



## Aust CM regs strong

**AUSTRALIA** has an internationally well regarded regulatory system for all medicines, including herbal and other complementary medicines (CMs), the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has countered the claims in a *Medical Journal of Australia* article published on Monday (PD 06 Feb).

The report had said there needs to be stronger regulatory control over the contents of CMs, citing the example of risks associated with aristolochia species, but the TGA has explained that any species that might contain the substance aristolochic acid must undergo the TGA pre-approval process.

Furthermore, all medicines, must be made in factories inspected by TGA officials for compliance with international manufacturing standards, and the TGA's laboratories also test for adulterants such as heavy metals and pharmaceutical substances.

The TGA said where it had come across adulterated herbal medicines these had been illegally imported and purchased online.

## Pharmacy Alliance expands

**INDEPENDENT** pharmacy group SmarterPharm has announced it will merge with Pharmacy Alliance, in a move aimed at boosting resources and support for members (PD breaking news yesterday).

The deal will see Pharmacy Alliance expand to 650 member pharmacies Australia-wide.

SmarterPharm said Pharmacy Alliance was the "logical choice for providing members with a sustainable and progressive opportunity to navigate industry change to maximise profitability, as well as providing the flexibility to retain pharmacy individuality and independence."

SmarterPharm ceo Karen Duncan said it had been a pleasure to see the group grow to 130 members.

With significant PBS reforms ongoing, SmarterPharm had sought a partner in 2016 to best resource support for member pharmacies.

"Due to industry change we have had to make a significant decision to protect the interests of our members," Duncan said.

"I am confident that the partnership with Pharmacy Alliance will achieve this as we both have a strong alignment in values with both organisations fiercely protective of independent pharmacy, are own/operated by pharmacists and both groups have a strong relationship with our wholesale partner Sigma," she said.

Pharmacy Alliance ceo Darren Dye said, "We are thrilled to welcome SmarterPharm members to the Pharmacy Alliance family."

"It will allow Pharmacy Alliance even greater scale to provide another level of improved solutions to help all pharmacists and supplier partners overcome industry change, and continue to develop member solutions to create sustainable pharmacy models".

The SmarterPharm/Pharmacy Alliance agreement is the latest move in pharmacy sector consolidation, which last year also saw Terry White Chemists merge with Chemmart to form the Terry White Chemmart powerhouse.

## O<sub>2</sub>Vent T for OSA

**BRINGING** new hope to an estimated 12-18 million US sufferers of Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA), Brisbane-based company Oventus, in collaboration with the CSIRO, has launched its jaw-stabilising device in America.

CSIRO Global's gm Nigel Warren said, "It's exciting to see the successful collaboration between Oventus and CSIRO lead to another unique product that's now impacting health and wellbeing on a global scale."

Oventus founder and director Dr Chris Hart said the device's patented airway design allowed for breathing through it, bypassing multiple sites of obstruction including the nose, soft palate and tongue.

"Allowing patients to breathe through a separate airway is something that's never been done before," Dr Hart said.

Oventus Medical has also announced a partnership with Chinese company Zhuhai Blue Ocean to launch the product into the China market.



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## Cystic fibrosis tick

**HEALTH** minister Greg Hunt has confirmed the approval of a recommendation from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for the PBS listing of Kalydeco (ivacaftor) from 01 May.

The Section 100 listing includes an extension to the current approval for patients aged six and above to also include patients aged 2-5 years, with the drug to be available to patients who have a G551D or other gating (class III) mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane regulator (CFTR) gene.

The approval follows an agreement with the medication's sponsor, Vertex Australia, which will also now supply the drug at no charge to 2-5 year olds prior to its PBS listing in three months.

A long term safety study for Kalydeco showed an improvement in the relative risk of hospitalisation in patients aged under six years.

## GuildCare into the cloud

**GUILDLINK** has announced the launch of GuildCare NG, a new cloud

based software framework that the company said had taken 18 months to develop, was "more functionally intuitive" and "provides a more valuable and future proof solution for our partner pharmacies".

GuildLink said that while the original GuildCare platform was developed for pharmacy to provide the tools that drive patient care, customer loyalty and further enhance the role of pharmacy as an integral healthcare provider within the community, the new system was designed to further "evolve with pharmacy business reimagining existing GuildCare functions and adding new features".



The new cloud based software framework is more

functionally intuitive, GuildLink asserts.

Professional Services program recording and reporting is said to be more adaptable to industry development, with credible industry data curated by the GuildCare NG analytics engine, enabling pharmacy's internal performance tracking, as well as analysis and comparison performance against the rest of the industry.

On board are new business tools such as the customisable dashboard and loyalty building patient app, myPharmacyLink, tailorable to individual pharmacies' branding, GuildLink said.

GuildCare NG will be available to evaluate at this year's APP conference - visit the GuildCare stand at the APP trade exhibition.

