

**NEW** **Baby's Inner Health Starts During Pregnancy**



IHP3692 - 11/16

## M.Pharm vax grads

**RECENTLY** registered intern pharmacists from the University of Sydney's Master of Pharmacy degree program this week completed the Pharmacy Guild's Pharmacist Administration of Influenza Vaccination course.

They will be the first interns in Australia to commence their intern year accredited to administer influenza vaccinations, a Guild spokesperson said.



Professor Iqbal Ramzan, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy said the ability to administer the influenza vaccine would allow the new graduates "to make a significant contribution to public health in Australia from the start of their career".

## MIMS Guild intern nominations closing

**NOMINATIONS** for the MIMS Guild Intern of the Year will close at 5pm AEDST on 11 Jan 2017.

The winning nominee will receive a \$4,000 travel and education grant sponsored by MIMS - to nominate a deserving intern **CLICK HERE**.

## Guild hails PBS decline

**THE** Pharmacy Guild has seized on figures released by the Department of Health which forecast PBS spending of \$11.2 billion in 2015-16 will decline by \$800 million the following year, to \$10.4 billion.

The numbers were provided in response to a question on notice from Parliamentary Greens leader, Senator Richard Di Natale.

After dropping in 2016-17 the figures are predicted to rise to \$10.6 billion in 2017-18, \$10.9

billion in 2018-19 and \$11.13 billion in 2019-20.

Moreover PBS spending comprised 13% of total Commonwealth health spending in 2015-16, with this proportion expected to drop to just over 11% by 2019-20.

Guild executive director, David Quilty, said the figures confirmed the sustainability of the PBS and ongoing significant budget savings delivered via the PBS reforms.

"PBS expenditure through community pharmacy is the most sustainable part of the health system, with growth rates a fraction of the MBS and public hospitals... this fiscal sustainability is a direct result of the government's ongoing PBS reforms to which community pharmacies and the broader medicines sector have contributed," Quilty concluded.

## Disclosure update

**THE** Health Department yesterday published a summary of the April 2017 cycle of price disclosure reductions, which involve the "second remove originator" changes.

Reductions range from 28.54% for Risperidone through to a hefty 84.74% for Pemetrexed powder for injection, while Rosuvastatin will have a 35.42% reduction applied.

The full list of impacted drugs can be viewed at [pbs.gov.au](http://pbs.gov.au).

## Poliglusam guideline

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration has released details of a new compositional guideline for Poliglusam derived from *Aspergillus niger* permitted for use in listed medicines - [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au).

## MSD spreads the cure

**BRINGING** to market the first once per day single tablet, interferon-free hepatitis C therapy for Australian patients living with genotypes 1 or 4, MSD has announced the PBS funding of Zepatier (elbasvir and grazoprevir) effective 01 Jan 2017.

Coinciding with the PBS announcement is the launch of a new 'Spread the Cure' website for health professionals at [spreadthecure.com.au](http://spreadthecure.com.au), an innovative, interactive online portal designed to raise awareness of HCV and graphically track Australia's progress in the fight against HCV.

## PSS volunteer call

**THE** Pharmacists' Support Service (PSS) is calling for volunteers to be on duty from 8 am to 11 pm each day for at least two weeks per year depending on availability.

PSS will be running training for new volunteers in Sydney on the weekend of 18-19 Feb 2017.

There will be 16 contact hours of training over the weekend; training will run 8.30 am - 5.30 pm each day.

Training will be led by psychologist and trainer Claire Hutton and will focus on listening skills and provision of crisis support over a telephone.

A module on suicide awareness is included and a major proportion of the training involves role plays.

Certain criteria need to be met and the number of participants is capped, so PSS wants to hear from prospective volunteer counsellors before 20 Feb 2017.

Visit [shpa.org.au](http://shpa.org.au) for details.

## NRHA scholarship open for nominees

**NOMINATIONS** are open for the Des Murray Scholarship which is awarded every second year to enable a young person from a more remote area to attend the National Rural Health Conference.

Remembering and honouring the contribution that Des Murray made to the rural and remote health community, the scholarship covers the travel costs and registration.

Nominations close 30 Jan 2017.

**CLICK HERE** for details of the nominees requirements.

## Win with Blistex

This week Pharmacy Daily & Blistex are giving away each day a prize pack containing Blistex lip balms: Ultra Lip Balm, Five-Way Lip Protection, Lip Conditioner, Lip Conditioning Balm, Intensive Repair, Deep Renewal and Happy Lips Melon.

Blistex lip balms are dedicated to delivering superb moisturisation and protection to lips all year round. Blistex effectively moisturises dry lips, protects lips from all weather conditions, and feels amazing on the lips. The addition of SPF sunscreen protection makes Blistex a great choice for your lips over summer. Feel the difference of beautifully healthy lips with Blistex. For more information **CLICK HERE**.

