

Healthcheck

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Ley for SHPA conf

HEALTH minister Sussan Ley has accepted an invitation to attend the Society of Hospital Pharmacists annual conference taking place later this year.

SHPA ceo Kristin Michaels said Ley's attendance at the event was a signal of the government's recognition of the key roles played by SHPA members, "and we hope it is a robust foundation step in building a strong working relationship for the future."

"Our organisation has the potential to make a substantial contribution to government policy, especially regarding optimum use of medicines and taking steps to enhance medication safety in hospitals," Michaels added.

Medicines Management 2016, the 42nd SHPA National Conference, will take place in Perth, WA from 16-19 November.

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AbbVie extends Hep C terms

ABBVIE Australia has today announced a program which will see community pharmacies provided with extended payment terms for its new PBS-listed Hepatitis C therapies.

The new AbbVie Pharmacy Program has been launched in response to the widely reported cash-flow issues impacting pharmacy in connection with the medications, due to the high costs of the drugs.

AbbVie Australia general manager Kirsten O'Doherty said the scheme "is the next step in our ongoing partnership with pharmacy."

"We have listened and responded with a solution that seeks to reduce the financial burden on many pharmacies, while ensuring patients prescribed Viekira Pak or Viekira Pak-RBV receive access to therapy without delay," she said.

The AbbVie Pharmacy Program is administered by Sinapse via its PharmaPrograms platform.

Participating pharmacies, known as AbbVie Network Pharmacies, will receive extended payment terms of up to 120 days, depending on the wholesaler, with the terms passed onto the individual pharmacy.

Initially, due to a requirement to hold stock on shelf as part of the program, a limited number of positions in the program

are immediately on offer for community pharmacies, but AbbVie says it's committed to a broader access scheme as a further phase of the program starts in Jun.

AbbVie Network Pharmacies that agree to hold Viekira Pak and Viekira Pak-RBV stock will be able to dispense the therapies, receive PBS reimbursement and pay the wholesaler while remaining cash-flow positive.

The pharmacies will also have the option of returning the stock to the wholesaler if they are not dispensed within an agreed period.

Guild National President, George Tambassis, hailed AbbVie, Sinapse and their wholesaler partners on the initiative, which will enable pharmacies to maximise patient access to the Hepatitis C drugs as well as provide counselling to support QUM outcomes.

Prescribers and hepatitis nurses will be able to find the most convenient AbbVie Network Pharmacy via an online locator, which will also allow prescribers, nurses and pharmacists to register patients in the AbbVie Pharmacy Program and provide the ability for patients to nominate a specific pharmacy for initial and repeat dispensing.

Pharmacies interested in registering for the program can call 1300 892 566 for more info.

Budget confirms massive PBS savings

LAST night's Federal Budget revealed the government expects to save more than \$20 billion over the next five years from the PBS reform initiatives.

A special budget edition of the Pharmacy Guild's *Forefront* newsletter also highlights other aspects of the budget, including the cuts to company tax, personal income tax and small business depreciation concessions which will all benefit community pharmacy.

From 01 Jul 2016 businesses turning over less than \$10m will have their company tax reduced to 27.5%, while other concessions will extend the availability of an instant write off for capital purchases of up to \$20,000.

The Guild noted that proposed increases to the PBS co-payments from the 2014 budget are still factored into the calculations even though they haven't been effected because of Senate opposition.

\$45.2m over five years has been allowed for several new and amended PBS listings, while there's \$20m to make TGA processes "more flexible and timely" and fast track new medicines.

The budget also sees \$900,000 provided over four years to streamline processes for approved pharmacies which are required to relocate due to damaged premises.

New Asthma App

ASTHMA Australia is launching a new mobile app to mark World Asthma Day this week.

Asthma App has been built to help healthcare professionals better care for people with asthma, with easy access to information about asthma, asthma medications, device technique videos, asthma action plans, asthma first aid and clinical guidelines.

The Asthma App is being sponsored by the National Home Doctor Service who have just launched a three year partnership with Asthma Australia.

Available for free on any Apple phone or tablet, it is targeted towards health professionals working in clinics, hospitals and pharmacies.

