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## MIMS Sep update

TODAY'S issue of *Pharmacy Daily* has two pages of news plus a full page from MIMS with its monthly update, covering new products and safety related changes. For details see **page three**.

## Primary Health Care consultation closed

NOW complete and closed, more than 2,000 Australians have participated in the consultation relating to the Primary Health Care Advisory Group (PHCAG) discussion paper, the Health Department says.

The process involved a national public interactive webcast and 42 peak organisation briefings including with the state and territory governments, primary health networks, organisations such as RACGP, AMA, Consumer Health Forum and National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

There were also sector briefings with allied health, nursing, chronic disease and aged care professionals.

Consumers completed an online survey and also participated in public consultation sessions, with the PCHAG to now develop specific recommendations by 31 Dec 2015.

## Plain English award move

THE Fair Work Commission has selected the Pharmacy Industry Award for a pilot project aiming to see how a modern industrial award can be written in plain language.

Citing "the interest the Pharmacy Guild has taken in this matter," FWC president Iain Ross said the PIA 2010 would form the basis of the pilot, citing a recent statement by the Full Bench of the commission that "an award should be able to be read by an employer or employee without needing a history lesson or paid advocate to interpret how it is

to apply in the workplace".

Guild executive director David Quilty said the selection of the Pharmacy Industry Award was a significant development, which would not have occurred if the Guild had not submitted a plain English draft in its original input to the review of the award in April.

The pilot will see the Commission engage an external expert in plain language drafting to develop a new version of the award, without changing the substantive legal effect of any award term.

"The use of plain language makes the law, in this case the PIA, directly relevant to those who are affected by it - both employers and employees," Quilty said.

"It is vital that laws are understandable for as many people as possible," he added.

## Apotex clarification

APOTEX has advised that the recall of batch X40466 of APO-Paracetamol 500mg tablets due to possible latex contamination (**PD** yesterday) applies to a 1,000 count bottle which is labelled 'For use in hospital and nursing homes only'.

This product is a bulk presentation, sold to pharmacies and health facilities and used in dose administration aids.

The company has contacted customers who purchased the product on or after 02 Mar 2015, with no other batches or products known to be affected.

## Borneo conference

WHERE will you spend the September school holidays?

With only three weeks to go, this is your last chance to register for the Borneo Conference.

Henry the orangutan (**below**) awaits you along with other exotics.



Visit the conference website [www.cpdconferencing.com.au](http://www.cpdconferencing.com.au) for more information, and contact Ben or Lorraine on 02 9233 6466.

## Snugglers mop up

KIMBERLY-CLARK has excitedly announced that their Snugglers brand has been awarded the 2015 Canstar Blue "Most Satisfied Customers Award" in the Disposable Nappies category.

Knocking out Coles Comfy Bots and Aldi Mamia, Snugglers received an additional five stars for Leak Prevention and Fit.

Having the Canstar Blue logo on a product influences 60% of consumers, the company said.

## Two weeks to PBN

THERE are just a few days to book for the upcoming Pharmacy Business Network 2015, with Guild executive director David Quilty using his *Forefront* update to urge pharmacy transformation by attending the event from 17-19 Sep - for more details **CLICK HERE**.

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\*versus ferrous sulphate

References: 1. Ortiz R, Toblil JE, Romero JD et al. Efficacy and safety of oral iron(III) polymaltose complex versus ferrous sulphate in pregnant women with iron-deficiency anaemia: a multicentre, randomized, controlled study. J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med 2011;24:1-6. 2. Toblil JE, Brignoli R. Iron(III)-hydroxide polymaltose complex in iron deficiency anaemia / review and meta-analysis. Arzneimittelforschung 2007;57:431-438.

