

More competition call

SOME but not all human services in Australia could benefit from greater competition, contestability and informed user choice, according to a Productivity Commission Report released on Monday this week.

In the health arena, public hospitals, end-of-life care services and public dental services were identified as potentially improving in a more competitive environment.



Such a setting would give informed consumers the power to choose, placing them at the centre of the equation, creating innovation and responsiveness to the needs of consumers, the report said.

The Consumers Health Forum (CHF) said it welcomed the idea but said very often there was little real choice available, especially away from the big cities.

Visit www.pc.gov.au for access to the report.

Iron deficiency Rx

NPS MedicineWise via its official organ *Australian Prescriber* has reinforced that for most people oral iron therapy is still the first choice to correct any level of anaemia.

However iron's efficacy can be limited by poor patient compliance. **CLICK HERE** to read the article.

Cannabis trial recruiting

RESEARCHERS in NSW are now recruiting patients for a "world first" medicinal cannabis trial, for the prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting.

The trial, announced earlier this year by premier Mike Baird (**PD** 29 Feb) would initially involve 80 patients and could expand to 250 more in a second stage, with the study led by Associate Professor Peter Grimison from Chris O'Brien Lifehouse.

NSW Minister for Medical Research, Pru Goward, said it was the largest and most definitive trial

ever conducted of a plant-derived cannabis medicine to prevent the chemotherapy symptoms.

The trial will utilise a "pharmaceutical-grade capsule" containing equal amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD), developed and supplied by Canadian firm Tilray.

Grimison said there was very limited high-quality research available on the role of cannabis-derived medicines in treating nausea and vomiting from chemotherapy.

"We have come a long way with conventional anti-nausea medication, but one third of patients continue to suffer during and after chemotherapy," he said.

Trial tender update

THE Health Department has issued an addendum to the tender documents for the Tranche 2 funding round of the Pharmacy Trial Program (**PD** 26 Oct).

The addendum clarifies that "infrastructure" is not eligible for funding under the program, with applications having to differentiate between activities associated with the trial and those associated with delivery of the proposed service.

See health.gov.au.

AFT PATY partner

AFT Pharmaceuticals has been announced as the partner of the 2017 Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award, under the company's Maxigesic brand.

Nominations will open on Thu 09 Mar during APP2017.

New drugs in 2016

NEW chemical entities (NCEs) gaining marketing approval by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in Australia during 2016 have been listed on the TGA website along with Extensions of Indications registrations approved.

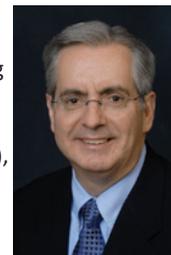
Antizol (fomepizole) from AFT Pharmaceuticals, a treatment for ethylene glycol or methanol poisoning was listed as a new chemical entity in Dec.

Also in Dec, Ferring's Nocurna (desmopressin) was granted an extended listing to now include its use for the treatment of nocturia under certain conditions.

Visit www.tga.gov.au for the full year's listings.

FDA chief resigns

AFTER 25 years of service at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), John Jenkins (**pictured**), director of the Office of New Drugs, will retire from the federal



government on 06 Jan 2017.

Jenkins oversaw a staff of more than 1,000, navigating many high-profile controversies related to new drugs, while at the same time interacting with industry and other stakeholders.

During his tenure, Jenkins was responsible for setting new US standards for new drugs' safety and efficacy, overseeing the clinical testing of investigational drugs and reviewing marketing applications.

Win with SkinB5

This week *Pharmacy Daily* & SkinB5 are giving away each day the Skin Purifying 5 Minute Mask.

SkinB5 is an all-natural acne supplement that works from within to eliminate and stop acne on the face and all over the body. The SkinB5 acne treatment system is based on a potent dosage of vitamin B5, which is proven to increase skin health and reduce acne by regulating the skin's production of sebum, or skin oil. See www.skinb5.com for more.

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



How many products are in the SkinB5 range?

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Dispensary Corner

THE oldest woman in the world has celebrated a milestone, blowing out the candles on her 117th birthday cake this week.

Emma Morano (pictured) lives in the northern Italian mountain town of Verbania, and received an official greeting from Italy's president wishing her "Serenity and good health".

Morano was born in 1899, and in an interview last year attributed her unusual longevity to a diet of three raw eggs a day.

She recently added 150g of raw steak, after a bout of anaemia.



THE increasing proliferation of caesarean deliveries is "affecting human evolution," according to a researcher from the University of Vienna in Austria.

Dr Philipp Mitteroecker from the university's department of theoretical biology collated statistics showing an increase in the number of women who need surgery to deliver a baby due to their narrow pelvis size.

"Women with a very narrow pelvis would not have survived birth 100 years ago...they do now, and pass on their genes encoding for a narrow pelvis to their daughters," he said.

Another factor is higher general levels of health which have led to a trend towards larger newborns, according to the research published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly promoted feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy. Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Aromababy Sunscreen with aloe & vit E



Award-winning natural baby brand Aromababy celebrates 21 years of producing specialist, natural mother and baby products. With a research focus, Aromababy offers a broad range of skincare options. Aromababy products can be found in select hospitals and this Australian made brand has been exported around the world for 15 years. Perfect for the Australian sun, **Aromababy Sunscreen** with aloe and vitamin E is PABA free and water resistant for up to four hours and an ideal first sunscreen for babies and children with sensitive skin. Gift is available for new stockist orders placed until 31 Dec.

Stockist: 03 9464 0888

RRP: \$15.95

Website: www.aromababy.com

DB Vanilla & Coconut Body Set

Designer Brands (DB) **Vanilla & Coconut Bath Set** is just in time for Christmas. It contains Body Wash (100mL), Body Lotion (100mL), Bath Crystals and a beautiful



handcrafted rose-design flower soap. All products are enriched with vanilla and coconut oil for ultimate hydration, with the silkiest smoothest skin finish you could wish. Vanilla and coconut aromas round out the bathing experience and linger for many hours.

Stockist: 1300 765 332

RRP: \$12.99

Website: www.dbcosmetics.com.au

Hamilton Skin Therapy by Key

Key Pharmaceuticals' iconic

Hamilton brand offers a highly recognised and trusted range of skin support products under the Hamilton Skin Therapy heading. **Skin Therapy Bath & Shower Oil** (pictured second from left)



supplements the skin's natural oils by locking in moisture to restore smooth and comfortable skin. It can be used in the bath or after showering and is gentle enough to use on babies.

Stockist: 1800 653 373

RRP: from \$13.95 ea

Website: www.keypharm.com.au

Crabtree & Evelyn Hand Care Gift Box Bestsellers



Crabtree & Evelyn **Hand Care Gift Box - Bestsellers** is an ideal-for-Christmas gift package

that contains six hand therapy products in a range of fragrances. It includes La Source; Gardeners; Rosewater; Pomegranate, Argan & Grapeseed; Citron, Honey & Coriander; and Pear & Pink Magnolia. Presented in six 25g tubes, these hand therapies will delight everyone with a range of scents to keep fresh every day.

Stockist: 1300 660 439

RRP: \$48.00

Website: www.crabtree-evelyn.com.au

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