



healthSAVE
pharmacy

Quality care for less

Contact us 1800 036 367
or visit us online
www.healthsave.com.au

PSA blasts SHPA

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia says statements made in the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) submission to the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation (PD Fri) are ill-informed and misleading.

In a statement issued yesterday PSA president Joe Demarte said it was disappointing to see SHPA comparing the standards of care delivered by hospital pharmacists versus community pharmacists.

Demarte said the competency standards which all pharmacists are required to meet as a condition of their registration demonstrate the "extensive medicines expertise of all pharmacists regardless of the setting in which they practice."

"These sorts of invidious comparisons run counter to the Code of Ethics for pharmacists... there is no basis in evidence for making such claims," he said.

The PSA president asked all pharmacy groups to "work together to positively progress ways to optimise the contribution of the profession in the health system to deliver high quality, evidence-based care that is appropriately remunerated".

Guild myCPD success

THE Pharmacy Guild's myCPD system has recorded over 73,000 assessments for the year to 30 Sep, an increase of more than 10,000 on the previous twelve month period.

The Guild said this was "testament to the demand that exists for quality education to meet the needs of pharmacists."

Ditch the 6CPA, urges CHF

THE Consumers Health Forum has recommended that the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement be abolished, and replaced by "separate negotiations and agreements on areas such as the dispensing fee, and the funding and performance of professional services by pharmacists".

The radical option is part of the CHF's submission to the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation, with the organisation also urging the deregulation of location and ownership rules.

"The rules governing pharmacies, which will receive \$18.9 billion over the next five years under the current pharmacy agreement, need to change to reflect changes in community expectations and potential health reforms which will change pharmacists' working relationships with other health professionals," according to CHF ceo Leanne Wells.

"The requirement for a pharmacy to be owned by a pharmacist is an anachronism...already many pharmacy owners with multiple stores have to use staff pharmacists," she said.

The CHF submission also takes issue with the bilateral nature of negotiations between the Guild and the government, saying that with pharmacy being a vital community service involving an investment of billions of dollars "it is a matter of good governance and public policy that alternative governance arrangements should involve multilateral negotiations and the involvement of key stakeholders

such as consumers".

Wells said CHF believes the funds should be used more broadly, "not just in the narrowly defined retail pharmacy setting".

Other key CHF recommendations include continuing the \$1 discount on co-payments, the central administration of the PBS safety net via Medicare, and a protocol on advising customers of interactions between prescription and complementary medicines.

View the submission at chf.org.au.

ERRCD progress

AUSTRALIA'S federal, state and territory health ministers have agreed to "further progress a national real-time prescription monitoring system that alerts doctors and pharmacists who are abusing prescription drugs".

The update was part of a communique from the COAG Health Ministers' meeting on Fri, with all jurisdictions agreeing to bring to the December Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council meeting an update on progress.

The COAG meeting also agreed to ask for information from AHPRA and the Chiropractors Board of Australia on evidence of any inappropriate treatments by chiropractors and potential regulatory responses.

The ministers decided not to include the social work profession in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, but agreed to proceed with the inclusion of paramedics in the program.

Drugs impact on EDs

MORE than a third of people presenting to NSW hospital emergency departments (EDs) have underlying drug and alcohol problems requiring intervention, say researchers at UNSW's National Drug and Alcohol RESEARCH CENTRE.

Bonus Oli[®] Sippy Cup available now*



The Naturally SMARTER CHOICE



Please contact Pharmabroker for more details 02 8878 9777

**Better
through
experience**

1800 810 213
guildinsurance.com.au



Insurance issued by Guild Insurance Limited ABN 55 004 538 863, AFS Licence No. 233791 and subject to terms, conditions and exclusions. For more information call 1800 810 213. GLD3834 Pharmacy Advert 07/2016.

**Naturally reduce your
cholesterol in
6 weeks***

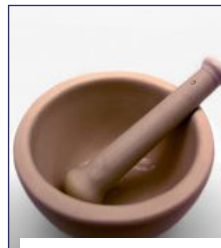
FIND OUT MORE

Please contact HealthOne
02 9965 9600

*In combination with a balanced diet with healthy fats.

NEW





Advertise with us

- Cost Effective
- Targeted
- Easy

Pharmacy DAILY

For details call us today 1300 799 220



Weekly Comment

Welcome to PD's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Ian Chant, General Manager, Aker BioMarine Antarctic Australia.**



Omega-3 Index Test

THE recent launch of the Omega-3 Index Test in Australia brings a new innovative diagnostic tool to pharmacies, direct from krill oil supplier, Aker BioMarine. This simple finger-prick test, with results delivered within 14 days, is a marker of an individual's omega-3 status and is designed to measure levels of the omega-3 EPA and DHA fatty acids in red blood cells.