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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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**8 Sep:** QCPP Refresher Training; Cairns; info and registration: [www.guild.org.au/qldcpd](http://www.guild.org.au/qldcpd)

**10-11 Sep:** Australasian Disease Management Association 11th Annual Conference; Brisbane Convention Centre; visit: [www.adma.org.au](http://www.adma.org.au)

**12 Sep:** CPD Accredited First Aid; Gold Coast; info and registration: [www.guild.org.au/qldcpd](http://www.guild.org.au/qldcpd)

**16 Sep:** Cardiovascular Update: The Role of Pharmacy; St Leonards; more info at: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**17-19 Sep:** Pharmacy Business Network; Etihad Stadium, Melbourne; details at: [pharmacybusinessnetwork.com](http://pharmacybusinessnetwork.com)

**22 Sep:** Excellence in Allergic Rhinitis CPD Seminar and Webcast; The Arena - NAB Docklands, Vic; more info at: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**15-17 Oct:** The Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; QT Gold Coast; details at: [www.pharmacyassistants.com](http://www.pharmacyassistants.com)

## Board internship warning

**THE** Pharmacy Board of Australia has issued a communiqué reminding intern pharmacists and preceptors of the requirements for supervised practice.

According to the Supervised Practice Registration Standard, intern pharmacists must undertake a total of 1,824 hours of Board approved supervised practice - but over the 12 months to 30 Jun 2015 there were 16 applicants for general registration "who did not seek the Board's approval of their supervised practice and therefore had not complied with the Standard".

This omission put them at risk of not meeting the requirements for general registration, with the Board confirming that graduates

must hold provisional registration and obtain Board approval of supervised practice arrangements before commencing internships and enrolling in a training program.

The Communiqué details other discussions during the Board's most recent meeting in Melbourne on 21 Aug, during which outgoing board members Stephen Marty, Ian Huett, Gerard McInerney and John Finlay were recognised for their contributions.

New Board members from 31 Aug are practitioners Joy Hewitt (Vic), Mark Kirschbaum (Tas) & Laurence (Ben) Wilkins (NSW) plus community member Michael Piu.

## Sandoz biosimilar

**SANDOZ** has announced the US debut of Zarxio (filgrastim-sndz), the first biosimilar to be approved by the FDA, with the same indications as oncology drug Neupogen.

Zarxio was approved via a new pathway established under the US Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act, based on a package of analytical, clinical and nonclinical data which confirmed it is "highly similar with no clinically meaningful differences to the US-licensed reference product".

## DISPENSARY CORNER



**BRITAIN'S** national sperm bank has launched a public recruitment drives for "supermen," after its donor numbers dwindled to just nine registered participants.

CEO Laura Witjens says a law change in 2005 which removed anonymity for sperm donors is thought to be behind a lack of interest from volunteers.

Men must have sperm "strong enough to stand freezing" to be accepted, with the initial Superman campaign to be followed up later in the year by a further drive urging men to "make an alternative Christmas gift".

**SCIENTISTS** at Indiana University in the US have put their minds to the vexed question of the best way to ask someone out, with text messages found to be better than making a phone call.

The researchers said email was also a good choice, with senders "consciously or subconsciously adding more positive content to their messages," thinking more deeply about the task than when leaving a voicemail - a process which "may increase arousal".

## New hemaPEN blood sampling method

**AUSTRALIAN** biotech firm Trajan Scientific and Medical has launched a new prototype blood collection and storage device called hemaPEN.

The system utilised Dried Blood Spot (DBS) sampling, and is said to have the potential to change the way patients have their blood tested, eliminating the need to visit a clinic.

For an informational video see [pharmacydaily.com.au/videos](http://pharmacydaily.com.au/videos).

## Win with DESIGNER BRANDS

This week Pharmacy Daily and Designer Brands are giving away a prize pack each day containing products from the Designer Brands Special FX Collection including a DB Contour Kit (RRP \$9.99), Instant Face Bronzer (RRP \$12.99) and Invisible Lip Liner (\$8.99).

The Designer Brands Contour Kit comes with step-by-step instructions on the back of the palette to help you contour like a pro! Featuring a highly blendable and buildable formula, it's perfect for contouring and highlighting the face. Sculpt, shape and define your features with this trio of contouring and highlighting shades.

To win, be the first person from **TAS** or **VIC** to answer the following question and send it to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

What do the three shades do?

Need a hint? [CLICK HERE](#)

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, *Simonne Cramer* from *Scaffidi Group*.



