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Holgate wins CEO of the Year gong

Monday 30 Nov 2015

THE stellar performance of Blackmores over the last twelve months has seen the company's ceo Christine Holgate announced as the CEO of the Year in the fourth annual *CEO Magazine* Executive of the Year Awards, held at Melbourne's Crown Casino last week.

Complementary medicines were also in the spotlight with the CFO of the year award, which went to Michael Da Gama Pinto of Swisse Wellness, while Swisse director of marketing Michael Howard was named Marketing Executive of the Year in the awards.

Health and Pharmaceutical Executive of the Year went to David Cade, who is global medical director at Sirtex Medical.

Starlight Children's Foundation chief executive Louise Baxter won Not for Profit Executive of the Year while Chairperson of the Year was awarded to Barbara Yeoh, board chair for Monash Health.

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Pharmacy

Board eases intern process

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has released a new online video which outlines the steps required for graduates to gain provisional registration and complete an internship in order to be eligible to apply for general registration.

Detailed in a communiqué issued by the Board following its most recent meeting two weeks ago, the video is a "quick and easy way for graduates and students close to finishing their studies to find out what they need to do before applying for provisional registration and starting their supervised practice," the Board said.

The video also highlights the ongoing obligations for pharmacists, while an accompanying slide presentation explains in further detail the information touched on. See pharmacyboard.gov.au.

MEANWHILE the communiqué reminded pharmacists that renewal of registration is due today.

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As at 25 Nov 74% of pharmacists had already renewed, with 98.7% of them doing so online.

Pharmacists who do not renew by today must pay a late fee for Dec registrations, and if they don't renew before the end of the year they will be removed from the Register of Pharmacists and will have to make a new application for registration - and will not be able to practise until their application has been finalised.

The Board warned that this has "serious implications for pharmacists who are owners of pharmacy businesses."

Stroke action call

THE new Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation released by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (*PD* Fri) highlights the ongoing impact of inconsistent care for stroke victims, according to the Stroke Foundation.

The Atlas showed the time stroke patients spent in hospital accessing ongoing acute services varied greatly depending on where people lived, with Foundation ceo Erin Lalor saying this showed the need for govt leadership to improve the delivery of stroke services.

New orphan drugs

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has designated Alexion's sebelipase alfa, a solution for injection to treat lysosomal acid lipase (LAL) deficiency, as a new orphan drug.

Today's issue of PD

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

PCNZ "Bent Spoon"

THE Pharmacy Council of New Zealand has received a not-socoveted accolade, in the form of the annual "Bent Spoon" award from the NZ Skeptics Society.

The organisation has highlighted a proposed change to the Council's Code of Ethics, currently the subject of a consultation from industry stakeholders, which would "allow the sale of healthcare products that have not been shown to work".

NZ Skeptics and the Society for Science Based Healthcare have identified pharmacies selling homeopathic and other unproven "remedies" and put pressure on the Pharmacy Council to enforce their Code of Ethics.

In Aug this year the Council proposed to change the wording of the code to allow the sale of "complementary therapies" which are not supported by credible evidence of efficacy.

The Pharmacy Council's consultation closed last month, with submissions reviewed in a board meeting on 17 Nov.

After receiving "high quality" feedback the Pharmacy Council has now delayed making a final decision on the ethics clause, with chair Andrew Bary saying "after careful consideration, council has decided it would be beneficial to engage further with stakeholders before reaching a final decision".

Can we do better - FIP

THE latest *IPJ*, the official organ of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), focuses on the theme "Towards better practices," which was also the theme of this year's World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

It covers numerous ways that pharmacists can deliver better medicines and better care - for full full details see www.fip.org.

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Pharmacy Daily Monday 30th November 2015

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Weekly Comment

Welcome to **PD**'s weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is Shane Jackson, Chair of the PPDC and a Member



of APC's Advanced Practice Credentialing Committee.