Healthy levels of these omega-3s not only support good brain function and help reduce joint inflammation in arthritis sufferers, but they also help lower blood triglyceride levels¹, and, most importantly, support cardiovascular health by reducing the risk of sudden cardiac failure.²

The target Omega-3 Index is 8% or above, which is associated with the lowest risk for developing cardiovascular disease. An Omega-3 Index of 4% or less is linked with relatively high risk.

The introduction of the Omega-3 Index Test will allow pharmacists to better understand consumer risk and requirements around omega-3s and support evidence-based recommendations on increasing levels through diet and supplementation with krill oil, if necessary.

Aker BioMarine, the supplier of krill oil supplements for many pharmacy brands, is committed to empowering pharmacists and other healthcare professionals with tools and information about omega-3 EPA and DHA and their role in improving overall health.

For more information on omega-3s and how you can access the Omega-3 Index Test Kits, visit www.omega3.net.au.

MedAdvisor links with OA

DIGITAL medication adherence company MedAdvisor has announced a new partnership with national not-for-profit health association Osteoporosis Australia (OA).

Planned to run initially for a 12 month period, the partnership will see the MedAdvisor platform communicated to Osteoporosis Australia's community including the more than 150,000 visitors to the organisation's website.

OA provides osteoporosis information and services to patients and health professionals and actively promotes improved medication adherence, which can be supported through the MedAdvisor platform, the firm said.

With over a million Australians experiencing an estimated 155,000 broken bones this year from poor bone health, the total cost of osteoporosis and associated fractures over the next decade is expected to reach \$33.6 billion.

By increasing medication adherence among patients, MedAdvisor said it believes it can play a significant role in driving



down these costs and at the same time helping to deliver improved patient health outcomes.

MedAdvisor says it already has about 5,200 users who live with osteoporosis and said it is also currently running

a separate Patient Engagement Program to provide education for patients using a common osteoporosis medication to improve quality use of medicines.

The partnership with OA marks the fourth key relationship for the company, in addition to its partnerships with Glaucoma Australia, Epilepsy Queensland and Diabetes Australia, all representing an important contribution to the company's patient acquisition strategy, MedAdvisor said.

Pfizer Hospira sale

PFIZER has announced the sale of its Hospira Infusion Systems unit to ICU Medical.

The US\$1 billion deal includes a stock swap which will see Pfizer own almost 17% in ICU which becomes an "integrated pure-play infusion therapy company".

Dispensary Corner



HE'S affectionately known as 'the baby with the bouffant'.

Eight-week-old Junior Cox-Noon (pictured below) has become an internet sensation thanks to the incredible head of hair he has grown in his short life.

His mother Chelsea says she has to blow dry his huge mane after every bath time.

The UK woman told *Daily Mail* it now takes hours to do the weekly supermarket shop because so many people stop to say hello to him and want to touch his hair.

"He doesn't seem to mind and gets a little a smirk on his face," she says.

While some people suggest she give his hair the snip to make it more manageable she said it is simply "too unique" to tamper with.

CLICK HERE to see a viral video of Junior enjoying a blow dry.



Win with australis

This week Pharmacy Daily and australis are giving readers each day the chance to win a pack of Bright Eyes Illuminating Under Eye Concealer.

Want to brighten eyes, bring radiance to the skin and erase any signs of fatigue? Of course! Australis Bright Eyes Illuminating Under Eye Concealer is available in two shades that suit all skin tones – Banana and Musk – and are both equally effective. The yellow of the banana is perfect for banishing dark under eye circles and correcting redness. The pink hues of the musk accentuates & highlights features, and is a secret weapon in creating a gorgeous, luminescent healthy glow.

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

How many shades in the range?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



A SEX toy buzzing and shaking inside a passengers backpack being loaded on to a recent AirAsia flight was mistaken for a ticking time bomb.

Staff panicked, requested the flight be grounded and called in the bomb squad.

Upon arrival the experts discovered the 'explosive device' was just a silver bullet-shaped vibrator that had accidentally been switched on.

The owner of the offending item remained oblivious as to why the flight was delayed.

Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

Sign up free at www.pharmacydaily.com.au.

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

Street address: Suite 1, Level 2, 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.

Publisher: Bruce Piper info@pharmacydaily.com.au

Reporter: Mal Smith

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

Advertising and Marketing: Magda Herdzik, Sean Harrigan, Melanie Tchakmadjian

advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Travel Daily CRUISE

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy DAILY

Travel Daily