectives of the US Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy People 2020 campaign, the pharmacy school explained.

The intention is to give students enough guidance so they can make an informed decision when confronted with situations involving prescription and illicit drugs, according to *Pharmacy Times*.

Sandoz biosimilar

SANDOZ has confirmed the acceptance by the US FDA of a regulatory submission for a proposed biosimilar pegfilgrastim, with the reference product being Amgen's Neulasta - a recombinant human granulocyte colony-stimulating factor.

It's the third Sandoz biosimilar filing in the US, with the company presenting three clinical trials which "demonstrate that the proposed biosimilar is highly similar to the reference product".

Sandoz says it has another seven biosimilars in the wings planned for filing over the next three years.

DISPENSARY CORNER

COURT action has been launched against a theme park in the USA, attempting to stop a chimpanzee housed there from smoking.

An animal rights group is taking the opportunity afforded by a law change, which now classifies captive primates as "endangered" - the same as those in the wild.

According to court documents the animal, named Candy, has been encouraged for decades to smoke lit cigarettes thrown into her cage by members of the public.

"Just as with humans, cigarette smoking is very harmful for chimpanzees," the suit says, adding that allowing her to smoke violates America's Endangered Species Act.

The lawsuit also alleges that the amusement park owners only provide Coca-Cola for the animal to drink, claiming she does not like water.

"Water, not Coca-Cola, is an essential requirement for chimpanzees," the case against the Dixie Landin' park states.

ONLINE taxi disruptor Uber is getting into the health sector, with the launch of a new service which will deliver influenza injections in 36 cities across the USA.

The UberHealth program, which was piloted last year, allows people to hail a car complete with a registered nurse who will administer a flu shot.

It only runs for one day - Thu 19 Nov - between 11am and 3pm, and the nurse can vaccinate up to ten people in each location at no charge, in conjunction with the purchase of a US\$10 "wellness pack" which includes a water bottle, tissues, hand sanitiser and even a lollipop.

The participating nurses are accredited through travel medicine provider Passport Health.



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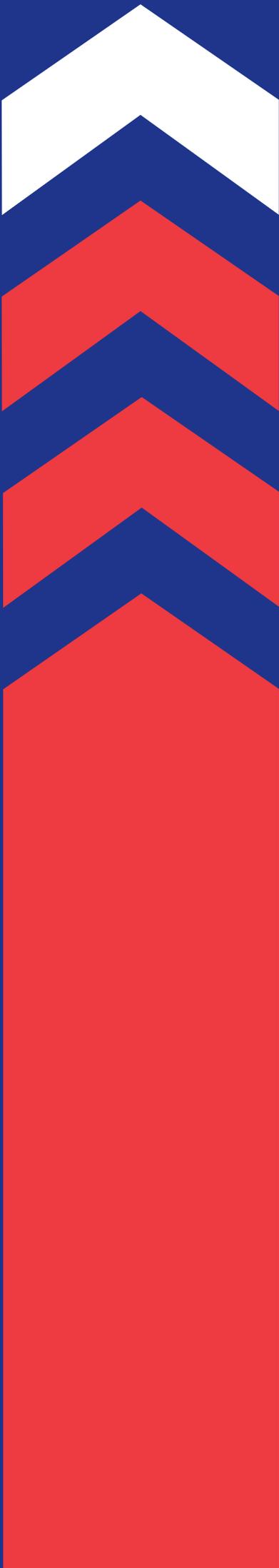
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2016 is only a few weeks away and it's a great time to reflect on what you want your business to achieve in the new year.

We've helped our 512 member pharmacies achieve their business goals in 2015 and with our range of business tools you can look forward to big results in 2016. Our tools will:

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