



## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news plus full pages from:

- Amcal+
- Wizard Pharmacy
- Discount Drug Stores

## Corum phcy group strategy

**LISTED** pharmacy software specialist Corum Health has announced in its just released 2016 half-year report that, with the increased concentration of the pharmacy market, it will continue to pursue a strategy of aligning with pharmacy groups.

Half-year profit after tax was reported as \$122,000 compared to a loss of \$363,000 for the same period last year, with operating costs excluding employment, depreciation and R&D benefit dropping \$729,000.

During the half-year period the company said it had undertaken significant investment in new product development and internal systems upgrades and renewal, adding to an increase in employment expense of \$490,000.

All investment, both capital and revenue in nature, has been funded from the company's cashflow and



cash reserves, standing at \$8.75m at the end of the period.

With the strategy of actively pursuing pharmacy groups, recent pharmacy site numbers have been described as "more stable" so that recurring revenue decline has eased, while e-Commerce trends have remained unchanged.

New product development investment for the full year is expected to be in the region of \$1.5m, the report projected, of which \$1m is incremental.

With Consolidated Entity net assets at \$19.975m, working capital, current assets less liabilities is at a surplus of \$7.134m.

At the beginning of the year David Clark (**pictured**) was appointed ceo after three years' experience as cfo (**PD** 25 Jan 17) and as interim ceo for the five months from the end of 2015.

## DDS APP seminar

**DISCOUNT** Drug Stores will host a breakfast event at the upcoming Australian Pharmacy Professional conference, with the function taking place at Jupiters on Sat 11 Mar 2017 - for details see **page five** of today's *Pharmacy Daily*.

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## Join the Wizard family

**WIZARD** Pharmacy is inviting pharmacists to "join a pharmacy group that takes care of your business".

See **page four** for more info.

## Amcal+ \$50k offer

**THE** first ten pharmacies new to the Amcal brand to join the "new evolution of Amcal+" will receive a \$50,000 conversion contribution.

More details on **page three**.

## SkinB5 PATY promo

**SKINB5** has announced its sponsorship of the Pharmacy Assistant of the Year award this year, alongside the Pharmacy Guild and AFT Pharmaceuticals.

The award will launch at APP next week, with nominations opening on 09 Mar at [pharmacyassistants.com](http://pharmacyassistants.com).

SkinB5 is also showcasing its holistic approach to the treatment of acne via a new video featuring pharmacist Saki Kusakabe.

The video is now online at [pharmacydaily.com.au/videos](http://pharmacydaily.com.au/videos).



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## Dispensary Corner

**HAIRDRYERS** are working their magic to slow speeding drivers in the Scottish village of Moray.

When the police wouldn't step in to stop speeding drivers in their town, villagers took matters into their own hands, mimicking speed cameras by standing in fluoro vests, pointing hairdryers at cars.

The locals (pictured below) say while it may be a seemingly odd thing to do, they are trying to prevent children in the neighbourhood being killed by rushing cars.



**COULD** your sex life do with a revamp? A £1,000 injection may just be the answer.

Known as the 'o-shot' it is offered by a private clinic in London and uses blood from the patient's own arm injected into the vagina to trigger an increase in blood flow.

According to the *Daily Mail* the booster shot to the nether region helps older people to regain their ability to orgasm and natural lubrication.

"As we grow older, our sight gets impaired so we wear glasses, our hearing might get weaker so we wear hearing aids, this is no different," Dr Sharif Wakil from the Harley Street clinic said.

"And this is a part of the female body that sees a lot of changes through life".

## FDA test approval

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has approved the expanded use of a test called the Vidas Brahms PCT Assay, to help health professionals determine whether antibiotic treatment should be started or stopped in patients with lower respiratory tract infections such as pneumonia, and stopped in patients with sepsis.

It is the first test to use procalcitonin (PCT) as a biomarker to help make antibiotic management decisions.

## TGA med marijuana access guidance

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration has released a flowchart guide for doctors and pharmacists explaining the process for access to medicinal cannabis products in Australia.

The chart describes three main steps: doctor consultation, national (TGA) and state schemes, and thirdly the sourcing of product from within or without Australia.

Visit [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) for the guidance.



