

Australia's only
online pharmacy
degree. Apply now.

U
n
e
University of
New England

Pharmaceutical app

A **SPECIALISED** meeting app for the pharmaceutical industry is being launched today by American Express Meetings and Events.

HCP MOBILE CONNECT was designed to help pharmaceutical companies be transparent when hosting HealthCare Providers at their events.

The app, powered by DoubleDutch allows those hosting meetings to confirm and log the attendance of the HCP attendees and can also be customised to provide local languages and relevant legal messages.

Senior vp and gm of Amex Meetings and Events Issa Jouaneh said with the healthcare industry hosting "thousands of meetings every year all over the world" the new app would come in handy.

"It provides transparency on attendance records and will deliver value to its users who are required to keep track of this information in order to remain compliant," he said.

The app is available to all AMEX Meetings & Events pharmaceutical customers.

Sex shop marijuana

SEX shop owners are asking for rights to legally sell marijuana.

The Eros Association which represents adult shop owners said "cannabis regulation is not a matter of if but when".

They say regulating the drug would "severely reduce" the black market & taxing legal marijuana could generate \$300m in revenue to fund treatment for addicts.

Panadol Osteo de-listing

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia wants the government to acknowledge that the de-listing Panadol Osteo from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme was a "mistake".

The criteria for de-listing PBS medicines states the product must be available at a price no higher than the PBS concessional co-payment of \$6.10.

During its July meeting the PBAC discussed a list of medicines for possible de-listing armed with the information about the ex-manufacturer prices per pack.

At the time the ex-manufacturer price per pack of Panadol Osteo was in fact less than \$6.10 but the Guild notes the normal monthly prescribed PBS quantity of Panadol Osteo is not one but two packs.

"It is two packs of Panadol Osteo that osteoarthritis patients have had dispensed to them every month in their PBS prescription, until it was de-listed on 01 Jan," the Guild said.

API back in the fold

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries (API) has been welcomed back as a member of the National Pharmaceutical Services Association (NPSA) by president Mark Hooper.

"Their involvement will enable the full-line pharmaceutical wholesalers to work as one to provide robust and constructive feedback into the Pharmacy Review and into Government policy more generally," said Hooper.

"The result of this flawed decision is that the vast majority of Australia's 1.9 million osteoarthritis sufferers are now having to pay significantly more for their essential pain medication.

"For many pensioners who normally reach the PBS safety net, their annual out-of-pocket costs for Panadol Osteo may triple," The Guild continued.

The organisation said it believes an "elementary error" has been made and it is time to rectify it.

The Guild said pharmacists and their patients around Australia will continue to campaign until the mistake is fixed.

MEANWHILE analysts have commented on health minister Sussan Ley's decision to refer GlaxoSmithKline's post 01 Jan price rise in Panadol Osteo to the ACCC.

According to a post on Ley's website she made the referral claiming there had been "no obvious market changes that justify such a substantial increase".

However according to *PharmaDispatch* yesterday, cited on the Guild website, a key change in the market has been the PBS delisting, with the "government removing its immense purchasing power from the Panadol Osteo market".

Corum director appt

IT HEALTH services and e-commerce group Corum has announced the appointment of Gregor Aschoff to the position of executive director, Data and Business Solutions.

Previously a non-executive director for the company, a position he has held since March last year, Aschoff brings "wide experience in software solution development and in system optimisation".

Aschoff's new role is effective from 08 Jan from which time he will focus on software being provided as a solution across all of Corum's businesses.

His remuneration will include a base salary of \$200,000 plus superannuation, but no incentive arrangements or director's fees.

Drug maker price hikes

US DRUGMAKERS have raised prices an average of 10% on branded drugs since late Dec according to equity analysts.

Some of these increases are adding thousands of dollars to already pricey drugs.

Since 01 Jan Pfizer raised list prices an average of 10.6% on more than 60 branded products with prices for eight products going up at least 20%.

Acorda Therapeutics raised the price of its drug Ampyra used to help multiple sclerosis patients improve walking by 11% on 01 Jan to an annual cost of more than \$US23,650 per patient.

Drugmakers say they need to raise prices to fund risky research but the price hikes shed light on the drug companies' pricing power and the lack of regulatory bodies in place to control the prices.

MILANI
INSPIRED BY MILAN. LOOK BY MILANI.

Now
available
to all
Pharmacies
in Australia

CLICK HERE TO
ENQUIRE



Specialists in:

• Pharmacy Insurance • Professional Indemnity Insurance

Tony Carollo - VIC/NSW/TAS

Nick Nicola - VIC

Susan Carollo - WA

FOR AN OBLIGATION FREE QUOTE CLICK HERE
OR PHONE 1300-CAROLLO / 1300-2276556

Orphan list update

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has updated the list of designated orphan drugs. Isavuconazonium sulfate has been added for the treatment of invasive aspergillosis and invasive mucormycosis while teduglutide (Revestive) has been added for treating Short Bowel Syndrome.

