

## Emerging researcher

**PHARMACIST** Dr Emily Reeve has been honoured among finalists in the Bupa Health Foundation 2016 Emerging Health Research Award.

Dr Reeve's research, at the Kolling Institute at Sydney's Royal North Shore Hospital, focuses on withdrawing medications that are high risk or unnecessary for people with dementia, earning her a place among five finalists for the award.

Her current project will develop and implement de-prescribing guidelines for instances where risks associated with medicines outweigh the benefits.

Bupa said Dr Reeve was already an emerging leader in this area, having developed the world's first questionnaire to understand patients' attitudes to de-prescribing, which had been adopted in Australia, Europe and North America.

Bupa's overall award winner was Brisbane-based Associate Professor Gail Garvey of the Menzies School of Health Research, honoured for her work in improving cancer treatment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## Reviewing vet's meds

**THE** Veteran's MATES service has highlighted issues around the complexity of taking many medicines, recommending a Home Medicines Review with a local pharmacist and doctor.

Such a review can help simplify the routine of taking medicines in the correct way, at the optimal dose to fit in with day-to-day life.

**CLICK HERE** for details.

## Hospital placements urged

**PHARMACY** students should be required to undertake at least a three week hospital placement in the third or fourth year of their degree, according to a new position statement from The National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association this week.

Issued in conjunction with the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia, the statement notes that while hospital pharmacy is a desirable career pathway for a large number of pharmacy students across Australia, six out of the nineteen Australian universities offering pharmacy degrees do not have any compulsory hospital placement in their curriculum.

"Further to this, a large percentage of students at these universities would like to participate in a hospital placement but do not have the opportunity to do so before their intern year".

## PBS cost recovery

**THE** Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) has posted a summary document clarifying its cost recovery system relating to listings of medicines, vaccines and other products or services on the PBS or National Immunisation Program (NIP).

The history of the process that has resulted in the program is summarised, along with implications for consumers, suppliers and peak industry representative bodies.

Fee waiver situations are also explained - [www.pbs.gov.au](http://www.pbs.gov.au).

## Now's the time to book "The Book" and share in rewards valued at over \$26,000\*

Our pre-publication promotion is back and we again want to support you the pharmacist, the doctor, the nurse.

All you have to do is purchase the 2017 AMH book or any current resource - between Nov 14 & Dec 31 - and you will receive an automatic entry to win one of these great rewards\*.

Prizes include attending a conference related to your profession, new laptop computers and future editions of AMH resources.

\*Terms & Conditions apply. For full prize information and for Terms & Conditions please click on the link here to take you to the competition page.



## CW goes B&W

**CHEMIST** Warehouse (CW) has announced a partnership with the Collingwood Magpies Netball Team for the inaugural season of the Super Netball League for 2017.

The announcement of the five-year commitment also coincides with the very first pre-season training session for the Magpies Netball squad, with many of its players recently returning from national duties with the Australian Diamonds & Fast Five Team.

CW Group chief operating officer Mario Tascone said, "At Chemist Warehouse we take pride in supporting Australian sporting clubs at every level, whether that's on a grassroots level, local or national level."

Collingwood president Eddie McGuire said, "This a really exciting announcement for our club and for Netball."

"Chemist Warehouse is a magnificent supporter of Women's sport in this country," he added.

"We look forward to working with them to grow the game in communities throughout Victoria and Australia."

Rival pharmacy chain Priceline had announced their women's sporting sponsorship in Sep this year (*PD* 07 Sep) backing the Western Bulldogs' team in the newly formed women's Australian Football League.



## No vax, no school

**PROPOSED** changes to the NSW Public Health Act could see unvaccinated school students banned from classrooms during disease outbreaks.

The changes would be enforced for students from Kindergarten right through until year 12.

NSW Health director of communicable diseases Vicky Sheppard said the rules would only apply on rare occasions such as when an outbreak of measles affected high schools in 2012.

Similar rules are already in effect with public health officers having the power to exclude unvaccinated children from childcare and primary school during outbreaks.

## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news plus a full page from **Pharmacy 4 Less**.



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## Dispensary Corner

**FAMOUS** anime character Sailor Moon has been recruited by Japan to raise awareness about sexually transmitted infections such as HIV and syphilis.

