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WANT A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN TODAY'S CHANGING LANDSCAPE??

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ADEA likes HCH

CREDENTIALLED Diabetes

Educators are well placed to assist GPs as part of PM Turnbull's 'Health Care Homes' package, according to the Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA) in a statement.

ADEA president Tracy Aylen, says that while the organisation would like to see more detail first, "ADEA is very supportive of this trial and believes it will be very beneficial for people with diabetes to receive coordinated care from GPs and practice nurses, who could work collaboratively with specialist Credentialled Diabetes Educators".

Statistics from Deloitte Access Economics 2014 show that Australian healthcare cost savings in 2014 would have totalled \$3.9 billion and thousands of lives would have improved if diabetes education programs were made available to all 1.37 million Australians with diabetes, Aylen highlighted.

ACSS statement

DRUG Regulatory Agencies from Australia-Canada-Singapore-Switzerland (ACSS) Consortium Generic Medicines Working Group met in Seoul, South Korea in Oct 2015, to advance work sharing arrangements in the assessment of generic drug applications.

The group has released a statement summarising its approach and technical details.

The consortium meets again face to face in May 2016 in Strasbourg, France, in the margins of the 3rd IGDPR meeting.

CLICK HERE to access details.

Pharmacy focus for HCH

COMMUNITY pharmacy must be central to care of patients with chronic health conditions, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia has said in welcoming the Turnbull Government's reforms to the primary care of patients with chronic health conditions (**PD** yest).

The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) also weighed in with supportive pharmacist-centred comments.

Unless the crucial role of community pharmacies is fully integrated into the Health Care Home (HCH) concept, patient outcomes would be sub-optimal, the Guild said in a special release.

Guild national president George Tambassis said it is indisputable that the Quality Use of Medicines, with a strong focus on active medication management, advice and support through community

pharmacies, was essential in managing the health of patients with chronic health conditions.

Many of these patients are reliant on ten or more medicines to manage their conditions, Tambassis said, adding: "the potential is high for adverse drug events and inadvertent medicine misadventure with these patients."

PSA national president Joe Demarte said pharmacists welcomed the Government's announcement and supported the concept of a patient-centred Health Care Home, especially for patients with chronic disease.

"Team-based models of primary care have shown to be effective in response to growing health system demands created by increasingly complex patients," Demarte said.

Furthermore, the PSA would welcome discussions with the Federal Government on the inclusion of pharmacists in the trial to help improve patient care, the PSA president added.

"PSA has previously highlighted evidence showing pharmacist interventions for consumers with chronic disease improve health outcomes and reduce misuse of medication."

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia ceo Kristin Michaelis said the "Health Care Homes' initiative paved the way for better coordination of care, better outcomes for patients with chronic disease, reduced hospital admissions and potential cost savings.

Luminarie NZ launch

AUSTRALIAN consumer healthcare company Luminarie celebrated its first birthday with the launch of its company and first three brands into the New Zealand pharmacy market.

Co-Founder and New Zealander Rewa Mahoney described the move as "a huge milestone for the Luminarie business".

The start-up began operations in Mar 2015, has enjoyed rapid growth and has plans for new product launches through 2016, Mahoney said.

FDA biosimilar labels

THE US Food and Drug Administration has created a storm of indignation among biologic (large molecule) therapy originator companies by announcing that it will allow biosimilar labels to rely on reference drug data.

The regulatory authority organisation made the controversial call yesterday as part of its release of biosimilar labelling guidelines.

Settling details of drug labelling is an extensive and expensive process for originator companies.

Swisse #1 China sales

AUSTRALIAN vitamins group Swisse Wellness has declared a \$49m profit for its first three months under the ownership of Biostime International, propelling the brand to pole position in healthcare on the two large Chinese online sites of Tmall and Taobao according to Fairfax media.

The results are now being made public for the first time as a result of being part of Hong Kong stock exchange listed company Biostime.

For the three months to end Dec 2015 Swisse contributed revenue of 838.1 million yuan or approximately AU\$169m.

If that result was extrapolated to a full year's business it would challenge the result of ASX-listed Blackmores, stated for the six months ended Dec 2015 as \$342m, up 66% with net profit tripled to \$48.3m (**PD** 25 Feb).

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Jobs of the Week

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- **PIC/Sole Pharmacist** - Country SE QLD (Job# 2012142)
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- **Pharmacist Manager** - Melbourne's south east, VIC (Job# 2012196)
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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.

