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Antibiotic Rx rates up

ANTIBIOTIC prescription rates in Australia are among the highest in the world with the rates of use increasing by 230% in the last decade, according to a report published in the *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*.

The findings come from the Barwon Infant Study, a birth cohort study being conducted as a partnership between the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Barwon Health and Deakin University.

Antibiotic resistance is a global health emergency, the authors wrote, saying avoiding unnecessary antibiotic use in babies and children is "essential to reduce antibiotic resistance and other potential long term adverse effects of antibiotics".

The researchers found 50% of the babies studied had at least one antibiotic prescription in the first year of life, much higher than almost all comparable industrialised countries.

One in eight infants received three or more antibiotic prescriptions.

Australia's antibiotic prescription rate is almost 150% higher than the UK, and almost 500% higher than Switzerland.

Children with siblings were more likely to be prescribed antibiotics, but antibiotics were being used "for common infections, which are often due to viruses, where antibiotics are unnecessary and ineffective".

Authors recommended interventions aimed at addressing avoidable prescribing by medical practitioners to reduce antibiotic use - [CLICK HERE](#) for the study.

eMIMS links to Fred NXT

MIMS Australia and Fred IT Group have announced a collaboration to improve dispensing workflow.

When pharmacists go to work on 01 Aug and open Fred NXT they will have the option of a new integration available within the software's App Bar Manager.

Subscribers to eMIMSCloud will be able to add the eMIMSCloud tile to the app bar and with just one click, immediately accessing "Australia's most trusted source of medicines information as they dispense," MIMS said.

Designed to meet the preference for each user's eMIMSCloud landing page, the functionality also provides single sign-on for the users with no timeout for eMIMSCloud while Fred NXT is operating.

MIMS Australia and NZ ceo Robert Best commented, "The MIMS and Fred teams have worked closely together to ensure mutual customers have a seamless experience and immediate access to their preferred page in eMIMSCloud.

"The joint focus in development of a solution and in providing high quality data matches has resulted in what will be a positive experience and provide us future opportunity for an even greater collaboration through use of Australian Medicines Codes."

Best described the link as "a terrific example of how Australia's leading health IT companies can work together to solve a problem".

"We trust the users find the end result helpful and a huge 'value add' to their dispensing day."

Fred IT Group ceo Paul Naismith said he saw benefits to the pharmacist enabling efficiency.

"We are really pleased to have the power of eMIMSCloud fully available to our Fred NXT customers," Naismith said.

"The innovation and open design of Fred NXT allows these two products to work seamlessly together and enables pharmacists to access their choice of quality drug information, in a single click." For more, ring 1800 800 629.

Health IT tender call

THE Australian Government is seeking to replace the information technology (IT) systems supporting health, aged care and related veterans' payments with a new digital payments platform, based on existing commercial technology, consequently calling a tender for IT consultation services.

The tender closes at 2.00 pm 31 Aug this year - tenders.gov.au.

TerryWhite satisfies

ANOTHER day, another consumer satisfaction survey result.

This time it's the monthly Roy Morgan Research customer satisfaction figures for pharmacy, which in Jun saw TerryWhite come in first place with a 90% rating.

My Chemist dropped from its strongly held first spot to second position, followed by Chemmart Pharmacy in third, Chemist Warehouse fourth and Priceline Pharmacy in fifth position.

WA pharmacists immunisation invite

WESTERN Australian Premier Mark McGowan and state Health Minister Roger Cook have both expressed interest in talking to the Pharmacy Guild about the role community pharmacy can take in immunisation.

Discussions will advance at next week's WA Pharmacy



Forum, where the Guild says members must demonstrate they are available and ready to embark on providing immunisation as part of their pharmacy service.

The Premier is opening the Forum at a wholesalers' breakfast on Thu 03 Aug and the Guild urges pharmacists to register and be there to hear from the Premier and be part of the discussion.

The Guild WA branch is very keen that members demonstrate support for the state government's solution to a sustainable health system urging as many as possible to register by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Bittermelon alert

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has warned that a product labelled Bittermelon Slimming Capsules, purchased online by a number of Australians, contains the undeclared substance sibutramine - the active ingredient in Reductil which was withdrawn in Oct 2010 after a study showed an increased risk of major cardiac events - see tga.gov.au.

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Jobs of the Week

- **Aged Care Pharmacist** - Melbourne East, VIC (Job# 200014375)
Expanding Aged Care Pharmacy - Large and friendly team - Mon-Fri work week.
- **Pharmacist** - North Brisbane, QLD (Job# 200014428)
Luxury Mon-Fri roster - great support from owner and senior Pharmacist - PPI's.
- **Pharmacist In Charge** - NSW South Coast (Job# 200014406)
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Dispensary Corner

IF YOU are a diminutive animal, how do you get around in a major flood?

