

## Pilot plan lauded

**THE** Victorian branches of both the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia have welcomed the announcement of the Andrews Government Pharmacist Chronic Disease Management pilot program (*PD* yesterday) as a major step in helping patients manage their chronic illnesses and medication, while better utilising the skills of community pharmacists in collaboration with GPs.

With one metropolitan and two rural locations planned, eligible pharmacies are invited to submit an expression of interest by completing the application form accessible by **CLICKING HERE**.

## Win with MOVICOL

This month, Pharmacy Daily and MOVICOL are giving readers the chance to win a pack of MOVICOL® Ready to Take (1 box of 10 sachets), a Keep Cup and an EOS Strawberry Lip Balm.



MOVICOL® Ready to Take is the latest MOVICOL® product in the trusted MOVICOL® range.

The product is used for treatment of acute and chronic constipation in children over 12 years old and adults. MOVICOL® Ready to Take is

great for those who are busy, family-focused or time poor. The product comes in a box of 10 (\$11-13) premixed, natural fruit flavoured (banana & strawberry) sachets that provide effective relief on the go and fit comfortably into daily life. **CLICK HERE** to see more.

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

Do you need water to prepare MOVICOL® Ready to Take?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Tahlia McGinty from Gambier Village Pharmacy.

## Formula company curdles

**TASMANIAN** infant formula manufacturer Bellamy's saw its shares devalued by more than a third after it dumped its ceo Laura McBain (**pictured**) and slashed its profit guidance for the coming six months, *ABC* reports.

Resurrecting from a 40-day trading halt this week, the company announced an overhaul of its directorship replacing McBain with chief operating officer and chief strategy officer Andrew Cohen.

McBain will remain employed with the company until 31 Mar. Shareholders had reportedly been urging replacement of a number of independent non-executive directors, a push which



the company said it was resisting.

Bellamy's released a statement to the ASX saying it had renegotiated its contract with Fonterra, allowing it to cut production, and enabling an announcement about reduced profit guidance.

It is expecting its net profit after tax to be between 4% and 6% of revenue, due to lower sales volumes, high interest costs and increased costs of organic ingredients, the company said.

## Livestock antibiotics

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has put new rules into place to stop the use of "medically important" antibiotics being used for the purpose of preemptively treating livestock.

**CLICK HERE** for the statement.

## Blackmores Well Bot

**BLACKMORES** has announced the release of its digital wellbeing coach dubbed Well Bot, incorporating the latest in artificial intelligence, the company says.

Launched as part of its Australian Open campaign, Well Bot is available at the touch of a button, chatting to the digital support system on Facebook Messenger or via SMS, for their personalised wellbeing plan for 2017.



The robot provides "advice about nutrition, exercise, mindfulness or beauty from within" together with "the tools to Choose to Be a Well Being" the company says.

As a sponsor of this year's Australian Open, Blackmores is making Well Bot available on site during the tournament in the Blackmores Wellbeing Oasis where visitors can 'meet' the Blackmores Well Bot at eight kiosks.

Personalised wellbeing responses will be rewarded with a tailored Blackmores Superfood sample.

Tennis fans can **CLICK HERE**.

## Banana Boat response

**BANANA** Boat has expressed concern that some customers have been unhappy with certain products (*PD* yesterday), saying that while the company cannot comment on individual cases, it "would like to reassure everyone that we take each customer's concerns very seriously and investigate them when contacted."

"All sunscreens in Australia are heavily regulated by the TGA which has some of the strictest testing requirements in the world, due to the high incidence of skin cancer in this country.

"The recent *ABC* media coverage also records that 'the TGA has found no issue with Banana Boat products, having conducted its own quality testing.'"

As with the similar concerns around the Cancer Council Peppa Pig brand sunscreen (*PD* 06 Jan) and reiterated by the Australian Self Medication Industry (*PD* 10 Jan), Banana Boat strongly recommended doing a personal patch test on sensitive skin.

**CLICK HERE** to give feedback.

## APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE VICTORIAN PHARMACY AUTHORITY

The Minister for Health, the Hon Jill Hennessy MP, is pleased to invite applications for appointment to the position of a registered pharmacist on the Victorian Pharmacy Authority (the Authority).

This position provides an exciting opportunity for a suitably qualified and experienced individual to contribute to the governance of the Authority and protection of the Victorian public.

This is a paid, part-time Victorian Governor in Council appointment. The term of the appointment is from 1 July 2017 for up to three years.

The Victorian Government is committed to equality for all Victorians. Women, Aboriginal Victorians, people with a disability, people of all ages, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people from the LGBTIQ community are strongly encouraged to apply.

The recruitment panel will consider both merit and diversity factors such as gender balance during the assessment to ensure the Authority is high functioning and reflects Victoria's diversity.

Applications close at 5.00pm on Friday 10 February 2017.