Competency Standards underpin workforce development

I HAVE been involved with the formal development of national competency standards for pharmacists since 2008 when PSA initiated the review of the Standards prior to the release of the 2010 National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia. During that process it was identified that the profession needed to be further progressed by initiation and development of an Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework (APPF). This was released in 2012. There are 2 existing competency frameworks that cover the pharmacy profession. However, with the current review of the National Competency Standards, integration of the APPF into the National Standards is being drafted. This will ensure a clear continuum of practice and guide pharmacists along their career from registration through to advanced practice recognition, whether that be at Stage 1, 2 or 3. The revised Competency Standards will be released for profession-wide consultation in the New Year. They will create a clear recognition and professional development pathway for pharmacists and assist them with their career development. Everyone who maps their practice against the APPF and uses this framework to guide their professional development helps us all in developing and expanding the role of pharmacists in healthcare delivery.



MEDICATION management systems company Webstercare was named ICT Innovative Company of the Year at the Information Technology in Aged Care (ITAC) conference which was held on the Gold Coast last week.

The top prize in the awards ceremony, in what was described as a 'hotly contested category', was based on the company's latest innovation, the RxMedChart system, a computerised version of the National Residential Medication Chart which enables the chart to be used also as a prescription.

Webstercare director Matthew Stevens, who accepted the award on behalf of his team, praised the "wonderful Webstercare staff who truly care about what they do," as well as acknowledging the company's founder Gerard Stevens for being the driving force behind Webstercare's achievements which have seen the business solve medication management problems for Australians over 30 years.

Pharmacy training?

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The overjoyed Webstercare team are pictured at the awards dinner, from left: Julia Thomas, Christine Veal, Matt Stevens and Anne Nagel.

Win with NS-8

This week Pharmacy Daily and NS-8 are giving 2 readers the chance each day to win NS-8 Leg Care Cream and Heel Balm.

Your legs deserve some extra love - NS-8 Leg Care Cream restores dry legs, refreshes hot, tired legs and relieves heavy legs. The natural formula absorbs quickly and penetrates deeply to intensively moisturise your skin. Enriched with Vitamins C, E and F to nourish NS-8 your skin and Shea and Cocoa Butter to soften dry skin. Menthol cools and refreshes. Suitable for everyone and all skin types, perfect for those with diabetes. Proudly Australian made and owned.

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To win, be one of the first two from NSW or ACT to send the correct answer to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Name the ingredient in NS-8 Leg Care Cream that cools.

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.

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Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

Publisher: Bruce Piper info@pharmacydaily.com.au Reporter: Mal Smith Contributors: Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai Advertising and Marketing: Magda Herdzik advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au



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ISIS hit with hard love.

We have you covered.

Following the ISIS attacks on Paris that resulted in a worldwide reaction to the atrocities, hacker group Anonymous has undertaken a virtual campaign waging war on the terrorists using ads for 'boner pills' reports Maxim.

The hackers have not only disabled social media accounts and shared the personal information of alleged ISIS recruiters with law enforcement officials, but have gone one step further, using humour to disrupt the organisation.

The fake advertisements for erectile dysfunction tablets have been prefaced with remarks about enhancing your calm, perhaps imagining that the magic pills will help ISIS martyrs manage their promised 21 virgins.

Previously the New York Post had reported that a fugitive Paris jihadist "loved gay bars, drugs and PlayStation" so the new approach may also be helpful to those sort of characters.

WHO needs a pathologist?

A study reported in the Plos One journal has found that pigeons were just as good at humans at classifying healthy and cancerous breast tissue samples.

The birds underwent training by being shown microscope samples of benign and malignant breast tissue and rewarded when they gave a correct answer.

After two weeks of training the pigeons achieved 85% accuracy, even when being shown images they had not seen before.

Professor Richard Levenson from the University of California, Davis said the birds proved "remarkably adept" in discriminating between the slides, and when they pooled the decisions of four birds in a "flock-sourcing" approach the diagnoses were 99% accurate.

Travel Daily CRUISE trave Bulletin business events news D Pharmacy

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