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MIMS Dec update

MIMS has issued its Dec medication update, highlighting important new products such as Elocate, Empliciti, ephedrine hydrochloride and Taitz.

There's a new contraindication for Soliris and a new indication for Humira plus a range of deleted products including Chemmart Famotidine, Ciprofloxacin Sandoz IV, Estraderm and GenRx Salbutamol Inhalation Ampoule. See www.mims.com.au.

PBS website update

THE Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits was updated yesterday and the Summary of Changes can be found online.

Additions include Humira (adalimumab) in different forms, Repatha (evolocumab), Lenvima (lenvatinib - PD yesterday), Actemra (tocilizumab), Jetroa (ocriplasmin) and the combination drug Bi Eligard CP (leuprorelin and bicalutimide).

As usual a large number of additional brands have been added, along with equivalence indicators.

Items exempt from Statutory Price Reductions are listed along with a utilisation and cost model workbook to accompany the PBAC Guidelines - pbs.gov.au for details.

CW "partners" with FWO

CHEMIST Warehouse has entered into a compliance partnership with the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) in relation to the reimbursement of almost 6,000 workers for compulsory online training undertaken by staff outside of normal working hours (PD 09 Nov).

According to a FWO statement issued yesterday, the pharmacy group has signed a "Proactive Compliance Deed" on behalf of its franchise network of 350 outlets, which employ more than 9,000 people across the country.

The three-year deed follows an audit of Chemist Warehouse stores.

"While CW Retail Services Pty Ltd issued instructions to individual business owners saying that workers should be paid for compulsory training and it should be conducted during working hours, it acknowledged there was potential for non-payment of training time to have erroneously occurred within businesses across the network," the statement said.

Fair Work Ombudsman Natalie James noted the "preparedness of Chemist Warehouse to facilitate the swift rectification of the underpayments.

"As part of its Deed with the

Fair Work Ombudsman, Chemist Warehouse will establish systems and processes to ensure compliance, particularly relating to compulsory training and how it is conducted and recorded by all franchises," the FWO added.

Following the review, 294 stores operating under the Chemist Warehouse brand initiated back payment to 5,976 staff.

Chemist Warehouse will implement workplace training for managers and staff, nominate a dedicated person to deal with requests for assistance, and establish a dedicated phone hotline to allow staff to make enquiries or report potential non-compliance.

James said commitments by such large and established brands as Chemist Warehouse helped the Fair Work Ombudsman in its work to build a culture of compliance.

Damien Gance, director of CW Retail Pty Ltd, welcomed the opportunity to enter into the partnership with the FWO.

"Chemist Warehouse as a group knows how important our people are to our success, and we are committed to ensuring our people are paid properly for the great work they do," he said.

GP sanctioned for overprescribing

THE NSW Health Care Complaints Commission has prosecuted medical practitioner Dr Mengyi Chen before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal, alleging professional misconduct in relation to inappropriate prescribing of Schedule 8 and Schedule 4D drugs.

In a decision earlier this week the Tribunal found all the particulars proved and ordered that Dr Chen's registration be cancelled for at least 18 months.

Zika spreads sexually

UK HEALTH authorities have said they have found their first likely case of sexual transmission of the Zika virus, according to BBC News.

The woman made a full recovery, but it is thought she may have been infected by her partner who had recently visited a Zika-hit country.

Most transmission of the Zika virus is via mosquitoes, but cases of sexual spread have been reported in other countries and experts said the UK case was "not unexpected".



Private Sale of the Lilydale Pharmacy in Tasmania

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacy Manager** - Gold Coast, QLD (Job# 200013593)
Hospital Pharmacy Manager to oversee operations within vibrant setting.
- **Pharmacist Aged Care** - Nth Rivers NSW (Job# 200013209)
1hr from Gold Coast, Surf or sunset beach walks everyday if u want.
- **Aged Care Pharmacist** - Melbourne's NE, VIC (Job# 200013496)
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CHINA – BRICK & MORTAR STORES

Interested in taking your first steps into a Chinese retail store before this Christmas? Contact Geoff Lovell at Pharmabroker on 02 8878 9777



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Dispensary Corner

HERE'S one way vegans could find themselves excluded from the economy - bank notes that contain animal fats.