Three New Zealand rabbits had the answer - simply surf the nearest large animal, which for a soft ride would have to be a sheep, in the land of the long white cloud - a wild and woolly ride at that, if a little hare-raising.

Ferg Horne, 64, says he's been farming since he left school at age 15 and has never seen anything quite like it, reports *Yahoo! News*.

He saw two rabbits surfing one sheep and a third on another, the sheep obviously splitting hares.

When on higher ground the rabbits promptly called "abandon sheep" - not such a woolly idea.



LADIES, do you need something to help ward off unwanted attention from those persistent admirers? China has just the ticket.

A flame-thrower that can hurl a stream of fire half a metre long is being marketed there and described online as a must-have "anti-pervert weapon" that can be discreetly carried in a woman's handbag.

That should compete well with any unwanted flames of desire.

Some are shaped like a cigarette lighter and emit small flames, while others hurl fire for 50cm at temperatures of up to 1,800 degrees Celsius.

Creso's Canada expansion

AUSTRALIAN-LISTED medicinal cannabis company Creso Pharma continues to grow its presence overseas, this time taking its first steps into the lucrative Canadian cannabis market.

Creso and Canadian cannabis producer Mernova Medicinal have inked a deal that will see Creso acquire the Nova Scotia-based production company for A\$10.2m worth of cash and equity.

The deal will allow Creso Pharma, which has offices in Perth, Sydney and Switzerland, to produce its own medicinal cannabis products

in Canada, a country already known for allowing the export of medicinal cannabis products into the Australian market.

Under Canadian legislation Creso would also be able to export to a number of other countries that accept medicinal cannabis imports.

Canada also anticipates legalisation of cannabis for recreational use from 01 Jul 2018.

Strong quarter for 1st

ONLINE health, media and technology group 1st Group Limited has recorded \$700,000 in revenue for the three months to 30 Jun, a quarterly increase of 16%.

The company's subscription based service clients include pharmacies, GPs, specialists, vets and physiotherapists, with the number of practices using the MyHealth1st and PetYeti online portals growing after recent marketing investments.

Meningococcal vax offer to Tas teens

A **FREE** meningococcal W vaccination program will be offered in Tasmania for teens aged 15 to 19 years in school term three of 2017.

While 10% of healthy individuals carry the meningococcal bacteria in their nose and throat, older teenagers are particularly at risk of carrying and transmitting the bacteria to others.

Tasmania joins other Australian states in implementing a meningococcal W vaccination program for older teens in 2017 and 2018, protecting more than 33,000 Tasmanian teens.

WIN WITH IN ESSENCE

This week, Pharmacy Daily and In Essence are giving readers each day the chance to win one of the range of In Essence Skin Therapy Facial Treatment Oils.

Boasting the power of pure essential oils, In Essence Skin Therapy Facial Treatment Oils are a luxurious addition to your daily beauty ritual for radiant, healthy skin. This is In Essence's first venture into skincare and with a key ingredient of precious Camellia Oil – the ultimate antioxidant – this nutrient rich oil contains a potent mix of essential fatty acids and vitamins to repair and renew the skin. For more info head to www.inessence.com.au

To win, be the first from VIC or TAS to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What are the benefits?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Wei Jiang from Sunnybank Hills Medical Centre Pharmacy.

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.

5-9 Aug: Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business Conference 2017; Mt. Buller, Victoria; register your interest here: www.medici.com.au

6-12 Aug: Pharmeducation Pharmacotherapy Update; Cable Beach Club Resort, Broome; details here: www.pharmeducationbroome.com

1-3 Sep: Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel Sydney; register here: www.pharmacy-connect.com.au

10-14 Sep: 77th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2017; Seoul, Republic of Korea; register here: www.fip.org

24-28 Sep: 2017 Pharmacy Alliance Members' Forum; Palazzo Versace, Gold Coast; register here: www.pharmacyalliance.com.au

17-19 Oct: World Self Medication Industry General Assembly 2017; ICC Sydney; registrations opening soon: www.wsmiga2017.com

26 Oct: CMA Annual Conference and Industry Awards; Sydney; details here: www.cmaustralia.org.au

26-28 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; QT Gold Coast; for details see: www.pharmacyassistants.com

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EDITORIAL
 Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
 Managing Editor – Jon Murrie
 Reporter – Mal Smith
 Contributors – Jasmine O'Donoghue, Matt Bell
info@pharmacydaily.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING
 Sean Harrigan and Melanie Tchakmadjian
advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

BUSINESS MANAGER
 Jenny Piper
accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
 Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
 PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
 Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

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