Guild Update

APP Videos

The Australian Pharmacy Professional conference (APP) is producing a crowdsourced video about Australia's biggest pharmacy conference event.

Show us your video skills, and you could win an APP2016 registration - We're calling APP fans from all over Australia to share a video of why they're excited at the prospect of attending APP in 2016.

The video can be as simple as one shot of you talking to camera or you can make it as creative as you like... but no longer than 30 seconds. We'd also love to see where you work and iconic elements of your home town in the video.

You could talk about a particular speaker, the trade exhibition or even the Street Party headliners; we want to know what you're excited about.

Our favourite videoS will each win one of these great prizes:

- A full registration for APP2016, including the APP Street Party or
- Two tickets to the APP Street Party or

- A Saturday Day registration and a ticket to the APP Street Party

To win one of these prizes all you have to do is send us a 15-30 second video telling us why you're excited to attend APP2016. Your video will be used as part of a visual collage to be released in February.

Find more information on the APP homepage at www.appconference.com.au.

Shire-Baxalta merger

CREATING a global top-20 pharmaceutical company in therapies for rare diseases, Dublin-based Shire Pharmaceuticals has combined with Baxter spinoff Baxalta Inc. in a deal worth approximately \$32b, the companies have announced.

Although shares in Shire fell more than 8% on news of the arrangement, Shire's chief executive Flemming Ornskov said the combination with Baxalta would create the leading specialist producer of therapies for rare diseases, an area known for its high drug prices, with projected revenues of \$20b by 2020.

Shire also claimed the deal would generate annual operating cost synergies of more than \$500m within three years and be accretive to earnings in 2017.

Wayne T. Hockmeyer, Baxalta's chairman is expected to become deputy chairman, and two additional directors to be included from the Baxalta Board.

Ornskov continued, "This proposed combination allows us to realise our vision of building the leading biotechnology company focused on rare diseases."

The therapeutic areas of business

in the new combined company include haematology, immunology, neuroscience, lysosomal storage diseases, gastrointestinal/endocrine diseases, hereditary angiodema, ophthalmics and oncology.

The transaction is expected to close mid-2016.

Prescribing doctor prosecuted

THE NSW Health Care Complaints Commission has prosecuted Guildford GP Dr Wael Ghannoum in relation to inappropriate prescribing and related conduct.

The tribunal found proven a complaint of professional misconduct based on inappropriate prescribing practices in relation to benzodiazepines for 19 patients and failure to keep adequate medical records.

The respondent had been found guilty of contravening the National Law due to a condition on his registration which required him not to prescribe, possess, supply, administer, handle or dispense any schedule 8 drug, or prescribe restricted substances including Schedule 4D items.

Posties need phmcy

NEW Zealand postal delivery workers have been attacked by a variety of animals a total of 1,150 times in three years according to nzherald.co.nz, and have sought pharmacy advice.

Data released by New Zealand Post shows that between Nov 2012 and Oct 2015, 150 posties were attacked or almost attacked by insects, 24 by birds and two by cats, but as is predictable, dogs dominate the numbers with 974 attacks in the period.

DISPENSARY CORNER

AN INTENSE and brutally honest song released by Australian hip hop artist 360 has ignited calls for stricter regulation on the sale of over the counter codeine products.

The Melbourne rapper whose real name is Matthew Colwell shared the song across social media on the weekend.

The personal lyrics explain how his codeine addiction nearly killed him and led to the last 13 of his shows being cancelled last year.

"I was a zombie, I couldn't feel nothing. I smashed four packets because I just wanted to feel something," he tells listeners.

"Yo, I overdosed for sure, I was at the venue, I was going to perform, I can't remember, see I was told in a report my tour manager found me convulsing on the floor".

360 (pictured) describes how easy it can be to sustain a codeine addiction with the drugs so unregulated.

Watch the video [HERE](#).



Win with Qsilica

This week Pharmacy Daily and Qsilica are giving away a prize pack each day including Remove Cleansing Gel and Rescue Paw Paw Ointment.

Treat your skin to two Award Winners from hair, skin and nail experts Qsilica! Qsilica Remove Makeup & Grime Cleansing Gel is a naturally derived foaming cleanser to gently remove impurities and leave your skin fresh and clean. Qsilica Rescue Paw Paw Ointment helps you say "good-bye dry" with a petrochemical free formula including Shea butter and soothing Calendula with fermented Paw Paw. Visit www.qsilica.com

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

The jojoba oil within QSilica Remove has what effect on the skin?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Amanda Pippia from Leeton Pharmacy.



Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

Sign up free at www.pharmacydaily.com.au.

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

Publisher: Bruce Piper info@pharmacydaily.com.au

Reporter: Mal Smith

Contributors: Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

Advertising and Marketing: Magda Herdrik advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Travel Daily CRUISE WEEKLY travelBulletin business events news Pharmacy DAILY

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.