The country's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is planning to distribute 60,000 pink, heart-shaped educational boxes (pictured below) to launch the push.

They have also reworked Sailor Moon's catch cry "In the name of the moon, I will punish you!" to "If you don't get tested, I will punish you!"

Do it for Sailor Moon, stay safe from STIs!



**ALOE VERA** gel containing no traces of aloe vera? Just what the consumer has always wanted - not!

Well, it's out there on the shelves of some US stores.

*Bloomberg* is reporting that samples of store brand aloe gel from Wal-Mart, Target and CVS showed no indication of aloe vera present at all when they underwent lab testing.

What the samples did contain though is a cheaper element called maltodextrin, a sugar sometimes used to imitate aloe.

Good luck soothing your sunburn with that!

## Sugar tax fightback

**THE** Australasian Association of Convenience Stores has released research claiming a majority of Australians believe a tax on sugary beverages would be ineffective in the fight against obesity and cardiovascular disease.

Released in the wake of new recommendations from the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute (**PD** yesterday), the retailer study says respondents opposed a sugar tax because it would "increase cost of living pressure, threaten businesses and jobs, and because there are better ways to tackle obesity".

The Australian Beverages Council, Canegrowers and the Australian Food and Grocery Council have also united to point out that the retail, farming, grocery and beverage sectors contribute more than \$311 billion to the economy annually.

In addition, the group said, it was not beneficial to blame or tax a single component of the diet, citing ABS statistics showing a drop in added sugar intake while obesity rates continued to climb.

"Drinks are clearly not the only source of sugar in Australian diets."

## Patient-centred care resources needed

**A SURVEY** of Australian health workforce organisations conducted by the Consumers Health Forum has found a "gap between belief and practice" in patient-centred care, with respondents acknowledging they are insufficiently resourced to promote customer-focused services.

Of 55 organisations asked to participate, only 20 responded, including the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

More than 90% of the groups that responded agreed that patient-centred health care was of benefit to patients and the health system through better outcomes.

However CHF CEO Leanne Wells said "there appears to be a gap between the good intentions and reality when it comes to ensuring organisational supports such as codes of conduct and arrangements to enable consumer engagement and representation on advisory boards".

The full survey report is now online at [healthvoices.org.au](http://healthvoices.org.au).



## 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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## Oceanwide Expeditions Celebration Discounts

**OCEANWIDE** Expeditions is celebrating the news that the Ross Sea will become the world's largest marine protected area by offering discounts on its two upcoming trips to this vast Antarctic wilderness.

Oceanwide's "Spectacular Ross Sea" voyage lands passengers on the massive Ross Ice Shelf with 50m ice walls, past a gallery of the icy-world's amazing wildlife, into the Dry Valleys, volcanic Peter Island and more.

Discounted pricing starts at US\$19,950 pp (Jan departure) and US\$17,450 (Feb departure) - see [oceanwide-expeditions.com](http://oceanwide-expeditions.com).

## Royal Caribbean 50% Savings and Upgrade

**AUSTRALIAN** summer is a reason to celebrate, so Royal Caribbean has released an incredible new deal, meaning more Aussies can enjoy their ultimate cruise holiday on a selection of feature-packed ships sailing locally this season.

Book before 03 Dec for 50% off the second guest and a balcony upgrade - [royalcaribbean.com.au](http://royalcaribbean.com.au).

## WIN WITH SOUTHERNATURE

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and SOUTHERNATURE are giving away Grape Seed 40 000 PLUS Green Tea, and AURIEL Lanolin Cream with Grape Seed & Collagen each day.

SOUTHERNATURE'S Grape Seed 40 000 PLUS Green Tea contains potent antioxidants which help protect the body from the damaging effects of free radicals. The Vegan tablets contain Vitamin C, Green Tea and Grape Seed. Vitamin C aids the synthesis of collagen, Grape Seed can help to strengthen collagen in the body, and Green Tea provides antioxidant support to help protect against free radicals. For more info **CLICK HERE**.

To win, be the first from SA or NT to send the correct answer to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

*True or false: SOUTHERNATURE Grape Seed 40 000 PLUS Green Tea tablets are vegan and vegetarian friendly?*

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Antonella Panajia from Main Street Pharmacy.



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