2 Apr: Drug Interactions & Psychotropics, NSW Medicines Information Centre, Darlinghurst; for more info email nswmic@svha.org.au or phone 02 8382 3047;

16-17 Apr: Victorian Pharmacy Conference 2016; Monash University, Parkville; more info at: www.psa.org.au

1-10 May: 41st Offshore Refresher; Cape Town and Sun City, South Africa; details at: www.psaoffshore2016.com.au

14-15 May: Laboratory Tests Seminar; Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart; see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

18-20 May: National Medicines Symposium 2016; Canberra Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info go to: www.nps.org.au

21-22 May: Critical Care Foundation Seminar; Novotel Brisbane; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

28-29 May: Medication Management in Geriatric Care Seminar; Rydges Sydney Central; for more info visit: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

7-9 Jun: 15th National Immunisation Conference; Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre; details at: www.phaa.net.au

17-19 Jun: ConPharm 2016; Hilton, Adelaide; more info at: www.aacp.com.au

EBOS confident of future

EBOS ceo Patrick Davies says he is confident of delivering another year of double-digit profit growth for shareholders in 2016, with the company's half yearly report released this week indicating "sound performances" across both its healthcare and animal care operations.

Davies said the half year result (**PD 24 Feb**) saw solid wholesale revenue growth in the Australian pharmacy market for EBOS, assisted by "increased levels of activity, particularly in the non-prescription channel".

He said the first half group results with revenue of \$3.4b, up 8.3%, also reflected the benefits of acquisitions and investments undertaken in previous periods, which have now cycled through a full 12 months of ownership.

Pharmacy wholesaling comprised 44% of the company's total operational revenue, while the group's retail pharmacy amounted to 6% of the total.

Earnings before income tax, depreciation and amortisation for the healthcare business increased 12.7% with strong growth in both Australian and New Zealand

operations.

Australian operations reflected convincing performances across pharmacy, institutional healthcare and contract logistics Davies said.

Non-prescription business activity dominated the growth of wholesaling revenue, he added, with the company's Onelink Australia business profiling the firm's operational capacity as well as the expertise of staff and supporting infrastructure.

PBS pricing updates

THE Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has updated its website effective today with details around price reductions and items exempted from price reduction, as well as other details relating to the 2016 April Cycle of Price Disclosure.

Other updates include Therapeutic Relativity Sheets, ex-manufacturer pricing, formulary allocations and recent changes to the National Diabetes Services Scheme.

There is also a message from the Chair on the review of pharmacy remuneration and regulation.

Go to www.pbs.gov.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

RESEARCHERS have some bad news for Chewbacca.

A study in Japan of the effects of space travel on the activity of genes in the hair follicles of astronauts has found hair growth can halt in space.

Luckily for Chewbacca, only some astronauts were affected.

The team concluded genes related to hair growth were suppressed by being in space in certain astronauts

MEANWHILE, in the Chinese city of Guangzhou, narcotics officials have recruited "dancing grannies" in their fight against drugs.

The so-called "damas" - known for showing off their routines to music in public spaces - are groups of mainly middle age and retired women.

More than 100 damas have been recruited and have been busy going door-to-door handing out flyers, and have also taken part in a special gala aimed at educating people about the dangers of drugs.

The women are chosen for the job as they're more familiar with their local area than the police teams and can quickly identify unusual visitors in the neighbourhood and alert police.

IN GUAYAMA, on the Caribbean coast of Puerto Rico, a patient stole an ambulance on the way to the hospital for psychiatric care and crashed into 15 cars.

The patient, Jaime Rodriguez Figueroa, was arrested after he hit two paramedics and took over the ambulance while accompanied by his mother and aunt.

Police said Rodriguez caused a huge traffic jam on one of the island's main highways after crashing into multiple cars.

No one was injured from the incident, which occurred late Sun.

Win a Flo travel kit

This week Pharmacy Daily and Flo are giving away a travel kit.

Most travellers know how much better they feel when they stay hydrated, but did you know your nose needs hydration too?

That's where NEW Flo Travel can jet set you on a healthier and happier journey. Flo Travel is a moisturising nasal spray that includes Carrageenan (red seaweed extract) and isotonic saline solution to help hydrate the nasal tissues (for up to 4 hours) and wash away germs. Flo Travel is handy for travellers, office workers and people on the go. Watch the FLO Travel Digital ad to find out more: <http://bit.ly/1T1GR0>

To win, be the first from VIC or TAS to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



How long does Flo Travel hydrate the nose for?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Amy Hunt from HPS.