

Vaccination Recording

Professional Services > Immunisation

Aussie back pain data

BACK pain is the second most widespread health complaint after the common cold, and is the plight of four in ten Australian adults in an average 12 months, the latest findings from Roy Morgan Research have shown.

As of March 2016, just over 7.4 million Australians aged 18 or older reported having had back pain at least once in the previous year.

The research found 40.7% of 30-34 year-olds experience back pain, compared with 42.6% of Aussies aged over 80, so if it hasn't hit by age 30 it may not, said researchers.

Obesity was identified as a contributing factor, the study said.

ASMI expects Lib win

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry says it's excited that health minister Sussan Ley will open the 2016 ASMI Conference in Sydney, taking place on 27 Oct 16.

Clearly hoping she will still be health minister at that stage despite the election cliffhanger, ASMI highlighted Ley's appearance along with presentations by Guild president George Tambassi, Graeme Barty from Austrade and the TGA's Professor John Skerritt.

More info at asmi.eventsair.com.

FIP pharmacy practice SIG

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation has established a new Special Interest Group (SIG) on Pharmacy Practice Research, with the aim of developing new strategies to increase pharmacy contributions to global health.

Launched overnight, the new group's inaugural chair is Professor Charlie Benrimoj, head of the Graduate School of Health at Sydney's University of Technology.

"It is thanks to pharmacy practice research that many pharmacy services are being offered and paid for," Benrimoj said, with the development of new services also increasingly being influenced by practice research.

"The scope of pharmacy practice research has expanded over the past 50 years to encompass the

clinical, behavioural and humanistic implications of the practice of pharmacy, health care systems, medicines use and patient care."

He said the Special Interest Group on Pharmacy Practice Research would facilitate global information exchange between researchers "in order to produce high quality evidence at an international level".

New Poisons Standard released

THE TGA has released the 13th edition of the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).

Cited as the Poisons Standard July 2016, the new version incorporates amendments to correct an inadvertent error in the previous SUSMP which has pentobarbital omitted from Appendix K, and 'phenobarbit' included instead.

SUSMP No. 13 restores the entry to Appendix K, and in so doing updates the name for the substance to pentobarbital to bring the reference into line with the name used internationally.

There are also a number of other minor editorial amendments and typographical corrections.

Malaria vaccine hope

AUSTRALIAN researchers from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne have discovered the malaria parasite cannot penetrate a human red blood cell when key proteins are deleted, stimulating the prospect of the development of much-needed new anti-malarial treatment.

As the parasite develops resistance to current antimalarials, the obvious need for new options is becoming critical, researchers said.

Professor Alan Cowman and his team have discovered that three proteins known as Rh5, Ripr and CyRPA together form a complex that plays a vital role in the ability of the plasmodium falciparum parasite to invade healthy human blood cells, so that a means of removing those proteins could block the parasite.

"These findings hold great promise for understanding the function of these proteins and their development as vaccines," he said.

"Developing new vaccines for malaria is a global research priority."

The research was supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Victorian State Government.

Stress fuels cancer

CHRONIC stress induces signalling from the sympathetic nervous system (SNS) and drives cancer progression, according to multi-centred research across the world and published in Nature Communications - **CLICK HERE**.

The data suggests that limiting the signalling could prevent cancer.



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Guild Update

New guidelines for vaccination consultation rooms

A NEW Guild guide has been created to help pharmacists understand the specific requirements for consultation rooms to administer flu vaccines in community pharmacies.

The resource gives a general overview of the regulations pharmacy owners need to comply with in order to provide a vaccination service to their customers in their pharmacies.

Pharmacists wanting to provide a vaccination service in their pharmacy need to meet specific requirements under the relevant State and Territory regulation or standard. These requirements may be different in each jurisdiction.

Guild Members can see the new document for themselves after logging into myGuild and visiting the [Guidelines for vaccination services in pharmacy](#).

PAs to lead on heartburn

WITH community pharmacy the common first port of call for patients complaining of heartburn, or gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GORD), pharmacy assistants (PAs) have been identified as the key first-line communicators to provide advice on the ailments, according to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

The Guild has announced its collaboration with Pfizer Consumer Healthcare in the development of a new QCPP Refresher Training online course on the subject for pharmacy assistants.

The course has been approved for 30 minutes of QCPP Refresher Training and provides pharmacy assistants with information on the nature of heartburn, common treatments and the key advice that should be provided to patients.

The training reinforces the use of the Ask-Assess-Advise questions and provides guidance to pharmacy assistants on when to refer to the pharmacist.

Sue Bond, head of the Guild Pharmacy Academy, sees the new online course on heartburn as ideal for the ongoing development of pharmacy assistants..

"When a scheduling change

occurs there is an opportunity for pharmacy assistants to update their knowledge and ensure that they are able to provide their patients with the most effective medicines to treat their health condition," Bond said.

The new course, *Pharmacy Health Solutions – Heart burn* is available on the myLearning site [HERE](#).

Artificial pancreas

PATIENTS with type 1 diabetes may soon be free of injections of insulin with the arrival of an effective artificial pancreas, according to a review article from researchers publishing in *Diabetologia*.

Frequent finger pricks will also become a thing of the past with the artificial pancreas wearer's blood glucose being constantly monitored in real time, with automatic adjustments of insulin being released into the system, much like the original organ.

Using a "closed loop" system, the extensively researched and trialled devices are able to immediately adjust the insulin levels to meet individual needs more accurately than ever before, leading authors to predict their availability within around 12 months.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the review.

2000 media-led CVEs

MORE than 200,000 patients may have ceased statin therapy because of media reports of side effects, leading to 2,000 extra cardiovascular events (CVEs) within 10 years, research published in the *British Medical Journal* has alerted.

Study author Liam Smeeth, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said the widespread coverage of health stories can have "important, real world impact" on patient and doctor behaviour.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the abstract.



Dispensary Corner

CALMING canines under stress.

At least one third of pets are adversely affected by the noise of fireworks, causing their nervous system to release excess adrenaline or nor-epinephrine.

The US FDA has recognised this effect and last year approved a new drug for dogs, which inhibits the release of these hormones.

Sileo, a canine oromucosal gel, is now on the market in the USA, just in time for this week's Fourth of July celebrations.

The product is made by Finnish company Orion, which tested Sileo on 144 dogs on New Year's Eve and found it reduced anxiety in 75% of those using the product.

Apparently today, 05 Jul, is the biggest day for animal shelters across America to take in new dogs who have run away during noisy Independence Day celebrations.

A NON-PROFIT club in Auckland, New Zealand is seeking new members, with reports some people are dying to get in.

Claiming to offer a fabulously therapeutic pastime, the Waitakere Coffin Club is a group of ageing craftsmen who spend their time making caskets.

Peter Chainey and Murray Webb (pictured) said as well as their intended use the coffins make ideal coffee tables.

"We are in the dying business," Chainey told the *Dominion Post*.

"Most are at the end of their lives and want to have control over the last thing they will be put in," he added.



WIN WITH CARMEX

This week Pharmacy Daily and Carmex are giving readers the chance to win a Carmex prize pack including a Click Stick, Jar, Tube, Moisture Plus in Sheer and Jasmine Green Tea, valued at \$31.95.

Carmex lip balms are an Australian favourite and are an essential part of any beauty routine. The range features SPF15 plus cooling and soothing properties that lips crave. Visit [FACEBOOK](#) for more information.

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

What is the famous sensation that you feel when using Carmex?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Joanne Campbell from Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital.



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