



WE'RE MOVING

Pharmacy DAILY

part of the Business Publishing Group,
is relocating, please update your records.

From 04 Apr our new
office will be located at

Suite 1, Level 2,
64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park, NSW 2113
Ph: 1300 799 220

Our postal address
remains the same at

PO Box 1010
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Training Circuit April 2016

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SIGN UP NOW

NAPSA Charity Cup

NATIONAL Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) has announced the commencement of its Charity Cup 2016 campaign this year working to support those battling with cystic fibrosis.

All eighteen NAPSA branches and their members are planning to raise awareness and much needed funds for this year's chosen charity, Cystic Fibrosis Australia.

"Cystic Fibrosis Australia holds a place dear to each NAPSA members heart, as one of our own members, Morgan Gollan, who just graduated pharmacy, is amazing, battling Cystic Fibrosis everyday," said NAPSA Pharmacy Awareness Chair Sandra Minas.

NAPSA is calling upon pharmacy friends, industry contacts and suppliers to contribute to Charity Cup 2016.

CLICK HERE for more information.

Prescribing on Board radar

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has confirmed it will continue to monitor developments in pharmacy practice such as proposals for prescribing by pharmacists and administration of vaccines.

In the Board annual report issued this month, other priorities detailed include the revision of the expiry of compounded parenteral medicines section in the *Guidelines on compounding of medicines* which is expected to be finalised and published in 2015/16.

The Board will also contribute to the review of the *National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia* and fund the dissemination of printed copies to all registered pharmacists.

In addition, the report details major outcomes for 2014/15 such as the revision of registration

standards, engagement on the administration of vaccines, and wide-ranging consultation on dispensing, practice-specific issues, specialised supply arrangements and proprietor responsibilities.

The Board also funded the development of an examiner training program which has been undertaken by approved oral examiners for general registration.

CLICK HERE for the full report.

Leukaemia listing

SYDNEY-BASED pharmaceutical company Phebra has announced the PBS listing of its Phenasen (arsenic trioxide) injection for the first line treatment of newly diagnosed acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APL).

The rare disease has an incidence rate of 2-3 patients per every 1 million people, with Phebra ceo Mal Eutick saying the expanded listing now provides for treatment of newly diagnosed sufferers as well as those with relapsed/refractory disease.

Eutick said Phenasen had been developed by Phebra in collaboration with several top Australian haematologists, with the product manufactured in the company's Lane Cove West facility.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news, plus a cover page for **Pharmacy Daily's** relocation.

Qld Intern of the Year

LIAM Mendiolea has been named the PSA MIMS QLD Intern of the Year Award winner, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia said yesterday.

The award acknowledges achievements of exceptional pharmacist interns in developing skills for their professional career.

Mendiolea was applauded by the PSA Queensland Branch for outstanding pharmacy service as an intern as well as peer and professional engagement through his work with the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association.

We have moved!

PHARMACY Daily relocated last weekend to the Sydney suburb of Macquarie Park, into new larger offices to accommodate our expanding team.

The new address is Suite 2.1, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park 2113.

Postal, phone, fax and email contact details remain unchanged - see the **cover page** for details.

Chemmart fires up for relief

CHEMMART members have collectively raised \$12,000 to support the Western Australian communities which were devastated by bushfires in Jan, including Waroona and Yarloop where two died and hundreds of homes and businesses were destroyed.

Waroona Chemmart Pharmacy owner Judith Mather inspired pharmacies across the state to collect gold coin donations and make personal contributions, and is pictured with Chemmart regional operations manager Sharon Sinclair presenting Grant



Hewett from the Waroona Lions Club with the gigantic novelty cheque last month.

HOW ARE YOUR CREDITS CLOCKING UP?



The CPD year is half-way through.
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Pharmacor



Vigorexx safety alert

THE Therapeutic Goods

Administration has issued a safety advisory on Vigorexx tablets and Super Bull 6000 Herbal capsules, saying both products may have been bought online by Australians and pose a serious risk to health.

Super Bull 6000 capsules contain sildenafil while Vigorexx tablets are made using an analogue of sildenafil, a prescription-only substance in Australia.

