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Sanofi \$100K grant

SANOFI Pasteur has announced that four \$25,000 Vaxigrants are on offer to the most innovative vaccination ideas to help improve vaccination uptake in Australian communities.

In its fifth year, the Vaxigrants will enable health professionals to make a difference in their community, share innovative immunisation ideas with colleagues and increase broader awareness of the importance of immunisation in protecting against diseases, the company has said.

Immunologist Professor Robert Booy, and Vaxigrants judge, is encouraging Australian healthcare professionals to share their creative ideas to help tackle existing challenges to vaccine uptake.

"Healthcare professionals have the greatest understanding of the issues and challenges to vaccination. These grants aim to help create viable and lasting solutions to current obstacles to vaccination," he said.

NPS AURA insight

NPS MedicineWise has launched the first Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Australia (AURA) report which includes NPS MedicineWise MedicineInsight data from 182 doctors' practices.

The data shows that, where an antibiotic was prescribed, up to 50% of patients who had a cold or upper respiratory tract infection had an antibiotic prescribed when it wasn't actually needed.

CLICK HERE for more information about the AURA report.

7CPA planning 'inclusive'

ONGOING support of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement will be followed by "early and inclusive negotiations towards the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement" should a Labor government be installed after 02 July, Labor leader Bill Shorten has said in a somewhat belated letter to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

During each Federal Election campaign, the Guild invites all political parties to submit letters of support for community pharmacy for distribution to Guild members for their consideration.

First off the blocks was Malcolm Turnbull with his commitment "to supporting hardworking

pharmacies through much needed measures to support small business" (**PD** 07 Jul).

Xenophon and the Greens followed (**PD** 09 Jul) with protestations about pharmacies being an "unfair target for government savings" and a strong focus on positive health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Shorten's letter said it is vital that funding directed to pharmacy trial programs and professional pharmacy services in 6CPA is mobilised as soon as possible to ensure patients get the intended benefit from this funding.

He also promised to improve the Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services (RAAHS) Program to remunerate pharmacies dispensing Section 100 RAAHS medicines.

Further he added that there needs to be a "strong focus on primary health care and preventive health measures" with community pharmacy an "important part of this" and the health system growing "more co-ordinated and co-operative".

Why do you stay?

MURDOCH University in Western Australia is calling all pharmacists to participate in a study being conducted by Masters of Psychology and Exercise Science student, Howard Ng, to determine why pharmacists remain with their employers.

Howard is particularly interested in which work and community factors are most relevant to pharmacists when making the decision to stay with their employers.

The aim of the study is to determine which controllable factors can be adjusted in the workplace to help with staff retention.

The questionnaire takes around 20 minutes to complete.

CLICK HERE to participate.

Duodart availability

EFFECTIVE 01 Jun this year, Duodart (dutasteride/tamsulosin hydrochloride) for the treatment of moderate to severe benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) became available on the PBS so that pharmacists can now counsel potential patients to consult with their GPs, instead of requiring a referral to their urologist.

FDA nods cholera vax

THE U.S. Food and Drug Administration today approved Vaxchora, a live attenuated vaccine, the only approved vaccine for the prevention of cholera in adults 18 to 64 years of age travelling to cholera-affected areas.

Win with DESIGNER BRANDS

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and Designer Brands are giving away a set of cosmetic bags including a train case, beauty case and pencil case each day.

For 2016, Designer Brands Cosmetics Bags come in three new shades – Moroccan Dreams (a modern black and white pattern), Dot to Dot (blue and white dots) and Blush (a metallic, soft pink shade) inspired by Pantone colour of the year, Rose Quartz. Each shade is available in three cosmetics bags sizes for all your travel needs.

Visit www.dbcosmetics.com.au

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

How many bags are there in total?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Anna Michael from Epic Pharmacy Greenslopes.



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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by *Cruise Weekly*.

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Royal Caribbean Mega Mid Year Sale

ROYAL Caribbean International has launched a super offer for travellers to escape the winter chill, with unbeatable savings for new bookings made by 02 July 2016 on all worldwide voyages (excluding China), including sailings onboard the revolutionary *Ovation of the Seas* during her upcoming maiden Australian season.

Save up to 50% off the cruise fare of the second guest, and up to 25% off on the third and fourth guest in the same stateroom.

Fares start from just \$3,199 for the first passenger - see your travel agent or call 1800 754 500.

Taxes and NTs subsidies

MONASH School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Adjunct Associate Professor Ken Harvey has expressed his concerns around taxes being used to "subsidise therapies that lack a good evidence base", in response to yesterday's article 'Labour CM cuts slammed'.

He writes:

As a public health physician I certainly agree that a greater investment in preventative health is cost-effective.

But, as a member of the recent government Natural Therapies [NTs] Review Advisory Committee, I remind Carl Gibson (CMA) that the review was unable to find good evidence supporting the effectiveness of the therapies investigated.

Does CMA really believe that providing a private health insurance rebate for therapies such as homeopathy, iridology and herbalism produces preventative health benefits? And where is the evidence that the majority of the natural products promoted and consumed contribute to a healthier lifestyle?

The fact that people who had visited a natural therapist were more likely to have healthier behaviours is probably due to the underlying demographic of such people (female, educated and affluent) rather than the specific

intervention of a natural therapist.

I have no problems with people who make an informed choice to see a natural therapist or consume complementary medicines.

I just don't want my taxes to subsidise therapies that lack a good evidence base.

PD welcomes letters to the editor on any subject of relevance to pharmacists and pharmacy business - write to info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Drug abuse support

ABOUT one in 200 people in Australia sought treatment for alcohol and other drug use in 2014-15, with just over half of those (54%) reporting more than one drug of concern, according to a report released by the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW).

'Over the last decade, alcohol, cannabis, amphetamines and heroin continued to be the most common principal drugs of concern in Australia,' said AIHW spokesperson Tim Beard.

CLICK HERE to access the full report.

Do you have the
Pharmacy Daily app?



DISPENSARY CORNER

WOULD you be game to dine out in your birthday suit?

Apparently there's a market of people who are, with Japan set to open its first naked restaurant *The Amrita* in Tokyo next month.

The restaurant may be free from clothing, but it is certainly not free from rules.

If you're more than 15 kilograms above the average weight for someone of your height, forget even trying to enter.

"No overweight people," states their website.

Chubby people trying to enter will be sent packing with no refund on the several hundred dollar entrance fee, because "you were warned".

You must be aged between 18 and 60, leave your phone at the door and wear paper underwear provided by the restaurant.

Sounds, ah, delightful.

VIP tickets are also on offer for US\$750 entitling their skinny guests to watch a dance show and eat food served by muscle-bound men wearing g-strings.

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