

Tuesday 20 Oct 2015

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New ski conf speaker

UNIVERSITY of Utah College of Pharmacy Associate Professor Jim Ruble is the latest in the line-up of speakers for the Canyons/Park City Ski Conference in January 2016.

Ruble provides instruction to professional pharmacy students, and graduate students in pharmaceutical compounding and pharmacy law as well as in bioethics for health profession students.

He brings more than 25 years experience as a pharmacist and more than 30 years experience in health care.

Currently practising in community pharmacy, he has previously worked in hospital practice, drug information, poison control, and neuroscience clinical care and has received numerous awards for teaching excellence.

For conference details contact Ben or Lorraine on 02 9233 6466.

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Tasmanian pharmacy honours

CONSIDERED the forefather of ward-based clinical pharmacy services in Australia, Tasmanian pharmacist George Taylor has been announced as the winner of the Tasmanian Pharmacy Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award was made last Fri night during the Tasmanian Pharmacist Dinner, with Elizabeth Jordan from the Pharmacy Department at the Royal Hobart Hospital also named the Tasmanian Pharmacist of the Year during the event.

The evening was hosted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, the Pharmacy Guild, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists Australia and University of Tasmania Pharmacy Department, with awards sponsored by Symbion and Guild Super.

Announcing the Lifetime Achievement Award, Professor Greg Peterson said Taylor was most highly regarded as a kind and caring innovator in the pharmacy profession, with ongoing clinical pharmacy teaching and mentoring. Tasmanian SHPA Chair, Duncan

McKenzie, said Elizabeth Jordan's professionalism, dedication and humanity were attributes that made her a great role model.

Rx for pharmacy

PHARMACY training and development company, The Prescription for Pharmacy, will officially launch next month, with founder Mouhamad Zougbi saying despite the ongoing PBS price pressures, "government reforms and rising business expenses are not the core of the problem.

"Instead, the issue is the current retailer focus of the pharmacy industry," he said, claiming the sector is "cannibalising itself".

The Prescription for Pharmacy will focus on the human element as the "missing piece in the pharmacy industry today," with training and development programs to implement the PATTERNS methodology - a "pharmacyspecific communication and selling skills program".

Erin Pavy - Pharmacy Assistant of the Year

AINSLIE Chemmart Compounding Pharmacy Retail Manager, Erin Pavy, has been named the Pharmacy Assistant of the Year for 2015 at the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Pharmacy Assistant National Conference on the Gold Coast on Friday night.

"It's a real honour, I love what I do and love working in the pharmacy industry," Pavy said.

"I'm proud to win this award and want to say a

me so much

support and

the Ainslie Chemmart

store.

Pavy began her career 22 years ago straight out of school and for 15 years she worked as a pharmacy assistant and dispensary technician until seven years ago taking on the role of retail manager.

"I love implementing the health services Chemmart provides, particularly the health check program and providing staff with the training that goes along with this," she said.



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MedAdvisor IPO oversubscribed

MEDADVISOR has announced closure of its public fund-raising for their ASX listing with subscriptions exceeding the maximum limit of \$5m.

Pharmacists were protected from scale back through the MedAdvisor Pharmacy Priority Offer, the company said.

The offer drew strong support from a wide range of investors, with 16% of investment coming from pharmacies and pharmacy groups nationwide.

Interested pharmacists who missed out on the public offering can invest in MedAdvisor when it commences trading as MedAdvisor (ASX:MDR) in Nov 2015.

MedAdvisor is the most downloaded Australian (Apple and Android) medication-related app.

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Bones of the matter

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G7 on antibiotic resistance

TODAY is World Osteoporosis Day and new Ostelin research has highlighted that 20% of older Australians fail to exercise regularly. Other work from Deakin University shows the impact of little physical activity on bone health. CLICK HERE for Deakin research.



PBS De-Listing of OTC Medicines

AT a special meeting in April 2015, the Pharmaceutical **Benefits Advisory Committee** recommended de-listing some over-the-counter medicines from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, and provided the principles for the proposed process.

The PBAC noted that OTC medicines used for emergency situations (e.g. adrenalin, glucagon, GTN, salbutamol) should remain listed on the PBS, as well as listings on the Palliative Care Schedule, NRT, nutritional products and some other items.

