

AMA open to new models of funding

THE Australian Medical Association says pharmacists' expertise and training are "underutilised in a commercial pharmacy environment," with a submission to the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation saying it is "open to alternate models of funding that would encourage and reward a focus on professional, evidence-based interactions with patients".

The AMA submission particularly highlights the "inherent conflict of interest" in community pharmacy which involves "retail imperatives including the sale of complementary medicines that have no basis in evidence".

The Association revisited the joint AMA/PSA proposal (PD 23 Jul 2014) which called on the government to establish a funding program to support general practices to employ pharmacists, supported by a Deloitte Access Economics analysis.

The AMA also said it supports changes to location rules which would allow more pharmacies and medical practices to be co-located, saying the "current restrictions are inflexible and are difficult to justify in terms of public benefit".

Monash pharmacy PhDs

MONASH University Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has announced it will be offering a new doctoral program from next year, aiming to build upon world-leading research that has given the university its global high profile (PD 16 Sep 16).

Six members of the faculty have been named as Thomson-Reuters Highly Cited Researchers, ranking the faculty as number one worldwide, while it ranked fourth in the world for Pharmacy and Pharmacology in the 2016 QS World Rankings by Subject.

Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Dean Professor Bill Charman explained, "The new program will equip our graduates for a competitive and globalised future."

"We recognise that PhD graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers (eg. multi-national companies, SME companies, start-up ventures, academia and research institutes, and various other sectors) that value an integrated and comprehensive contemporary doctoral program."

The Monash PhD candidatures will include a supervised research

project of three to four year duration as well as the Monash Doctoral Program Training Course, which ensures students are equipped with the requisite research and communication skills to succeed in their project.

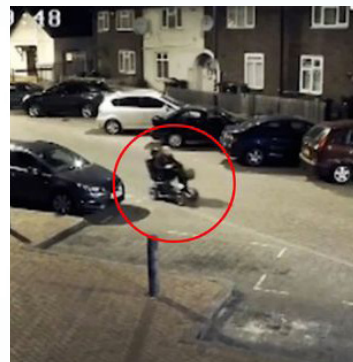
In addition, the Faculty's enhanced program now offers students two other key components: an advanced course in drug discovery and development and one of a range of four other additional research experiences.

"We believe that the flexibility and added value incorporated in this new structure, combined with the high impact of the research we conduct, will create a world-class research and training experience for all our PhD students – who are the next generation of our scientific leaders and researchers," said Charman.

Visit www.monash.edu for more.

Robbers scoot away

BRITISH police are searching for some pharmacy thieves who made their getaway using a stolen mobility scooter (pictured).



Detectives investigating burglaries at pharmacies in the London suburbs of Dagenham and Barking have issued CCTV footage of four miscreants they wish to speak to in connection with the incident which took place early last month.

The offenders allegedly used a crowbar to damage security shutters and gain access to the premises, with a till stolen and "given to a man on a mobility scooter who was then able to travel quickly away from the store," a police report stated.

Review submissions closing at midnight

THE chair of the Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation Review Panel, Professor Stephen King, is urging people to send in their submissions to the Panel before midnight tonight AEST.

65 public submissions have been received so far and can be seen by **CLICKING HERE**.

An alternative form of submission is via an **ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE**, which needs to be completed by 30 Sep.

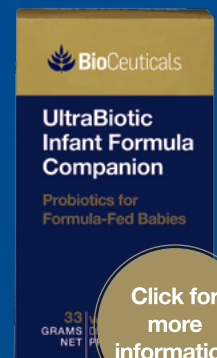
PSNZ taps potential

THE Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand (PSNZ) has announced it will appoint a young pharmacist to its National Executive board for a trial period in an attempt to identify and encourage young leaders.



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Aus Health scores 10th

WITH challenges around suicide, alcohol consumption and overweight children, Australia has come in at position 10 in a global study tracking progress on health from the international Global Burden of Disease (GBD) collaboration.

Published today in *The Lancet*, the report analyses the progress of 188 countries, over a 15-year period, towards achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on health.

Countries were ranked on a scale of zero to 100, with Iceland topping the list at 85, Australia at 81, the United States at 75, and the Central African Republic, one of the 10 poorest countries in the world ranked down at 20.

Timor-Leste, Tajikistan, Colombia, Taiwan and Iceland have made the greatest strides in areas such as expanded health coverage, and malaria and tobacco control, the report said, while Brazil has almost halved deaths of children under five.

Australia scored 63 on overweight, 55 on suicide, 54 on alcohol and 66 on smoking.

Lead author, Laureate Professor Alan Lopez, the Rowden-White chair of Global Health and Burden of Disease Measurement at the University of Melbourne, said the findings were important for policymakers for allocating domestic health spending, prioritising foreign aid budgets, and benchmarking themselves against other countries.

CLICK HERE to access *The Lancet* published paper.

Care joins ASMI

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry has announced that Care Pharmaceuticals is its newest member, with Care gm Jonathan Biddle saying the move "provides a connection to other manufacturers and sponsors for our organisation, as well as mechanisms for the training of our team in relevant industry knowledge".

Care Pharmaceuticals was established locally in 1986 and is now part of Prestige Brands Holdings which has a brand portfolio including Hydralite, Fess, Murine, Painstop, Nasalate, Fab Iron, Rectogesic, Little Allergies, Lacto-Free and more.

Scheduling consult

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is seeking comments from interested stakeholders on proposed amendments to the Poisons Standard referred by the delegate for scheduling advice to the Advisory Committee on Chemicals and Medicines Scheduling.

Upscheduling of Pentobarbital (Pentobarbitone) injection is proposed from S4 to S8 because of reported misuse, especially its involvement in suicides.

Cannabis scheduling and label changes are being considered with relation to cannabinoid levels in hemp seed oil.

