# Pharmacy Friday 12 Aug 2016

Did you know that goat's milk contains prebiotic oligos which are structurally closer to breast milk\*

Please contact Pharmabroker 02 8878 9777 \* When compared to cow's milk. Source: Urashima and Taufik, 2010.

FIND OUT MORE ③

#### Wyatt at ADEA ASM

**ASSISTANT** Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ken Wyatt, will attend the Australian Diabetes Society/Australia Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA) Annual Scientific Meeting later this month.

Key issues on the agenda include caring for older people with diabetes, the implementation of the Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016-20, as well as the government's cornerstone Health Care Homes initiative.

ASM2016 will also celebrate 35 years of achievement for the ADEA. In Mar 2016 more than 750,000 Australians with diabetes were aged 60 years or older, or 63% of

the total patients on the NDSS. The ASM takes place at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre 24-26 Aug - more details at www.ads-adea.org.au.

# **Analytics tender**

THE Department of Health has called for tenders to provide analytical support to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

The service required is evaluation of submissions which will involve analysis and review of complex clinical and economic data in line with the PBAC Guidelines.

These evaluations will be used by the PBAC to inform their decision making and provide sound, evidence based recommendations to the Minister for Health as to which products should be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

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# Chemo claiming changes

**THE** Health Deaprtment has confirmed changes to the Chemotherapy Compounding Payment Scheme (CCPS), with approved pharmacists, approved medical practitioners and approved hospital authorities having to provide additional information when claiming eligible Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy (EFC) items through the PBS.

The new arrangements become effective from 01 Sep, with new data fields to be added to the PBS online system for EFC claims including a 'Compounder ID' and an 'Infusion ID'.

Chemotherapy compounders will be required to apply to the CCPS Administration Agency to obtain a compounder ID for each site within their organisation, and this must be supplied in respect of each eligible PBS EFC item provided.

The department said the purpose of the changes is to support a streamlined payment system for the two-tiered fee structure applicable to the scheme.

"The additional data fields will also enable a better understanding of the scope of chemotherapy compounding in Australia,

### Influenza rates up

THE World Health Organization has advised of increased influenza activity in Australia in recent weeks, with most infections relating to the Influenza A (NH32) strain.

Despite the slight rise, overall across the Oceania region influenza activity remains low, WHO said.



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#### Jobs of the Week

- Senior DT Beachside Northern Rivers NSW (Job# 200013164) Mature attitude aged care exp proactive hands on join small team.
- Pharmacist Central Highlands, VIC (Job# 200013096) Well paying role for a 2nd Pharmacist in a regional centre with lifestyleservices
- Pharmacist Manager- Brisbane, QLD (Job# 200013201) Join pro-active pharmacy group to manage established team. Good \$\$

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and provide transparency of compounding activity funded through the PBS," according to the PBS website.

The 01 Sep changes are part of the PBS Access and Sustainability Package negotiated under the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement, with a revised payment structure in recognition of additional costs incurred by compounders in achieving TGA manufacturer licensing for a compounding site. **Eligible PBS EFC items** 

compounded at TGA-licensed sites attract a \$60 fee, while other sites attract a \$40 fee.

The additional Infusion ID data field information is a "unique, serialised identification number that identiifies a specific preparation of chemotherapy medicines for infusion" and is generated automatically within PBS dispensing software at the point of creation of a claim.

Compounder IDs can be applied for using a form now available at www.pbs.gov.au.

### PBS data dump

THE Department of Health has released about one billion deidentified historical health data items, relating to about three million Australians.

The info includes details on services provided by a range of health professionals plus details of subsidised scripts, with researchers now available to access the data which relates to a random 10% sample of Australians - data.gov.au.

# NOAC usage foreseen

**NOVEL** oral anticoagulants (NOACs) for prevention of stroke or systemic embolism in nonvalvular atrial fibrillation has matched projections in the second year of listing, although the first year overestimated its demand, according to the latest Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee (DUSC) of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

Metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer therapies, fixed dose combination treatments for glaucoma and biological disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (bDMARDs) for ankylosing spondylitis were also reviewed as well as treatments to be evaluated against predicted use in future DUSC meetings.

Go to www.pbs.gov.au for details.

### New side effect alerts

**HEPATITIS-B** virus reactivation has occurred in patients who are chronic carriers of the virus after they received Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase inhibitors, used to treat their chronic myeloid leukaemia, the Therapeutic Goods Administration has warned in its latest Medicines Safety Update.

Other alerts relate to the use of bone density enhancer denosumab (Xgeva or Prolia) use associated with QT prolongation as well as psychiatric adverse events that have occured in patients treated with cystic acne treatment isotretinoin, marketed in Australia as Roaccutane and multiple generics.

