

## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from HMR Healthcare.

## Monash researchers win GSK award

**MONASH** University researchers exploring what they call "dimmer switch" medicines that could help patients with obesity, diabetes and schizophrenia, have won the prestigious GSK Award for Research Excellence.

New medicines, targeting G protein-coupled receptors, can be "turned up" or "turned down" rather than "on" and "off" have been studied by Professors Arthur Christopoulos and Patrick Sexton from the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The "dimmer switch" of a protein, known as the allosteric site, offers the opportunity to tailor treatment to a patient's individual medical needs, bringing new hope for people with chronic conditions, researchers said.

## Finding forms tool

**HEALTH** professionals will now find it much easier to locate the correct form for almost any dealing with the government, thanks to a new 'Help me find a form' tool provided by the Department of Human Services.

Forms include those required to apply for incentive programs, PBS complex drugs, payment claims, stationer supplies, registering, deregistering or updating your info. **CLICK HERE** to access the tool.

## Dispensing fee Guild push

**THE** Pharmacy Guild is believed to be pushing the government for an increase in dispensing fees, after PBS prescription volumes for 2015/16 were significantly lower than forecast under the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

According to pharmaceutical publication *PharmaDispatch*, PBS/ RPBS volumes for the first year of the pact were about six million scripts lower than the 227 million predicted, putting the 6CPA on track for a \$500m underspend.

The Guild is believed to be arguing for a 26c per prescription dispensing fee increase to compensate for the lower volumes.

The 6CPA saw the dispensing fee increase by 17c to \$6.93 for ready-prepared prescriptions, with this figure annually indexed by CPI.

The new Administration, Handling and Infrastructure Fee was also introduced to replace the pharmacy mark-up component of remuneration.

According to the Guild website, there will also be an "annual reconciliation based on prescription volumes," comparing total actual versus estimated total community

## Epic accreditation

**EPIC** Pharmacy has announced it will be the first private sector pharmacy to be granted provisional accreditation to participate in the inaugural SHPA Residency Training (PD 15 Sep 16) beginning 2017.

Epic Pharmacy Hollywood in WA, will be the first of the Epic sites to participate in the training program.

**YES**  
1st GENERIC  
NOW AVAILABLE

PHARMACIST ONLY MEDICINE  
NOT FOR USE IN CHILDREN

**TRUST DIFENAC**  
Acute Muscle and Back Pain Relief

30 Tablets

Each tablet contains difenac 250mg  
Acute Pain Relief

ANTI-INFLAMMATORY

8-HOUR RELIEF\*

FOR TOUGH PAIN RELIEF,  
COUNT ON TRUST DIFENAC.

- MUSCLE STRAINS
- SPRAINS
- BACK OR JOINT PAIN
- PERIOD PAIN
- HEADACHES

\*When taken as a dose of 2 x 250mg tablets, Trust Difenac 25 provides pain relief for up to 8 hours. Always read the label. Use only as directed. Incorrect use may be harmful. If symptoms persist, see your healthcare professional.

pharmacy and wholesaler remuneration comparing actual PBS and RPBS prescription volumes with the estimates included in the 6CPA document.

"If there is a material difference between actual volume and estimated volume, a risk sharing arrangement may be implemented to address the variance".

According to the *PharmaDispatch* story details of this risk-sharing deal were not finalised before the government went into caretaker mode before the recent election, "creating uncertainty over the response to any variation in forecast prescription volume".

The Guild declined to comment on the issue.

## SHPA to transform

**SOCIETY** of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) ceo Kristin Michaels has opened the Medicines Management Conference in Perth with a speech claiming SHPA is "not the largest pharmacy organisation but it is the only pharmacy organisation that is focused on, and can deliver, better, cost-effective health care".

She highlighted SHPA's workforce strategy, with delegates hearing that transformation is "necessary if pharmacy is to continue to deliver healthcare that meets the future needs of patients".

She also called for a rethink around the future of healthcare, eschewing "archaic practices that limit the role of the hospital pharmacist in patient care".

