

Today's issue of PD

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

Guild, AMA agree

THE Pharmacy Guild and the Australian Medical Association are in "furious agreement" about collaboration between doctors and pharmacists, with AMA president Michael Gannon backing pharmacy absence from work certificates.

In a joint interview on channel 9 with Guild President George Tambassis last weekend, Gannon acknowledged pharmacists and their "high level of training in understanding medication, dispensing them, being conscious of drug interactions".

However for sick leave relating to absences more than one day and repeat prescriptions Gannon said visiting the GP is important.

The discussion centred around an interim report from the Medicare review which has suggested a range of reforms to reduce the costs of the health system to taxpayers.

Tambassis said pharmacists can help with minor ailments and OTC medications to allow local doctors to concentrate on more chronic diseases.

Huge new medical dataset

AUSTRALIAN data insights firm Protogen Technologies says a new dataset it has developed in partnership with Medical Director has the potential for driving change in both health policy and clinical pathways across the country.

Protogen says it's "one of the best primary healthcare datasets in the world," comprising key general practice data on more than four million anonymous patient records between 2005 and 2016.

"It is countrywide, covers significant areas of interest for policy makers and represents years of potential research in clinical, logistical and financial outcomes," said ceo Mark Grosser.

He said the company had extracted over 200 gigabytes of raw data including clinical information and details of prescriptions, infrastructure and Medicare claims across Australia.

"The size of this dataset is enormous, over one hundred times the size of the raw Panama Papers," said Protogen chief technology officer, Omer Ingber.

Medical Director, which was recently acquired by private equity firm Affinity Equity Partners, is working with Protogen on the next

DO YOUR CLAIMING IN THE CLOUD



FREE
for eRx Express
pharmacies

eRx EXPRESS

- Sort claims automatically
- Respond to audits instantly

eRx.com.au/paperless

Share your headache

THIS week is Headache and Migraine Week acknowledging over seven million Australians suffering, Headache Australia ceo Gerald Edmunds has estimated.

The organisation is encouraging pharmacists to urge their patients to join the National headache Register and source the Headache Australia website.

Pharmacists can perform an important role for these patients who often need help with "advice on new clinical approaches and avoiding medication overuse for headache" with a growing number of new non-prescription therapies becoming available, Edmunds said.

CLICK HERE for more details.

steps to enhance both the data being gathered as well as further analysis and research of the data.

The Protogen platform allows population health research to be performed rapidly, providing analysis by national, state, postcode, city and practice.

It has applications on the impact of health policy in primary care, the most common treatments for particular diseases, correlation between socioeconomics and disease and real evidence based medicine, Protogen said.

Further steps could include working with other data sources as well as "genomics driven precision based medicine," the firm added.

Pharmacist guilty

A PERTH pharmacist has pleaded guilty after illegally importing more than 2000 'ice pipes' into WA.

The "Sweet Puff Holland" glass pipes were brought in from China and India in 2014, ordered by Hoang Nam Nguyen for delivery to his pharmacy in Edgewater.

Nguyen, who also runs the 'Cloud 9' chain of smoke shops, pleaded guilty to three counts of importing prohibited products.

CPD clock is ticking

PHARMACISTS are reminded by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia that under new Pharmacy Board of Australia requirements, every registered pharmacist (except non-practising pharmacists) must declare on registration they have a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) plan to outline their development needs and have completed 40 credits of relevant CPD before the end of September.

For PSA support **CLICK HERE**.

Start your pharmacy's
transformation
by understanding
your professional
services opportunity

guild.org.au



Specialists in:

- Pharmacy Insurance • Professional Indemnity Insurance

Tony Carollo & Susan Carollo - VIC/NSW/TAS/SA

Natasha Lawrance - WA

**FOR AN OBLIGATION FREE QUOTE CLICK HERE
OR PHONE 1300-CAROLLO / 1300 227 655**



Three
First to market generics
In less than 12 months

How does your generic
supplier compare?



Guild Update

Building stronger pharmacies

THE Pharmacy Connect conference in Sydney last weekend saw the launch of a range of Guild programs and tools aimed at providing positive transformation for pharmacies.

The Guild is focused on delivering the best support to our Members to broaden the range of services delivered successfully to patients.

The programs and tools now available to Guild pharmacies include:

Opportunity analysis tool

- A customised report highlighting lost opportunity income linked to key service areas.
- Data from pharmacies which have undertaken opportunity analysis shows that most pharmacies are missing out on significant annual income from professional services.