To win, be the first person from VIC or TAS to send the right answer to the question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

What flavour is the new Happy Lips lip balm?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Diane Potuszynski from South Plympton Chemplus.



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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - North West QLD (Job# 200013601)  
Full-time role, excellent salary package.
- **PIC** - Great Ocean Road region, VIC (Job# 200013629)  
Looking for a change of pace or lifestyle? Community needs Pharmacist!
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Canberra area (Job# 200013472)  
Full time role excellent roster within a fun team, immediate start.

Looking for a different direction for your career? We can help!



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## Dispensary Corner

**PARENTS** and anti-drug advocates are up in arms over a pair of toddler-sized leggings for sale on Amazon Fashion which appear to have marijuana leaves printed all over them.

While the website innocently describes the design as “digital printed leaves”, their distinct shape isn’t fooling anyone.

The leafy leggings (pictured) come in sizes as small as 3, causing a surge in moral outrage.



**HYGIENE** has gone out the window with one New Zealand nail artist’s new invention - edible chocolate nails.

Professional nail artist Jessie Mills who runs the popular YouTube channel Nailed It NZ, came up with the idea in her quest to create the most unusual nail art imaginable.

“Heads up this isn’t meant to be serious,” she says at the beginning of the clip.

Mills uses dark, milk and white chocolate icing on alternate nails before studding some of them with edible silver balls and white icing and then drying them in the freezer.

To finish them she then taste tests her creations.

**CLICK HERE** to see the sugar-laden art in action.

## Renewed call for RTM

**REAL** time monitoring (RTM) of drugs of dependence has been the subject of many talkfests, but very little action, according to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

In a statement responding to “the courageous decision by former NRL star Matt Cooper to go public about his battle with prescription painkillers,” this week, Guild executive director David Quilty said an RTM system was “a vital clinical tool which would enable doctors and pharmacists to identify and support patients with prescription drug addiction issues”.

He said the system was first promised in 2010 based on a Tasmanian prototype.

“Coroner’s report after coroner’s report in states and territories around the country have called for a national real-time monitoring

system,” Quilty said.

“Six-and-a-half years later and it still has not been rolled out in any other state or territory..this failure must be rectified as a matter of priority with all governments held publicly accountable for implementing the system to agreed, publicly available timeframes.”

Quilty went on to say doctors and pharmacists should not be expected to continue working at the front line tackling the prescription drug dependence issue with one hand held behind their backs.

“While a national real time monitoring system is not a panacea, it is a vital tool and needs to be accompanied by increased investment in pain management and rehabilitation support programs,” he said.

## FDA ticks Eucrisa

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Eucrisa (crisaborole) ointment to treat mild to moderate eczema (atopic dermatitis) in patients two years of age and older.

The PDE-4 inhibitor is not yet approved for marketing in Australia.

## 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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

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

**17 Feb:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Medication Management; Melbourne, VIC; for details and to register see: [www.shpa.org.au](http://www.shpa.org.au)

**3-5 Mar:** Annual Therapeutic Update 2017; Crowne Plaza Terrigal; register here: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**8 Mar:** AACP Accredited Pharmacists’ Forum: Quality Use of Medicines in the Management of Chronic Medical Conditions; Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre; more info at: [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)

**9-12 Mar:** APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)

**31 Mar:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy Practice; Sydney, NSW; registrations opening soon: [www.shpa.org.au](http://www.shpa.org.au)

## Good Price Pharmacy 15 years



**GOOD** Price Pharmacy Warehouse has celebrated its 15th anniversary with a move to a new National Support Office.

The company, founded in 2001 with one store and one full-time employee has expanded to over 50 stores, six states, 800 employees and in excess of \$300 million in annual turnover.

Growth plans for the company will be through a “focus on franchise development to create a truly national presence,” md and

founder Anthony Yap said.

“The company is constantly on the move as the relocation to their new Mansfield office allows for further expansion in the future.

“The move will help drive the growth of the company with increased resources for our highly skilled and experienced support office team.”

“Our vision for the brand is to be one of Australia’s most recognised and respected pharmacy brands” Yap said.

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**Postal address:** PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia  
**Street address:** Level 2, Suite 1 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
**P:** 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)  
**Part of the Business Publishing Group.**

**Publisher/Editor in chief:** Bruce Piper **Editorial:** [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)  
**Managing Editor:** Jon Murrie  
**Reporter:** Mal Smith  
**Contributors:** Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O’Donoghue, Bonnie Tai  
**Advertising and Marketing:** Sean Harrigan and Melanie Tchakmadjian [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)  
**Business Manager:** Jenny Piper [accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)



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