## Patients back pharmacy services

**CONSUMERS** have ranked blood pressure testing, closely followed by diabetes services and receiving vaccinations as the most essential services when visiting their pharmacist, according to the latest Pharmacy Guild of Australia's Customer Experience Index (CEI).

The survey assessed 1,000 pharmacies around Australia by interviewing more than 8,000 patients as they left the stores.

Patients said they used, and expected, such offerings to be readily available in their local community pharmacies.

Other pharmaceutical services which rated highly with customers included dose administration aids, blood glucose testing, in-pharmacy medicines reviews and weight loss

and weight management.

The CIE also revealed that on the whole, those visiting community pharmacies were pleased with the level of attention and professionalism they received.

Almost all customers (98%) said pharmacy staff respected their privacy while 97% agreed that pharmacy staff understood their health conditions.

The majority of customers (96%) said that staff offered helpful assistance while 95% said pharmacy staff provided medicine information to support their needs.

Sitting at the lowest level of satisfaction was the amount of people who agreed staff ensured their non-prescription medication was safe for them at 93%.

Your Pharmacy Recruitment Experts

FreeCall: 1800 429 829  
Email: info@ravensrecruitment.com.au  
Web: www.ravensrecruitment.com.au

**\*\*\* Calling all Pharmacists \*\*\***

Do you have some free time available over the holidays? Would you like to travel and get paid at the same time?

Contact Nivi or Felicia at Raven's Recruitment on 1800 429 829 to find out more about our locum roles.

Positions available Australia wide – varying from 1 day to 12 weeks

Love your work? ... SO DO RAVEN'S!

## Repairs damaged hands.

**NEW**

**DU'IT TOUGH HANDS**  
for her  
INTENSIVE SKIN REPAIR  
FOR DRY, IRRITATED HANDS

SOOTHING AND REPAIRING  
within 5 days

**FIND OUT MORE** ➔

Please contact HealthOne  
02 9965 9600

## Dispensary Corner

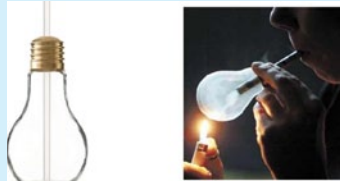
**WORLD Toilet Day**, believe it or not is a thing.

The United Nations no less, has said that tomorrow, 19 Nov, is the day to recognise issues around global sanitation.

Marking the day, research from Initial Hygiene has shown that 51% of office workers have 'toilet anxiety' at work, and a whopping 54% opt to 'hold on' until they get home, when it comes to doing a number-two in the office toilet.

One of the reasons some shy away from 'dropping a bomb' at work was the overwhelmingly foul state of office bathrooms with many people so disgusted, they can't bear to stay long enough to complete the job.

In addition, 46% of office workers surveyed said they've tried to disguise the noise they made in the office washroom: 52% by flushing, 35% by coughing and 10% by sneezing - bless you.



**KMART** in the USA has had to remove a light bulb style drinking jar (pictured) from its shelves after anti-drug campaigners complained it had a striking similarity to a meth smoking device.

While Kmart said the vessel was sold purely as "a novelty on-trend item to be used only as a drink glass" those directly affected by ice addiction weren't impressed.

"It is appalling they are trying to make money out of something that is destroying lives," one campaigner said.

## TGA consultation low

**FEEDBACK** from a survey conducted amongst Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) stakeholders in July this year has indicated that the organisation generates high levels of trust and confidence in outcomes but does not appear to be highly consultative or collaborative.

The survey was conducted from 07 Jul to 20 Jul with 21,296 participants invited and a 13% overall response rate.

Most responses were from the medical products industry (1,634) and health professionals (449).

Only 169 retailers and 146 academics gave valid responses.

The regulatory authority was told by 85% of responding stakeholders that it has strong levels of integrity and ethics, while 73% believed the TGA was well regarded internationally.

Consumer focus groups had lower estimations of their confidence in TGA outcomes, highlighting well thought out decision-making as an opportunity for improvement.

Collaboration, consultation and feedback were identified by a lot of responses as another opportunity for improvement with five of seven measures below 50% agreement and at or above 20% flagging high levels of disagreement.