Pharmacy Health Solutions

- A guide on initial steps towards optimising health outcomes from pharmacist-led counselling advice

Health Advice Plus program

- Designed to assist pharmacy owners to understand and reach professional service potential. Professional services viability tool
 - Provides a fee-for-service guide for delivering pharmacy professional services.
- The Guild can help community pharmacies transform to benefit their businesses, patients and the wider health system.

Harvey slams compounder

PUBLIC health and consumer activist Ken Harvey has blasted a compounding pharmacy for supplying products prescribed through a weight loss program, including drugs which have been withdrawn by the TGA due to serious adverse effects.

Harvey has submitted a formal complaint to the Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Agency and the ACCC, calling for an urgent court order to take down the websites and promotional material for the business behind the scheme.

He cited a patient who had come forward having been charged over \$5,000 for the program and prescribed a "cocktail of drugs including diethylpropion" which was withdrawn after AEs including high blood pressure, irregular

heartbeat, seizures, nervousness and psychological dependency.

The complaint also cites the prescribing doctor and the pharmacist who he claims has breached the Pharmacy Board of Australia's 'Guidelines on compounding of medicines'.

Harvey said he lodged the complaint more than two months ago and urged the AHPRA and ACCC to take action.

Accu-Check advisory

HEALTH professionals and consumers are advised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) that Roche Diabetes Care Australia, in consultation with the TGA, is urging users of the Accu-Chek Connect Diabetes Management app for iOS, who are using it for bolus injection advice, to immediately download and install the new app version which is numbered as 1.2.2(.2).

A programming error in the iOS version 1.2.0(.5) of the app could, under certain conditions, potentially lead to incorrect bolus insulin advice and possible serious consequences, the TGA has said. Go to www.tga.gov.au for more.

ACP referral bonus

THE Australian College of Pharmacy is offering 25% off its regular yearly fees for new member referrals, and as a bonus the referring member will receive a free one on one telephone tutorial on how to develop a CPD learning plan - see www.acp.edu.au.

WIN WITH BETAHEART

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and BetaHeart are giving away each day a BetaHeart pack.

BetaHeart is a healthy oats and barley drink that tastes great and is high in betaglucan, which is scientifically proven to reduce cholesterol. Simply add one sachet a day to low fat milk, your favourite smoothie or water and enjoy! Our tasty 8-week Swiss chocolate and French Vanilla BetaHeart kit, will get you started for a healthier heart. For more information see www.betaheart.com.au

To win, be the first person from QLD to send the correct answer to the following question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What does BetaHeart do?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Sarah Sinclair from NSW Department of Human Services.



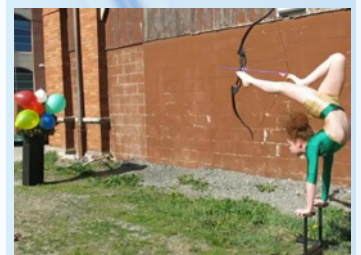
Dispensary Corner

AS IF being a nine-year-old contortionist wasn't impressive enough, one talented youngster decided to show off another of her unusual skills.

The Pennsylvania girl (pictured below) who performs under the stage name of BoBella, posted a video online of herself shooting a bow and arrow with her feet to pop balloons all whilst balancing on her hands.

She's freakishly accurate and only narrowly misses one shot.

You need to see it to believe it, **CLICK HERE** to check out the You Tube video.



HERE'S one job opening that won't last long, particularly in Ireland: a beer taster.

According to the *BBC*, the position was advertised in a Northern Ireland newspaper with the lucky job-winner assigned with the terribly challenging task of tasting up to 40 craft beers each month at the Walled City Brewery in Londonderry.

Apparently being an expert taste tester is not a role that should be taken lightly though.

"Only 10% of the population can be master tasters," the company's master brewer James Huey told the *Belfast Telegraph*.

"I am blind to some flavours, so we need someone who can decipher all the different flavours," he explained.

You don't get a wage for the job but your taxi, food and of course booze is all complimentary.

PHARMACY 4 LESS

DISCOUNT CHEMIST



MAKE A HEALTHY BUSINESS DECISION

Profit from our experience

Pharmacy 4 Less is a strong discounter with a cohesive & compelling brand story. We practice an appropriate balance between retailing and professional services. If you want an effective National brand to combat all other discounters or want to build a better business, give us a call today.

Call today for more information
Feras Karem: 0414 653 803

[Click to Enquire](#)