

The future of integrated pharmacy management has arrived – Fred NXT



FREDNXT

Cannabis to S8

THE TGA's Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling has proposed that new Schedule 8 entries be created for cannabis and tetrahydrocannabinols for human therapeutic use.

The S8 entries are accompanied by new Appendix D items which mean the substances will only be available on the prescription of a medical practitioner who has been authorised by an "appropriate authority," with a proposed implementation date of 01 Jun.

The committee has also proposed amending the S2 entry for paracetamol to restrict the pack size requirements to no more than 100 tablets or capsules per pack, and limit bulk packs of paracetamol for supply only to hospitals, nursing homes and pharmacies for dispensing purposes.

There's also a proposal to increase the pack size of unscheduled loratidine (10mg or less) from five to ten dosage units, as well as a plan to delete the existing Schedule 4 entry for benzodiazepine derivatives and creating a new S9 or S8 entry, with an exception for benzodiazepines listed separately in the schedules.

Liquid nicotine scripts

AUSTRALIAN company NicoPharm has launched a service providing access to pharmaceutical grade liquid nicotine upon the presentation of a doctor's prescription for therapeutic use, consistent with its listing in the TGA's Poisons Standard.

Go to www.nicopharm.com.au.

PSA wants ECP on board

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has announced the recruitment and appointment of an Early Career Pharmacist (ECP) to join its National Board is now formally under way.

The move follows an "historic resolution" passed at PSA's board meeting in Mar, with the organisation saying it had made a strategic decision for the future needs of the profession which includes having a stronger focus on pharmacists early in their career.

"The majority of the profession, and PSA's membership, are Early Career Pharmacists so it makes sense to have at least one director

who fits this profile to help shape the future strategic direction of PSA," said PSA national president Joe Demarte.

He said the term of the ECP PSA director would be twelve months, and once an ECP director is appointed they would also become chair of the PSA's National ECP Working Group.

To be eligible for the new director's position pharmacists must be registered, be a PSA member, have no more than ten years of pharmacy practice experience post registration, and "experience and knowledge of relevant issues facing Early Career Pharmacists".

"This is an excellent opportunity to make a commitment to your profession and we strongly encourage all eligible members to apply," Demarte said. Applications are due by 29 May - more info at www.psa.org.au.

NOAC reversal option

ALTHOUGH its use is anticipated to be rare, a reversal agent has now been developed to counter the anticoagulant effect of Boehringer Ingelheim's Pradaxa (dabigatran).

Praxbind (idarucizumab) has been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for use prior to emergency surgery or urgent procedures or in the event of life-threatening uncontrolled bleeding.

It's action is described as effective "within minutes" and treatment with Pradaxa can be resumed as early as 24 hours after the administration of Praxbind, the company has said.

Praxbind, not available on the PBS, comes as a ready-to-use solution with recommended dosing of 5g, administered intravenously as two consecutive infusions over 5-10 minutes, or as an injection.

Zika virus brainsrink

THREE studies have now confirmed that the Zika virus could cross the placenta during pregnancy and kill cells to slow brain growth, reports *BBC News*.

The work was conducted with mice, and scientists are now calling for more studies in animals with larger brains.

Health authorities have expressed fear of a global spread resulting from the summer Olympic games being held in aedes aegypti mosquito-infested Rio this year, with some calling for the event to be delayed or relocated.

The implicated insect is also known to be a yellow fever vector.

FDA antibiotics scan

AS PART of the US Food and Drug Administration's activities related to slowing the development of antimicrobial resistance, and to help ensure that safe and effective antimicrobial new animal drugs will remain available for use in human and animal medicine, the regulatory body has revised annual reporting requirements for drug sponsors.

Companies are now required to provide estimates of sales broken down by major food-producing species (cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys) in addition to the overall estimates they already submit on the amount of antimicrobial drugs they sell or distribute for use in food-producing animals.

TGA GMP inspections

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has posted a summary of its processes around manufacturer inspections and compliance with Good Manufacturing Process standards.

The summary covers frequency, the inspection team, the process and duration, follow-up, feedback, complaints and appeals.

Details at www.tga.gov.au.

Win with CleanEars

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and CleanEars are giving away a prize pack of two bottles of CleanEars each day.