WIN WITH NUTRI-SYNERGY

This week Pharmacy Daily and Nutri-Synergy are giving away a prize pack including NS Dry Skin Moisturiser and NS Extra Dry Skin Moisturiser each day.

Nutri-Synergy is Natural Dermatology for dry, sensitive and problem skin. NS restores and maintains your skin's natural, healthy condition while supporting the skin's natural protective barrier with ingredients rich in natural moisturising factors for more effective moisturising. Win a pack containing NS Dry Skin Moisturiser and NS Extra Dry Skin Moisturiser, both 250ml pumps.



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

Name one of the natural emollients
in NS Extra Dry Skin Moisturiser.

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Venisha Kapadia from Pitcher Pharmacy.

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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

Protect your beauty with the new Face Day Wear Matte!

UV rays are a key cause of the signs of premature ageing, such as fine lines, wrinkles, sun spots and pigmentation. Cancer Council is making it easier to protect your skin and maintain a beautiful, healthy glow with the new **Face Day Wear Matte SPF 50+**. This easy-to-use product is a soft-feeling, matte finish sunscreen that goes on smooth and dry, and works as a base under makeup to ensure your skin is protected from the sun's damaging UV rays.

Stockist: 1300 354 144

RRP: \$14.95

Website: www.cancercouncilshop.org.au



DISPENSARY CORNER

COSMETICS can get confusing right? There's so many new products vying for our attention it's difficult to know what will be any use to us sometimes.

This state of cosmetic confusion left one customer rather 'red faced' recently.

Abi Shenton's skin turned a bright shade of pink for three days after she accidentally mistook a bath bomb for soap - rubbing it all over her body and face.

She tweeted the incident to cosmetic company Lush (pictured below) asking: "Are your products supposed to stain the human skin a florescent shade of pink?"

Shenton said she does not hold the incident against Lush because she misused the product.

And yes, her normal skin colour came back, probably thanks to a good scrubbing with actual soap.



HERE'S one way to try and find your baby daddy - ask Facebook.

A Perth woman has had her recent post searching for her 13-year-old daughter's father go viral and picked up national news outlets including the ABC.

She lists some facts about 'Rodney' the suspected father whom she met snowboarding in Queenstown: He's "probably in his late 40s", had "long scruffy hair" and maybe "blue eyes"?

He also liked surfing and may be between 5'7" to 5'10".

That narrows it down....we wish her all the best anyway.



Say goodbye to germs

Dettol's **No-Touch Hand Wash System** automatically senses the hands and dispenses just the right amount of soap that kills 99.9% of germs. For use in the kitchen or bathroom, the antibacterial hand wash is enriched with moisturising ingredients to care for hands. Available in three premium fragrances: Hydrating Cucumber Splash, Refreshing Grapefruit Essence and Cleansing Green Tea and Ginger.

Stockist: 1800 022 046

RRP: \$19.99 or \$5.99 refill

Website: www.dettol.com.au

TheraPearl 3-in-1 Breast Therapy - from Lansinoh

As natural as breastfeeding is, it can sometimes present challenges. Lansinoh is a trusted brand with a long history in helping mums overcome breastfeeding challenges; the pure Lansinoh HPA Lanolin is the market leader in nipple care creams. **TheraPearl 3-in-1 Breast Therapy** can be used hot or cold, alone or with a breast pump (pictured), to encourage let-down and help relieve the symptoms of engorgement and mastitis. TheraPearl is the perfect new-mum Mothers' Day gift.

Stockist: 1800 653 373

RRP: \$29.95

Website: www.keypharm.com.au



New for Mothers' Day - ulta3 Care and Repair Nail Nurture Kit



ulta3 **Care and Repair Nail Nurture Kit** is a nail care gift set specially designed and packaged for Mother's Day. Containing all the high-quality cost-effective ulta3 ingredients that result in perfect nail care, it consists of four mini-sized complementary nail repair treatments, including Cuticle Oil, Ridge Filler Base Coat, Ginseng Top and Base Coat, and Nail Hardener.

Stockist: 1800 181 040

RRP: \$8.95

Website: www.heatgroup.com.au