## Flu vax pregnancy-safe

**AN AUSTRALIA-WIDE** study published in the international journal *Vaccine* has provided reassuring evidence on the safety of influenza vaccination during pregnancy.

Menzies School of Health Research conducted a collaborative study involving 7,126 women from Darwin, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth over three consecutive years finding that women who had an influenza vaccine in pregnancy were not at increased risk of having a preterm or low birthweight baby compared with those who were not vaccinated.

The findings support the current recommendation in Australia to vaccinate all women who are pregnant during the influenza season.

**CLICK HERE** for the study abstract.

## Yervoy AusPAR

**THE** TGA has published an Australian Public Assessment Report for prescription medicines (AusPAR) covering the evaluation process for Bristol-Myers Squibb's ipilimumab (rch) (Yervoy/Winglore) as first line therapy for melanoma.

## Win with SkinB5

This week **Pharmacy Daily** & **SkinB5** are giving away each day the Acne Control Cleansing Mousse.

SkinB5 is an all-natural acne supplement that works from within to eliminate and stop acne on the face and all over the body. The SkinB5 acne treatment system is based on a potent dosage of vitamin B5, which is proven to increase skin health and reduce acne by regulating the skin's production of sebum, or skin oil. See [www.skinb5.com](http://www.skinb5.com) for more.

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

What fruit does the SkinB5 Acne Control Cleansing Mousse contain?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



## Weekly Comment

Welcome to *PD's* weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Li Yan, Research & Development Scientist, Digestive Health - Procter & Gamble.**



### Clinical efficacy of probiotics for IBS

**A GROWING** number of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) have evaluated the efficacy of probiotics in patients with IBS. This typically included strains of *Lactobacillus* or *Bifidobacterium* species, as well as different probiotic combinations.

#### Single strain:

Brenner and coworkers conducted a systematic review of 16 RCTs to evaluate probiotics for IBS management<sup>1</sup>. *Bifidobacterium infantis* 35624 (*Bifantis*®) was the only one which demonstrated significant improvement in IBS symptoms in appropriately designed RCTs. Studies evaluating single strains of *Lactobacillus* spp. have generated mixed results<sup>2</sup>.

#### Combination probiotics:

VSL #3 is combination of multiple bacteria strains. With a sample size of 48 patients with Rome II IBS, Kim and coworkers found that VSL #3 significantly reduced flatulence scores versus the placebo group<sup>3</sup>.

Though it is difficult to compare results between studies due to variations in design, probiotic dose and strain, it is important to look for positive clinical evidence when recommending probiotics.

1. Brenner DM et al., *Am J Gastroenterol*, 2009; 104:1033-49
2. O'Mahony L et al., *Gastroenterology*, 2005;128:541-51
3. Kim HJ et al., *Neurogastroenterol Motil*, 2005; 17(5):687-96

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**to.join.the.family**

# Discover Discount Drug Stores

**We are pleased to invite you to attend the  
Discover Discount Drug Stores breakfast event,  
to be held at Jupiters Hotel during APP.**

**DATE:** Saturday 11th March 2017

**TIME:** 7:15am for 7:30am to 8:30am - breakfast and presentation

**VENUE:** Broadbeach 1 Room, Jupiters Hotel and Casino,  
Broadbeach Island, Broadbeach 4218 QLD

**RSVP:** By Friday 3rd March to [adamg@discountdrugstores.com.au](mailto:adamg@discountdrugstores.com.au)

## **DISCOVER DISCOUNT DRUG STORES**

Presented by the leadership team from Discount Drug Stores, the Discover Discount Drug Stores breakfast event offers pharmacy owners a unique opportunity to learn more about the Discount Drug Store brand.

We'll share how we're tracking, provide insights into our future direction, and help you discover more about the culture and passion that exists at Discount Drug Stores. Includes an overview of the brand, including marketing & advertising, pharmacy professional services, buying & promotions, and retail operations.

The objective is to provide a better understanding of the Discount Drug Stores business – and what we can offer you and your pharmacy.

## **BREAKFAST**

Assorted breakfast options, including coffee & tea, will be provided.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

 **DISCOUNT DRUG STORES**  
*more than just low prices*