CleanEars is a clinically proven ear wax removal spray that is suitable for infants, children and adults. Its dual action dissolves ear wax and irrigates the ear canal. CleanEars is easy to use. You do not have to tilt your head or lie down for application, simply spray and go! To find out more visit the website **HERE**.

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

What is the simple spray application for CleanEars?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Rachael Arbon from Pharmacy Alliance.



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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist** - New England Central NSW (Job# 200011931)
Early career Pharmacist opportunity work as part of friendly team.
- **Pharmacist** - Sunraysia region of north west VIC (Job# 200011978)
Does wine, food and good old fashioned fresh country air interest you?
- **PIC** - Sunshine Coast, QLD (Job# 200013000)
Forward pharmacy model, light script trade, 4 day roster.

Share your career vision with us and we'll help get you there!



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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

ReadyCare module launch

THE Pharmacy Guild's GuildLink offshoot has released a new TeleHealth Module which implements the ReadyCare service announced earlier this year at the APP conference (**PD 18 Mar**).

ReadyCare, a joint initiative between the Guild and Telstra Health, is a "purpose-built telemedicine service" which allows patients to talk to a doctor in Australia by phone or video 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Guild said that means pharmacy customers can access a GP conveniently from their local community pharmacy, with Guildlink's GuildCare software now helping facilitate the initiative.

"ReadyCare is not about a pharmacy competing with local GP services - it is about community pharmacies facilitating access to a quality telemedicine service at times and in areas where a patient's access to local GP services

are limited or not available," according to a GuildLink statement.

GuildCare is the exclusive recording platform for ReadyCare consultations, with the system delivering payments back to the pharmacies on behalf of ReadyCare.

GuildLink ceo Ross Gallagher said the software is "ideally placed to support the facilitation of the ReadyCare telemedicine service in Australian pharmacies.

"ReadyCare is a great example of innovation that aligns with our vision to deliver better health outcomes in pharmacy for Australians using innovative technology," Gallagher said.

Guild ceo George Tambassis flagged the launch of the service at APP under the banner of CP2GP (Community Pharmacy to General Practitioner), saying it would be exclusively facilitated by Guild member pharmacies.

Pharmacies interested in offering the ReadyCare service - even if they're already a GuildCare subscriber - can contact the Pharmacy Guild via email at health@guild.org.au.

More info on GuildCare is available by calling 1300 859 328.

One day PBN for NZ

THE Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand will host its second Pharmacy Business Network conference in Auckland on 06 Aug.

PBN is described as a "one day business management conference for pharmacy owners and managers" - for program details see pharmacybusinessnetwork.nz.

CSU hails ranking

CHARLES Sturt University (CSU) has announced that it has the highest graduate employment rate in the country and the second-highest graduate starting salaries according to the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching website.

83.6% of CSU graduates are in full-time employment within four months of graduation, compared to the national average of 67.5%, and average starting salary is \$60,000 versus the national average of \$52 800 - visit www.qilt.edu.au.

AMA health issues

THE Australian Medical Association (AMA) has outlined its major concerns for political parties to take up ahead of the 02 Jul election.

President Brian Owler says the incoming government must support the "two pillars of the Australian healthcare system," namely quality primary health care services, led by general practice, and well-resourced public hospitals.

He called for a lift of the Medicare rebate freeze, an increase in hospital capacity, leadership in indigenous health, enhanced medical workforce and training, chronic disease management and rural health.

DISPENSARY CORNER



IF A pregnant woman in New York chooses to order a drink at the bar, no one can legally stop her anymore.

A new set of guidelines under the city's Human Right Laws means no bar tender, bouncer or club manager can refuse pregnant women a drink.

The rules also apply to foods deemed risky during pregnancy, like raw fish and soft cheese.

It's based on that idea that judgements about "what is or is not healthy for a fetus are pervasive in our society and cannot be used as pretext for unlawful discriminatory decisions".

So if a full term mother waddles up to a New York bar wanting a schooner; hand it over.



WHEN Carol Lensch (pictured) was asked how she wanted to celebrate her 100th birthday she replied "a pole dance!"

Her family are more than happy to fulfil her wishes and are setting up a pole at her birthday party.

They say she will be modestly dressed for the party not "in the leopard leotard she once suggested".

The well-kept centenarian certainly looks after herself; she heads to the beauty parlour each week for her hair and enjoys a glass of wine every evening.

If you'd like to check out more of her antics she has her own facebook page [HERE](#).

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