

Is your pharmacy as productive as it could be?



Mgr and PA training

PHARMACY Choice has partnered with the Guild Pharmacy Academy to provide retail managers and pharmacy assistants with the skills, understanding and confidence to deliver holistic health solutions to their customers.

Named the Mission Management program, the partnership's stated aims are to deliver better patient health outcomes and increased customer loyalty.

Almost 150 Pharmacy Choice and healthSAVE members took part in Mission Management workshops held across the country in Apr and May.

"The industry is very much focused on interactions between pharmacists and patients which is paramount," said Luke McKinnon, national manager Pharmacy Choice.

"We also want to recognise the valuable role that retail managers and pharmacy assistants have to play."

Vit K2 - next big thing

WHILE general awareness of vitamin K2 is low, its role in helping maintain cardiovascular health will gain greater traction, according to Sydney preventative cardiologist Dr Ross Walker, referencing a recently published study in *Arteriosclerosis, Thombosis and Vascular Biology*.

Vitamin K2 helps reduce calcification of the arteries and therefore halving the risk of heart attack, he said.

"A higher intake of Vitamin K2 is strongly associated with a reduced risk of heart disease."

[CLICK HERE](#) for the abstract.

Blackmores buys Global

AUSTRALIA'S leading natural health company, Blackmores has announced the acquisition of Global Therapeutics, Australia's leading provider of retail Chinese herbal medicine formulations through the brands Fusion and Oriental Botanicals.

Under the arrangement, Blackmores acquires 100% of Global Therapeutics for A\$23m subject to customary adjustments.

The acquisition will be debt-funded, the company said and is expected to be earnings accretive in the first full year under Blackmores' ownership.

In the last 12 months Global Therapeutics reported \$20m in invoiced sales and \$3.0m earnings before income tax, depreciation and amortisation.

Originally established in Byron Bay in 1999 as Fusion Health by naturopath and medical herbalist Paul Keogh and natural health industry veteran Geoff Teasel, Global Therapeutics' product range is based on the combination of incorporating herbal extracts used in China for more than 2,000 years with those validated by modern science.

The Fusion range has a strong position in health food stores, while its sister range, Oriental Botanicals, is the leading brand in this category in pharmacy.

In purchasing the two brands, Blackmores also takes on the full product portfolio and more than 40 staff, making it the number one provider of natural health products in Australia while also giving the

company a leadership position in the health food store channel.

"The acquisition of Global Therapeutics affirms Blackmores' position as the leading natural health company in Australia and gives us a foothold in the rapidly growing Chinese herbal medicine market," said Blackmores ceo Christine Holgate.

"The Blackmores Group now has leading brands in pharmacy, health food stores and the practitioner market.

"The acquisition furthers our strategy of product leadership and channel diversity within the category we operate," she said.

The transaction is scheduled to complete on 10 May 2016.

Novel radiation app

THE DIP 4 Kids App is designed to support a reduction in unwarranted exposure to radiation from CT scans for children, and is the result of work from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care and the Western Australian Department of Health.

With more than 80,000 CT scans performed on people under the age of 20 each year in Australia, co-creator of DIP, Professor Richard Mendelson, Emeritus Consultant Radiologist, Royal Perth Hospital and Clinical Professor, University of Western Australia said that the app was a convenient tool for clinicians to instantly share resources with parents or carers, to discuss the benefits and the risks of CT scans for young age groups.

Med research impact

RESEARCH Australia, a research alliance representing 160 health and medical research organisations, has described the latest Federal Budget as mixed bag, with some wins, some losses and some more detail required.

"The Federal Government is making all of the right noises when it comes to innovation, health and research, and it is pleasing that they remain on the agenda," said ceo Nadia Levin.

"The budget would be described by my members as a combination of 'treatments, placebos and nocebos', and the challenge for government is to back it up with funding."

While the Medical Research Future Fund has been stated as a continuing commitment, changed funding levels and timetable have been adjusted, Levin said.

She said this highlights the need to keep the pressure on the government to deliver on its promises.

The Government is now anticipating meeting its \$20b target for the fund in 2020/21, compared to the 2019/20 timeframe outlined in the 2014 budget, while funding in the 2015/16 financial year has been reduced to \$0 from \$10m, although it has been increased to a projected \$61m in 2016/17, compared to \$53m last budget.

Other programs impacted include the Biomedical Translation Fund: "an exciting concept we look forward to discussing with government" and Australian Research Council funding for Discovery and Linkage Programs.