**CLICK HERE** for more details.

## CW takes tea time

**REAL** Housewives of Melbourne Star and certified Tea Master, Janet Roach introduced her Raw Essentials tea range into Chemist Warehouse (CW) stores nationally last month, with four new variations of the product.



Chemist Warehouse Group chief operating officer

Mario Tascone said, "We are extremely excited to have exclusive access to Raw Essentials' Aphrodisiac Tea, Menopause Tea, Slim Tea and Immune Tea, effective this year".



Raw Essentials has confirmed that its products were Australian made and owned, GM-free, vegan and cruelty-free with all ingredients sourced ethically and mindfully from reputable suppliers.

## WIN WITH DESIGNER BRANDS

This week Pharmacy Daily and Designer Brands are giving away the entire Flawless range each day - a prize valued at \$135.

The Flawless All In 1 Foundation is a concealer, foundation & skin loving ingredients in one product. Shade matched to all other existing DB Liquid Foundations so you can mix and match, it provides great coverage that is easy to apply. The new Bronzer Stick is designed to define and illuminate your features, creating that enviable sun kissed glow has never been easier. The Strobing Stick is a light reflecting complexion booster that instantly highlights and brightens skin for a radiant effect. The Lip & Cheek Cream adds a hint of colour for a naturally flushed glow on the lips & cheeks. **CLICK HERE** to see more.



To win, be the first person from WA to send the correct answer to the question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

What is the newest product added to the range?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jessica Sondergeld from Warwick Friendly Society Pharmacy.

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## Dispensary Corner

**FINALLY** men may be able to take full responsibility for contraception, with an experimental option that blocks sperm flow via a gel proving successful in animal trials.

The results of a two year study were published in *Basic and Clinical Andrology*, with the product called Vasagel acting as a physical barrier once injected into the *vas deferens* duct.

The next step for the option which is being described as a "reversible vasectomy," is to obtain funding for human trials - and also to convince enough men that it's a good idea to stick a needle into their nether regions.

### NO MORE MONKEYING AROUND



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**HERE'S** a quick way to lose weight.

An American man who was told he was "just fat" for many years is now recovering in hospital after doctors removed a 65kg tumour.

57-year-old Roger Logan from Mississippi was previously confined to a recliner armchair inside a room he rarely left, but began researching his condition and ended up in the hands of a surgeon who had other patients with similar conditions.

Doctors believe the benign growth was started by an ingrown hair which grew rapidly.

## Health, Beauty and New Products

### Aromababy Pure Baby Wash

**Pure Baby Wash** provides a natural alternative to fragrance-free, mineral oil based eczema and sensitive skin creams. Delivering optimum care for dehydrated skin, this Australian made brand ensures value for money, with one 150ml tube lasting up to 3 months. With added organic rosehip oil for dry skin, this gentle, top to toe product is suitable for face and body, during pregnancy and afterwards. It has no petro-chemicals, sulphates, parabens, dairy or fragrance. A gift is available for new pharmacy orders placed until 15 Mar.

**Stockist:** 03 9464 0888

**RRP:** from \$15.95

**Website:** [www.aromababy.com](http://www.aromababy.com)



### After Sun Gel Ultra-Soothing



**Clarins After Sun Gel Ultra-Soothing** is a refreshing gel that very quickly soothes and comforts the skin. Sunflower and griffonia extracts immediately calm feelings of heat and discomfort so the skin instantly regains a feeling of freshness and wellbeing. Kalahari melon extract and aloe vera soothes and replenishes, while cardamom extract helps prolong the tan by stimulating the tanning process.

**Stockist:** 02 9663 4277

**RRP:** \$40.00 for 150 mL

**Website:** [www.clarins.com.au](http://www.clarins.com.au)

### DB Enlighten Me Pressed Illuminator

Designer Brand's (DB's) new **Enlighten Me Pressed Illuminator** is the perfect tool to light up your complexion. Enriched with hyaluronic acid to plump and hydrate, together with aloe vera and chamomile to soothe and calm the skin, this finely milled illuminator will deliver glowing, younger-looking skin.

**Stockist:** 1300 765 332

**RRP:** \$11.99

**Website:** [www.dbcosmetics.com.au](http://www.dbcosmetics.com.au)



### Prevage City Smart with Sunscreens Hydrating Shield



Elizabeth Arden's **Prevage City Smart With Sunscreens Hydrating Shield** can help outsmart pollution, outsmart the sun and outsmart visible signs of ageing, the company states. This product is the first-of-its-kind skin shield to combine pollution and UV protection with Elizabeth Arden's DNA Enzyme Complex to strengthen the skin. Its essential daily formula helps keep skin hydrated, protected and youthful-looking now and over time.

**Stockist:** 02 9409 7703

**RRP:** \$89.00

**Website:** [www.elizabetharden.com.au](http://www.elizabetharden.com.au)

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