For more information including how to apply please visit: **[www2.health.vic.gov.au/health-workforce/health-workforce-regulation/victorian-pharmacy-authority-appointments](http://www2.health.vic.gov.au/health-workforce/health-workforce-regulation/victorian-pharmacy-authority-appointments)**, or email: **[workforceregulation@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:workforceregulation@dhs.vic.gov.au)**.

For enquiries please contact Catherine Riskas at the Department of Health and Human Services on (03) 9096 3270.



If you have a desire to travel and a passion for engaging with and recruiting domestic and international students, for the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, then this could be the position you've been looking for.



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## Dispensary Corner

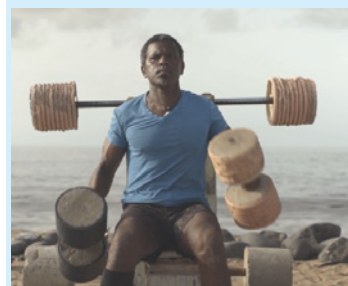
**WANT** to get fit but the gym is too pricey and you don't have any home equipment?

One man has navigated his way around that problem by creating his own gym on a beach in Santa Maria, Cape Verde.

To cut spending out of the equation, the workout gear is made entirely from wood, tubes and miscellaneous rubbish that had washed up on the shore.

The brains behind the project Roger Serrasqueiro (pictured) said sport for him was everything and he came up with the idea for the gym because he had nowhere else in the town to train.

The local community now comes together to work up a sweat at the unconventional facility.



**A VIDEO** of three real-life surgeons attempting to play the Surgical Simulator game has gone viral after the trio failed miserably at the challenge.

They initially held high hopes with one saying "I'm guessing it'll be quicker than real life and probably not as tedious".

The commentary is quite entertaining from "this is disastrous he's probably going to die" and "oh, I just poked the new heart that's not good" to "oops, there goes my watch".

**CLICK HERE** to watch it.

## J&J to disclose price rises

**US-LISTED** healthcare giant Johnson & Johnson



government probes. Yesterday US President

has announced plans to disclose average price increases of prescription drugs as the industry tries to calm the storm over perceived soaring prices, according to a report by the *Associated Press*.

While experts argue the move will help the company's image more than the patients it says it wants to support, they say it could force other drug manufacturers to moderate future price hikes and be more transparent.

The company said it would divulge average list price increases and what middlemen distributors paid for medicines.

Annual price tags over \$100,000 for many new drugs for cancer and rare diseases, plus huge price hikes on old generic products with little competition, have left some patients unable to afford their medicines.

The threat of US government price controls may be averted by the Johnson & Johnson initiative, some strategists have suggested, with seemingly unjustifiable price gouging infuriating doctors and politicians, triggering multiple

Elect Donald Trump weighed in on the issue in anticipation of his planned "new bidding procedures for the drug industry" which would apply downward pressure on drug pricing.

Still pushing his price-cutting barrow, Trump's comments finished with reference to drug companies "getting away with murder", causing health care and some biotech stocks to fall sharply on the announcements.

The Nasdaq composite erased gains to trade slightly lower while health care dropped more than 1.5% as the worst performer in the S&P 500, with the pharmaceuticals sub-sector down more than 1.5% and the biotech sub-sector off nearly 3%, *CNBC* reports.

This was not the first time Trump has had this effect, causing a similar fall in share prices for pharma and biotech stocks in Dec 2016 when he said in an interview "I'm going to bring down drug prices".

He also told *Time* magazine which named him Person of the Year, "I don't like what has happened with drug prices."

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### Jobs of the Week

- **Rotational Pharmacist** - Darling Downs Region, QLD (Job# 200004932)  
Career building role for early career Pharmacist -diversity and dollars.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central NSW (Job# 200013067)  
Gain valuable experience in this refined country community pharmacy.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Mornington Peninsula, VIC (Job# 200013702)  
P/time Mon, Thu, Fri & 2nd Sat in a beautiful coastal town 1 hr from the CBD.

our dynamic support can move your business or career forward!

## 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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**17 Feb:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Medication Management; Pullman Melbourne Albert Park; for details and to register: [www.shpa.org.au](http://www.shpa.org.au)

**3-5 Mar:** Annual Therapeutic Update 2017; Crowne Plaza Terrigal; register here: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**8 Mar:** AACP Accredited Pharmacists' Forum: Quality Use of Medicines in the Management of Chronic Medical Conditions; CGold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre; more info at: [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)

**9-12 Mar:** APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)

**31 Mar:** Foundation Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy Practice; Sydney, NSW; registrations opening soon: [www.shpa.org.au](http://www.shpa.org.au)

**29-30 Apr:** Victorian Pharmacy Conference 2017; Monash University, Parkville; register here: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**16-18 Jun:** ConPharm 2017; Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart; find out more: [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)

**28-30 Jul:** PSA17; Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour, Sydney; for details see: [www.psa17.com](http://www.psa17.com)

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