"Specific areas for focus include perceptions around the timeliness of consultation, listening to feedback, providing opportunities for input and collaboration."

In terms of communication services, the TGA website and the TGA business services portal play a key role in providing information and are the main channel for communication with stakeholders, although some also like to use RSS feeds, consultation forecasts, roadshows, email subscription and Twitter, the report said.

Around one in four respondents had attended a TGA event such as information sessions, consultations, roadshows, seminars, conferences and a range of other activities and contacts.

**CLICK HERE** to access the report.

## Phcy diabetes role

**COMMUNITY** pharmacist Peter Rushton, presenting to the Western Sydney Diabetes Forum earlier this month (**PD** 03 Nov), said pharmacists should become more familiar with the diabetes patient journey.

"The role of pharmacists and allied health professionals is to work as a team to support the GP, by driving compliance and reinforcement, monitoring, encouraging ownership of patients' health," said Rushton.

The forum was sponsored by Becton, Dickinson and Company.



## 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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**20 Nov:** Pharmacist Administration of Influenza Vaccine; Glebe; enrol here [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**21 Nov:** QCPP Quality Assessment Webinar; register here: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**23 Nov:** QCPP Refresher Training; Level 2, 40 Burwood Road, Hawthorn; details and to register: [www.pharmacyguild.edu.au](http://www.pharmacyguild.edu.au)

**2-5 Dec:** Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association (APSA) Scientific Meeting; The University of Sydney; more info at: [expertevents.eventsair.com](http://expertevents.eventsair.com)

**9-12 Mar:** APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)

## Win with Dermal Therapy

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and Dermal Therapy are giving away each day a prize pack including Dermal Therapy Soap Free Wash, Anti-itch Soothing Cream, Hand Balm and Lip Balm.

Dermal Therapy Hand Balm is clinically proven to significantly increase hand moisture levels and reduce the



dermatological symptoms associated with severely dry hands. It contains 10% Urea and 2% Dimethicone in synergistic blend of emollients and skin conditioning agents. It has non-greasy formula, no residue left on skin.

To win, be the first pharmacist or pharmacy assistant from VIC or TAS to send the correct answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**True or false: Dermal Therapy Hand Balm uses non-greasy formula, no residue left on skin.**

*Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Elise Mahony from Flinders Medical Centre.*

*Pharmacy Daily* is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

Sign up free at [www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au).

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: Level 2, Suite 1 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Business Publishing Group.

*Pharmacy Daily* is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

**Publisher/Editor in chief:** Bruce Piper

**Managing Editor:** Jon Murrie

**Reporter:** Mal Smith

**Contributors:** Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

**Advertising and Marketing:** Sean Harrigan and Melanie Tchakmadjian [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Business Manager:** Jenny Piper [accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Editorial:** [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Travel Daily

CRUISE WEEKLY

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy DAILY

Travel Daily



# HUGE NOVEMBER OFFER

HMR Healthcare - Your Assisted Living Partner

## UP TO 30% OFF

1 unit 15%, mix of 4 units 30%



### HUGO SIDEKICK

- \* side folds
- \* compact folding
- \* best ROI \$\$\$\$\$
- \* small, easy sell packaging

**SYMBION PDE 147877**  
**SIGMA Charge-thru**



### HUGO FIT 6

- \* 3 seat heights & light
- \* adj. handle heights
- \* small, easy sell packaging
- \* indoor & outdoor
- \* best ROI \$\$\$\$\$

**SYMBION PDE 025712**  
**SIGMA Charge-thru**

## 15% OFF

Receive a 15% discount off the  
fill order of a new POG solution.

**-CALL NOW-**



- Australian owned
- Patented Innovations
- Best ROI
- Small & Bright Display packaging
- Global best in class brands
- Clinically tested and TGA registered
- Limited lifetime guarantee (manufacturing faults)
- Core range solutions & extended range
- Range Includes-
  - Bathroom Safety
  - Mobility Aids
  - Home Diagnostics
  - Daily living aids
  - HME
  - Personal Fitness & Rehab