According to *Scottish Financial News* the Royal Bank of Scotland, Bank of Scotland and the Clydesdale Bank were asked to make statements about the contents of their notes after vegans throughout Britain went irate after hearing the Bank of England's new five pound note contained animal fats.

An online petition against the note has now been created which states: "The new £5 notes contain animal fat in the form of tallow. This is unacceptable to millions of vegans & vegetarians in the UK. We demand that you cease to use animal products in the production of currency that we have to use."



WHAT do three cups of coffee a day do for you - aside from give you heart palpitations? Well a new study is claiming it can reduce the risk of dementia.

We're sure the fact that the study was funded by six major coffee suppliers has nothing at all to do with the findings.

It also referenced research published in 2016 that found moderate coffee consumption could reduce the risk of developing Alzheimer's by up to 27%. Time for a coffee break?

PSANZ research funds

THE Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand has announced a range of education and research grants from the NZ Pharmacy Education & Research Foundation.

Some were for two years of funding for research projects: Charon Lessing is investigating "HIV Pharmaceutical Care in New Zealand"; Dr Caroline Morris, Mary Wong and Eileen McKinlay are pursuing "Community pharmacists' perceptions of their role in primary mental health care"; Clare Hynd, Dr Michael Butchard and Dr Janine Stevens are studying "The effectiveness of community pharmacists providing stop smoking support services for smokers in the MidCentral district"; while Assoc Prof Bruce Russell, Prof Paul Glue and Prof Neil McNaughton will investigate "The clinical translation of a biomarker for anxiety."

Six summer studentships of \$5,000 each were awarded to researchers at Auckland and Otago Universities, while three interns were also awarded \$500 to write an article about their experiences in hospital and community pharmacy.

Pfizer relaunching Corex brand in India

PFIZER has confirmed it will extend its Corex brand range in India to encompass a new range of respiratory products, following the withdrawal of its popular Corex cough syrup earlier this year.

Corex, a combination of codeine and chlorpheniramine maleate, was one of 344 fixed dose products banned by regulators in India in Mar, with officials saying they had "no therapeutic justification".

Pfizer said it stood by the safety and efficacy of the Corex cough syrup formulation, but said it would discontinue it and instead launch a "series of products as line extensions under the Corex brand name" starting this month.

The announcement came as the Delhi High Court yesterday set aside the earlier decision banning the fixed dose combination medicines, impacting about 6,000 brands.

The ruling led to legal challenges from scores of manufacturers including Procter & Gamble, Sanofi, Dr Reddy's and Abbott who argued their products had been on the market for decades.

Spencer at APP2017

AUSTRALIAN comedian, media personality, mathematics genius and accomplished writer, Adam Spencer will be entertaining and educating in his session titled *The numbers 1 to 100* at APP2017.

Spencer is a spokesperson for Redkite, Kids for Life and UNICEF, is an ambassador for The Fred Hollows Foundation and more.

The conference will be held from 09-12 Mar at the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Visit appconference.com.

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.

2-5 Dec: Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA) Scientific Meeting; The University of Sydney; more info at: expertevents.eventsair.com

3-10 Jan: Dental & Medical Ski Conference; Canyons/Park City, USA; more info and register at: www.cpdconferencing.com.au

17 Feb: Foundation Seminar in Clinical Medication Management; Melbourne, VIC; registrations opening soon: www.shpa.org.au

9-12 Mar: APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: www.appconference.com

31 Mar: Foundation Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy Practice; Sydney, NSW; registrations opening soon: visit www.shpa.org.au.

Win with australis

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and australis are giving readers each day the chance to win both shades of Australis Match maker Shade Adjusting Drops.

Transform a 'Nearly Right' foundation into 'Mr Right' to create your perfect foundation match with new Australis Match Maker Shade Adjusting Drops. They're your secret weapon to flawless coverage. Perfect your foundation colour and match your skin tone with these lightening and darkening foundation drops. The drops can be used with your normal foundation to create the exact shade, whether lighter in winter or darker in summer.

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

Who are the drops suitable for?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Lauren Bradshaw.



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