Another consideration relates to an amendment of epidermal growth factor's S7 entry.

Submission relating to the proposals should reach the TGA by 20 Oct - see www.tga.gov.au.

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MedAdvisor growth plan

DIGITAL medication adherence company MedAdvisor says its platform continues to surge in popularity, with ceo Robert Read claiming a "nearly 45% share of the pharmacy market" following the recently announced acquisition of rival HealthNotes (*PD* 02 Sep).

According to an ASX update issued yesterday, Read said during the last financial year patient numbers on the MedAdvisor platform had doubled.

"One of the most important focuses for us is to connect more patients to the platform and to realise the multiple revenue streams that can be generated from this," he said.

The Healthnotes deal "takes us 12 months ahead in our land-grab initiative," he said, lifting the

group's customer base to nearly 500,000 patients.

Read said that with 50% of Australians suffering a chronic disease "the addressable market is significant".

"For people to look after and manage medications has to date been a very manual process, much like the

banking process used to be.

"Today we wouldn't dream of having to visit a branch to view our bank balance," he said, with MedAdvisor continuing to disrupt the sector.

The MedAdvisor smartphone app allows patients to manage all their scripts and medications, linking to their local pharmacy and providing reminders when they need to take a dose, fill a repeat or see a doctor for a new prescription.



J&J Innovation Award

JOHNSON and Johnson (J&J) and AusBiotech has opened the Innovation 2016 Industry Excellence Awards for nominations.

Nominations are in three categories: Industry Leadership Award, Australian Company of the Year Award and Australian Emerging Company of the Year Award - for details **CLICK HERE**.

iNova on the market

US PHARMACEUTICAL giant Valeant has appointed investment bankers to sell iNova Pharmaceuticals, which Valeant bought for around \$700m in 2011.

According to the *Financial Review*, Goldman Sachs is looking after the sale of the Sydney-based company which manufactures and markets a range of brands including Nyal, Difflam and Bausch & Lomb.

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Jobs of the Week

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- **Pharmacist Manager** - Goulburn Valley region, VIC (Job# 200013363)
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TGA CM presentation

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has posted on its website the presentation its representative John Skeritt, Deputy Secretary for Health Products Regulation, Commonwealth Department of Health gave at the Complementary Medicines Australia Annual Conference earlier this month.

The presentation provides an overview of the Government's response to the Expert Panel Review of Medicines and Medical Devices, with an emphasis on complementary medicines changes.

CLICK HERE to access the TGA presentation.



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.

28 Sep: CPD MedsASSIST Update; Broadbeach; more info at www.guild.org.au

27-29 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; Sea World Resort, Gold Coast; visit: www.pharmacyassistants.com

16-19 Nov: Medicines Management 2016; Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info visit: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

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

9-12 Mar: APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: www.appconference.com

PSA to deliver vax program

LA TROBE University in Bendigo will be the first university in Victoria to train pharmacy students in the business of immunisation through a new partnership with the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA).

The training program is being offered in response to the Victorian Government's recent legislative change (**PD 11 May 16**), which enables registered pharmacists to immunise.

La Trobe University lecturer in clinical pharmacy Richard Summers said the program was designed to upskill pharmacy graduates, giving them greater flexibility for when they complete their degrees.

"Immunising within the pharmacy setting makes sense for many reasons and importantly it has been shown to enhance vaccination rates in the community," Summers said.

"If our students have the confidence and skills to immunise when they graduate, it will make their transition to the workplace that much easier.

"Pharmacist-delivered



immunisations will soon be commonplace, and when that happens, our alumni will be ready to embrace it," he added.

PSA executive director Practice Support and Education, Jan Ridd, welcomed the support of the university to ensure future pharmacists are skilled in this new area of pharmacist practice, saying of the past year PSA had trained more than 2300 pharmacists around the country "to deliver high-quality immunisation services and to provide a major public health boost in local communities".

Pictured above are Richard Summers, La Trobe University and Katherine Hancy, PSA with fourth-year pharmacy students Sam Brown and Hassan El-Saafien.



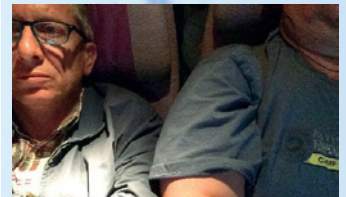
Dispensary Corner

THE obesity crisis has spilled over into aviation, with a lawyer suing Emirates after he was seated next to a fat man during a flight from Cape Town to Dubai.

Italian media is reporting on the story of Giorgio Destro, who is claiming more than \$5,000 in damages for the nightmare flight.

"For nine hours I had to stand in the aisle, sit on seats reserved for the cabin crew when they were free, and in the final phase of flight resign myself to suffer the 'spillover' of the passenger at my side," he said.

He took a selfie (**below**) as evidence for the case which will be presented during a court hearing next month.



BAD news for gadget-lovers - wearing a fitness tracker may not help you lose weight.

That's a key finding of a two year study reported this week in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, in which researchers looked at almost 500 overweight subjects who were asked to stick to a diet and exercise more.

Half wore electronic fitness trackers which counted their daily steps, and the other half did not.

Surprisingly, the scientists from the University of Pittsburgh found that by the end of the 24 month trial those who wore the gadgets lost about 3.6kg on average - significantly less than the 5.9kg average weight loss of those who didn't wear the trackers.

The gadget makers discounted the results, saying technology has improved since the trial.

Win with CleanEars

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

NEW CleanEars Kids is a clinically proven ear wax removal spray that is suitable for babies, infants and children from 2 months and up. CleanEars kids is fast and fun, 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 TAS or VIC to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



What are the directions to use CleanEars Kids?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Rebecca Larcombe from Repatriation General Hospital.

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