Guild Update

Hep C medicines on the PBS

THE Guild welcomes and supports the recent listing of hepatitis C medicines on the PBS and the recognition of the role community pharmacists can play in assisting people with the condition.

However, the very high cost of these medicines is causing serious cash flow issues for our members. A few member pharmacies that are dispensing these medicines have raised concerns about these cash flow issues and there is a possibility some may be unable to manage sufficient credit to meet the demand.

To this end, the Guild is taking the lead in working with Government, consumer groups, prescribers, wholesalers and manufacturers to urgently discuss and resolve issues that have been raised by our members.

A workshop is being convened in Canberra this week with Government officials and key stakeholders to try to develop solutions to some of these issues so that these vital medicines can be readily dispensed to assist patients.

Pharma targeting nurses

HOSPITAL-BASED nursing staff are being targeted by drugmakers to influence hospital purchasing decisions, according to new research released by the University of Sydney's Faculty of Pharmacy and Charles Perkins Centre.

The study of 56 nurses working in four US-based acute care hospitals over a two year period between 2012 and 2014 saw participants report an average of 13 interactions with industry representatives.

The faculty's Dr Quinn Grundy said while medical devices were a key focus of the meetings, more than half of the interactions were with pharmaceutical reps while 21% related to health technology.

"Most study participants - 64 per cent - cited examples where nurses had influenced treatment and purchasing decisions," Grundy said.

"The scope of practice of nurses

in Australia is similar to nurses in the United States...they have similar decision-making and influential roles within healthcare so they are desirable marketing targets."

Most of the respondents acknowledged benefits in working with industry representatives, with more than a quarter noting it would not be possible to do their jobs without industry resources.

"For example, nurse educators coordinated in-service education with sales representatives on every newly purchased product, nurse managers relied heavily on sales representatives when selecting products for purchases, and staff nurses worked alongside sales representatives on a daily basis during surgery," Grundy said.

However 70% of nurses reported challenges with these relationships, such as struggling to ensure sales reps adhered to hospital policy, biased information sources, the introduction of unapproved devices, lack of accountability for product failure, and threats to patient safety and privacy.

Medicines Australia figures from the first half of 2009 indicated that nurses were present at about a quarter of the 14,649 pharmaceutical sponsored educational events in that period.

Pat Clear winner

THE 2016 Pat Clear Award, has been won by Zarli French, senior manager external affairs at MSD where she has worked for 30 years.

The prestigious award is presented annually to recognise outstanding contributions by those who work in the Australian medicines industry.

WIN WITH PLUNKETTS

This week Pharmacy Daily and Plunketts are giving away a John Plunkett Dark Spot Eraser and Facial Cleanser everyday.

New John Plunkett Dark Spot Eraser is a concentrated serum with Eventone Complex™ - a blend of multiple actives to visibly lighten pigmentation and boost your skin's health and radiance, plus it's easy to incorporate into your daily skincare routine with guaranteed results. RRP \$39.95. Visit: www.JohnPlunkett.com.au

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

Is Dark Spot Eraser hard to incorporate into your daily skincare routine?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kia Tay from Meda Pharmaceuticals.



DISPENSARY CORNER



EVER wondered what poop with teeth and bones in it would look like? Well you can

now find out by visiting Britain's National Poo Museum at the Isle of Wight Zoo.

The funky display features actual faeces ranging from human baby to lion, meerkat and fox; with each dried sample carefully encapsulated in a resin sphere which can be illuminated by the touch of a button.

Visitors to this not-so smelly display can also look forward to seeing fossilised specimens plus learning "fun facts" about faeces and retro toilets along the way.

SCIENTISTS at North Carolina State University have genetically modified the humble maggot, making them secrete a human growth hormone while they eat.

Created utilising green bottle fly larvae, the new discovery could help human wounds to heal better and be used as a low-cost treatment in countries where incomes are low.

Maggots have been used for centuries for healing, as they are known to clean a wound by eating the dead flesh surrounding it, leaving healthy flesh intact.

Professor of entomology, Max Scott, commented "a vast majority of people with diabetes live in low or middle-income countries, with less access to expensive treatment options."

"We see this as a proof-of-principle study for the further development of engineered strains that express a variety of growth factors and anti-microbial peptide," he added.