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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist Manager** - Sydney North Shore NSW (Job# 2011620)  
Time to take the next step in your career - apply for this position now.
- **Pharmacist** - South West Rural WA (Job# 2011014)  
Customer Care Pharmacist - excellent salary and bonus incentives.
- **Pharmacist** - North West VIC (Job# 2011635)  
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P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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**Publisher:** Bruce Piper [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Reporter:** Mal Smith

**Advertising and Marketing:** Magda Herdick [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Business Manager:** Jenny Piper [accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

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## New Products

**Privigen (normal immunoglobulin (human))** is a solution of human normal immunoglobulin for intravenous infusion. Adequate doses of human normal immunoglobulin may restore abnormally low IgG levels to the normal range. The mechanism of action in indications other than replacement therapy is not fully elucidated, but includes immunomodulatory effects. Privigen is indicated as replacement therapy in the following conditions. Primary immunodeficiency diseases; myeloma or chronic lymphocytic leukaemia with severe secondary hypogammaglobulinaemia; and recurrent infections and symptomatic hypogammaglobulinaemia secondary to underlying disease or treatment. Privigen is indicated as immunomodulatory therapy in idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura in patients at high risk of bleeding or prior to surgery to correct the platelet count; Guillain Barré syndrome; Kawasaki disease; chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy; multifocal motor neuropathy; myasthenia gravis exacerbations; Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome and stiff person syndrome. It is contraindicated in hypersensitivity to homologous immunoglobulins, especially in the very rare cases of IgA deficiency when the patient has antibodies against IgA, and in patients with hyperprolinaemia. Privigen is presented as a 10% (100 g/L) solution for intravenous infusion in 50 mL (5 g/50 mL), 100 mL (10 g/100 mL), 200 mL (20 g/200 mL) and 400 mL (40 g/400 mL) bottles.

**Spiriva Respimat (tiotropium (as tiotropium bromide monohydrate))** is indicated for the long-term maintenance treatment of bronchospasm and dyspnoea associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and for the prevention of COPD exacerbations. Spiriva Respimat is also indicated as add-on maintenance bronchodilator treatment for asthma in adults currently treated with the maintenance combination of inhaled corticosteroids ( $\geq 800$  microgram budesonide/day or equivalent) and long-acting  $\beta_2$  agonists and who experienced one or more severe exacerbations in the previous year. It is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to atropine or its derivatives, e.g. ipratropium or oxitropium. Spiriva Respimat is available as a solution for inhalation (cartridge) containing tiotropium 2.5 microgram ( $\equiv$  tiotropium bromide monohydrate 3.1 microgram) + Respimat inhaler delivering 60 metered actuations.

**Toujeo (insulin glargine)** is indicated in the treatment of diabetes mellitus in adults. Toujeo (300 units/mL) solution for injection is available as a prefilled 1.5 mL cartridge sealed in a Solostar disposable pen injector in packs of 1's and 5's.

## Safety related changes

**Hydopa (methyldopa)** is now also contraindicated with a catecholamine secreting tumour such as phaeochromocytoma or paraganglioma and with porphyria.

**Kineret (anakinra)** treatment is now also contraindicated and must not be initiated in patients with neutropenia ( $ANC < 1.5 \times 10^9/L$ ).

Kineret is now also indicated in adult and paediatric patients aged 8 months and older with a bodyweight of 10 kg or above for the treatment of cryopyrin associated periodic syndromes including neonatal onset multisystem inflammatory disease/ chronic infantile neurological, cutaneous, articular syndrome, Muckle-Wells syndrome, and familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome.

**Somatuline Autogel (lanreotide acetate)** is now also indicated in the treatment of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumours (GEP-NETs) in adults with unresectable locally advanced or metastatic disease.

**Stribild (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, emtricitabine, elvitegravir, cobicistat)** is now also contraindicated with the anticonvulsants carbamazepine, phenobarbitone and phenytoin.

Stribild is now also indicated in certain virologically suppressed (HIV1 RNA  $< 50$  copies/mL) adults on a stable antiretroviral regimen at start of therapy in order to replace their current antiretroviral treatment regimen. Patients must not have a history of treatment failure or known mutations associated with resistance to the antiretroviral components of Stribild.

*This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.*