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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist/PIC** - Bunbury region, WA (Job# 200010436)
\$45/hr plus super plus full accommodation provided - forward pharmacy.
- **P/Time PIC** - South East Melbourne, VIC (Job# 200011964)
Popular community-focused Pharmacy in shopping centre 45kms from CBD
- **PIC** - Port Macquarie mid north Coast, NSW (Job# 200011979)
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Friday 06 May 2016

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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.

- 14-15 May:** Laboratory Tests Seminar; Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart; see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 19-20 May:** National Medicines Symposium 2016; Canberra Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info go to: www.nps.org.au
- 21-22 May:** Critical Care Foundation Seminar; Novotel Brisbane; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 28-29 May:** Medication Management in Geriatric Care Seminar; Rydges Sydney Central; for more info visit: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 4-5 Jun:** Critical Care Foundation Seminar; Crowne Plaza Melbourne; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 7-9 Jun:** 15th National Immunisation Conference; Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre; details at: www.phaa.net.au
- 17-19 Jun:** ConPharm 2016; Hilton, Adelaide; more info at: www.aacp.com.au
- 22-24 Jul:** Foundation Clinical Pharmacy Practice Seminar; InterContinental Adelaide Hotel; for more info visit: www.cpd.shpa.org.au
- 29-31 Jul:** PSA16; Four Points by Sheraton Darling Harbour Sydney; more info at: www.psa.org.au
- 20-21 Aug:** Fitness & Health Expo; Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre; details at: www.fitnessexpo.com.au

Phcy cybersecurity

OBLIGATIONS of pharmacists in relation to the complex matter of digital record security are the focus of the Pharmacy Board of Australia with the recognition of Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) Privacy Awareness Week 16 – 20 May.

The theme this year is *Privacy in your hands*, which aims to reinforce the message that organisations, agencies and individuals must be vigilant in understanding their rights and responsibilities for the handling of personal information.

A spokesperson for the Pharmacy Board of Australia said that as pharmacists had responsibilities regarding maintenance of records, the Board may provide reminders from time to time.

"It's important that individual pharmacists are aware of, and meet, their obligations, including their obligations about keeping their records secure," the spokesperson said.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia said that data security is continually evolving, and the Guild provides resources to support members in their obligations under the Privacy Act.

Go to www.guild.org.au/my-guild.



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CSU-Rangsit Uni MoU

CHARLES Sturt University (CSU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Rangsit University, a private institution in the Thai city of Pathum Thani north of the capital Bangkok in Thailand, to develop a closer relationship between the pharmacy programs of the two centres of learning.

The MoU allows for the development of joint research projects in biomedical sciences and pharmacy as well as staff and student exchanges.

The agreement follows a visit by CSU's Associate Professor in Pharmacy Practice, Maree Simpson, to Rangsit University last year when she was a plenary speaker at the International Conference on Advanced Pharmaceutical Research.

A four-member delegation from Rangsit University visited CSU in Orange recently to meet the staff of the School of Biomedical Sciences pharmacy program to identify ways to implement the MoU to maximise the benefit to staff and students at both institutions.

CSU offers a four-year Bachelor of Pharmacy in the Biomedical Sciences School and will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year.



DISPENSARY CORNER

KFC may say its products are "Finger Lickin' Good", but this is taking their famed slogan to a whole new level: KFC flavoured nail polish (pictured below).

Yes, the fast food giant has announced an edible nail polish for the Hong Kong market in Original and Hot & Spicy flavours.

Hang on, how does this work you ask? Well paint it on and let it dry like normal nail polish then "lick - again and again and again," explains KFC.

No, you can't pick up the nail polish in your local pharmacy just yet with the new product part of an Asian ad campaign.

The product itself does really exist though.

KFC has even produced a music video for Hong Kong consumers and is encouraging them to cast a vote for their favourite flavour of finger licking nail polish.

Check it out [HERE](#).



EIGHT years seems a seriously long time to get away with being high on drugs at work but according to US media reports that's exactly what one former chemist in Massachusetts did.

Sonja Farak regularly abused drugs in her lab including LSD, methamphetamines and even manufactured her own crack using lab supplies.

And get this, her job was to test controlled substances for law enforcement agencies.

Farak was sentenced to 18 months in prison for her misconduct.

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 TAS or VIC to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Do NS products contain artificial colours, fragrances or perfumes?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Debidas Guha from Sanofi.



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