As the PBAC has been working with the sponsors of medicines likely to be impacted, a list of items being de-listed has not yet been published. The PBAC has indicated it expects a list to be available in late October or early November.

In the meantime, the Guild is aware members are receiving offers for OTC medicines that are listed on the PBS. Until details of which products will be de-listed is known, members should carefully consider these offers, noting that even if an OTC medicine used for a chronic condition is no longer listed on the PBS, patients are likely to require ongoing OTC supply unless their doctor reassesses them and changes their therapy.

MODERN healthcare use of antimicrobial therapies (AMTs) is endangering their effectiveness by increasing the spread of resistant microbes according to a report from the recent G7 Health Ministers Meeting held in Berlin, Germany. Antimicrobial resistance

is rapidly becoming a top health problem that could pose a significant challenge to the functioning of healthcare systems and their budget.

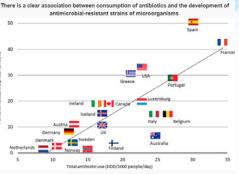
Antibiotic resistant microbes (ARMs) are highly prevalent in G7 and OECD countries, said the report.

Patients infected by ARMs are more likely to develop complications and up to three times more likely to die creating an additional cost burden for hospital spend, on average, of US\$10,000 to 40,000 for each patient involved.

The chart demonstrates penicillin resistant pneumonia graphed against total antibiotic use by country, with Australia looking relatively less implicated in the problem.

The findings have spurred a call for more urgent action by G7 countries in the area of AMR.

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All G7 countries have developed policies to tackle AMR in both the human and animal sectors. CLICK HERE for the report.

Research snippets

 Novel oral anti-coagulants (NOACs) have both favorable efficacy and safety profile over warfarin - metaanalysis in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology - CLICK HERE.

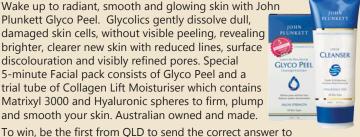
• Vitamin D's potential for immunomodulatory effects supportive of rheumatoid arthritis therapy are reviewed in Nature Reviews, Rheumatology - CLICK HERE.

• The impact of serum vitamin profiles on ischaemic stroke are examined in a study published in ResearchGate - CLICK HERE.

Wake up to new Skin

This week Pharmacy Daily and Plunketts are giving away a John Plunkett gift pack each day including Glyco Peel and Crème Cleanser.

Wake up to radiant, smooth and glowing skin with John Plunkett Glyco Peel. Glycolics gently dissolve dull, damaged skin cells, without visible peeling, revealing brighter, clearer new skin with reduced lines, surface discolouration and visibly refined pores. Special 5-minute Facial pack consists of Glyco Peel and a trial tube of Collagen Lift Moisturiser which contains Matrixyl 3000 and Hyaluronic spheres to firm, plump and smooth your skin. Australian owned and made.



DISPENSARY CORNER

COUNT your moles!

That's the recommendation from a study in the British Journal of Dermatology, which found that having more than 11 moles on one arm indicates a higher than average risk of developing skin cancer, according to the BBC.

The research looked at 3,000 twins across the UK over a period of eight years, collecting vital data on skin type, freckles and moles.

They collated intriguing facts such as that females with over seven moles on their right arm were nine times more likely to have over 50 on their whole body.

Those with more than 11 on their right arm were more likely to have over 100 on their body in total, meaning they were at a higher risk of developing a melanoma, the report said.

And if they had more than 100 moles on their right arm they were five times more likely to develop skin cancer.

The researchers stressed that most moles are completely harmless, but said their results could help health professionals quickly and easily assess patients for melanoma risk.

A PATIENT discharged from a hospital in Des Moines, Iowa in the USA has been arrested for stealing a taxi, telling officers he drove off with the vehicle because he didn't want to walk home.

26-year-old Luis Orellana-Rivera apparently pinched the cab shortly after being released from Mercy Medical Centre early morning last Fri.

The empty taxi had the keys in the ignition at the time, according to a report by local TV station KCCI, which didn't state why Orellano-Rivera was in hospital - and what might have stopped him making the most of an invigorating six-block stroll home.

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When should Glyco Peel be used - in the morning or at night?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Malie Ung from Barone Pharmacy Chullora.