Visit www.tga.gov.au for details.



# Pharmacy



# Do you have the **Pharmacy Daily app?**

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Friday 12 Aug 2016

**Events** 

Calendar

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# New online interactions tool

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.

18-19 Aug: Pharmacy WA Forum; Crown Perth; for details CLICK HERE.

- 27-28 Aug: 2016 Pharmeducation Clinical Update Seminar; Crowne Plaza Coogee, Sydney; details at: www.pharmeducation.com.au
- 27-28 Aug: Cardiology Seminar; Rydges Sydney Central; see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 6 Sep: Ethical Nutrients Natural Medicine for Today's Pharmacist 2016; Brisbane; for more info call: 1800 777 648
- 7 Sep: Ethical Nutrients Natural Medicine for Today's Pharmacist 2016; Sydney; for more info call: 1800 777 648

9-11 Sep: Pharmacy Connect; Four Points by Sheraton Darling Harbour Sydney; see: pharmacy-connect.com.au

- 9-10 Sep: The Friendlies Conference 2016; Old Woolstore Hotel, Hobart; visit: pharmacyconference.com.au
- 12 Sep: Ethical Nutrients Natural Medicine for Today's Pharmacist 2016; Melbourne; for more info call: 1800 777 648
- 14 Sep: Ethical Nutrients Natural Medicine for Today's Pharmacist 2016; Launceston; for more info call: 1800 777 648
- 15 Sep: CMA Annual Conference; Doltone House Sydney; more info at: www.cmaustralia.org.au
- 21-25 Sep: The Pharmacy Alliance 2016 Members' Forum; Queenstown, New Zealand; visit: pharmacyalliance.com.au

**BLACKMORES** Institute has announced the launch of a new online tool for quickly and simply checking interactions between complementary medicines. Set for a formal debut at this

weekend's 2016 Blackmores Institute Symposium in Sydney, the free, evidence-based tool is peer reviewed by medical and pharmacy experts and allows users to explore interactions by simply clicking on an ingredient or using a search tool.

"Pharmacists have cited the need for practice-ready tools to support their counselling of patients in the quality use of complementary medicines, and this tool has been developed in direct response to these requests," said Blackmores Institute director Dr Lesley Braun.

"We believe that education is fundamental in helping pharmacists, doctors and other health professionals translate evidence into practice, to safely integrate natural medicine into patient care," she said.

The tool guides users on the severity and likelihood of interactions, as well as providing the level of available evidence in order to assist in the assessment of risk and to support appropriate

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recommendations.

The Blackmores Institute Symposium kicks off at 9am tomorrow at Sydney's Sheraton on the Park, with presentations including a keynote address on interactions from Associate Professor Forrest Batz from the **Department of Pharmacy Practice** at the University of Hawaii.

The Complementary Medicines Interactions Guide is available to healthcare professionals who register online for the service at www.blackmoresinstitute.org.

# New VPA member

**CASUARINA** Fersterer has been appointed as a new pharmacists member of the Victorian Pharmacy Authority, following the retirement of Karen Samuel at the end of Jun.

Samuel's longstanding dedication and service was recognised at the VPA's most recent meeting, having been a member of the VPA since its inception in Aug 2010 and prior to that as a member of the former Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

Fersterer currently works at NPS MedicineWise, with her career also including roles at the AHPRA and in hospital and community pharmacy.



**CHEESE** is an integral ingredient in the Italian way of life.

When vegans mess with their children's rights to said cheese, drama will ensue.

The BBC is reporting a controversial bill is set to go before the Italian parliament that could see vegan parents face a jail term if they enforce their dairy free diet on their children.

The move is reportedly in response to a number of cases in the country where malnourished children have had to go into special care after being on the dairy and meat free eating regime.

Offenders would face up to a year in jail, jumping to up to four years if the child suffers illness or permanent injury, and six years in the case of death.



HOW does one avoid being identified by the police? One Israeli biker with a long history of traffic violations had the bright idea of cutting off his fingertips.

When pulled over again last week, he thought he was going incognito, however police were able to tell he was driving on a license that had been suspended for his earlier involvement in a hit and run incident.

Times of Israel said the man's latest offence was driving a motorised scooter above the legal speed limit through a red light.

Upon noticing his sliced fingers he admitted to police the 'logic' behind the move. Nice try.

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Publisher: Bruce Piper info@pharmacydaily.com.au Reporter: Mal Smith Contributors: Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai Advertising and Marketing: Magda Herdzik, Sean Harrigan, Melanie Tchakmadjian advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

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Pharmacy

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Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Elise Mahony from Flinders Medical Centre.

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