

Monday 05 Jun 2017



## FIP annual report out

**THE** International Pharmaceutical Federation has released its annual report for 2016, recording the "numerous activities and achievements of FIP's officers, staff and members" during the year.

See www.fip.org to view.





# Monash-J&J partnership

**MONASH** University has signed a major multi-year research and commercialisation deal with J&J offshoot Janssen Biotech to research the early detection and prevention of rheumatoid arthritis.

One of the most common of autoimmune diseases, RA affects more than 400,000 Australians and more than 24.5 million people worldwide, Monash has said.

Monash Vice-Chancellor Professor Margaret Gardner announced the collaboration today alongside Victorian Minister for Small Business, Innovation & Trade, Philip Dalidakis, representatives from J&J Innovation and Janssen, along with researchers from the Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute.

"It is great to have our worldleading universities partnering with global companies to drive innovation that will create jobs in Victoria's medical technologies and pharmaceuticals sector.

"With nearly 25 million people suffering from rheumatoid arthritis

#### Bexsero back on shelf

GSK has confirmed that doses of Bexsero (meningococcal B vaccine) will again be available toward the end of this week following the supply of an additional 200,000 doses in Australia.

The additional doses are being made available following an update to the Australian licence extending

#### worldwide, the agreement has the potential to deliver significant benefit to community, industry and research," Dalidakis said.

University deputy vice-chancellor Ken Sloan said the partnership with Janssen was another example of Monash actively engaging with industry in order to translate its world-leading research.

#### Pharmacy satisfaction

MY CHEMIST has come out on top of the monthly Roy Morgan customer satisfaction rankings for the pharmacy category, achieving a rating of 90% for Apr 2017.

Terry White was in second place, followed by Priceline, Chemist Warehouse and then Chemmart Pharmacy in fifth position.

#### Intern registrations

**THE** Australian Pharmacy Council has confirmed registrations for the upcoming Intern Written Exam and Competency Assessment of Overseas Pharmacists (CAOP) will open on 20 Jun 2017.

The Intern Written Exam is scheduled to take place on 06 Aug see www.pharmacycouncil.org.au.

# MSD threatens drug **PBS** delisting

**PHARMACISTS** have until tomorrow, 06 Jun to provide input to a controversial review (PD 30 Jan 17) that has called into question the way ezetimibe is prescribed and dispensed to patients with high cholesterol who are inadequately controlled on, or unable to tolerate, statin therapy.

MSD, the manufacturer and marketer of ezetimibe, has declared that the draft Department of Health Post-market Review of ezetimibe is flawed and if acted upon, could result in a number of unintended consequences, including the possibility of the delisting of ezetimibe in Australia.

The draft proposal recommends significant price cuts for the drug which are based on only two years of data rather than a broader perspective of the past decade of statin use, MSD argues.

Visit pbs.gov.au to submit.

#### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus full pages from: (click)

- Wizard Pharmacy
- MIMS

the shelf life to 36 months which allowed increased supply of the vaccine, GSK said in a statement.

See more details at tga.gov.au.

# **COPD:** demonstrating devices, evaluating medicines

Up to 90% of patients who use an inhaler device don't use it correctly.

Support your patients by adopting best practice methods to teach and assess inhaler technique.

**Pharmacy Practice Review** Enrol now ▶



## PHARMACIES FOR SALE



We have two well positioned pharmacies located in Sydney shopping centres available to purchase. The T/O estimate for 2017 is in excess of \$8M & \$6M. For a copy of the information memorandum please call Sean Roffey on 0408 882 111 or email sean@pbspharmacybrokers.com.au



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# Dispensary Corner

A WESTERN Australian with a powerful junk food craving has attracted attention online after documenting a 500km KFC run.

Josie Gandolfo from Port Hedland was travelling the 241km to Karratha for an appointment, and when her friends found out, they gave her a list of specific requests plus \$300.

Popcorn chicken, wicked wings, zinger meals and of course, a couple of buckets and barrels were included - along with some thermal bags to keep it all warm.

Gandolfo told Stuff.co.nz the "chicken run" ritual was an important part of the 'Hedlander' way of life.



SIZE definitely does matter - at least when it comes to wine glasses and alcohol consumption.

Theresa Marteau from Cambridge University tracked the sizes of wine glasses over the decades, which have increased from 65ml 300 years ago to 450ml today - and in turn encouraged us to drink far more than we should.

As well as examining glasses from the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and some held in the collection at Buckingham Palace, the scientists carried out an experiment at a Cambridge wine bar where 175ml of wine was sold in three different sized glasses.

Although the contents were the same size, sales of the largest glasses were 14% higher than the smaller ones.

# Big pharma lawsuit

THE US state of Ohio last week sued five major drug manufacturers, accusing them of misrepresenting the risks of prescription opioid painkillers.

Attorney General Mike DeWine filed the suit which joins a growing number of state and local governments suing drugmakers and distributors, seeking to hold them accountable for the "deadly and costly" opioid crisis, Reuters reports.

The five companies concerned with Ohio's suit were named as Purdue Pharma LP, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, a unit of Endo International Plc, Teva offshoot Cephalon and Allergan.

DeWine argued the companies helped unleash the opioid crisis by marketing such drugs as OxyContin and Percocet, overstating their benefits and trivialising their potential addictive qualities.

Janssen spokesman Jessica Castles Smith said in an emailed statement: "The allegations in this lawsuit are both legally and factually unfounded," while Purdue said, "We share the attorney general's concerns about the opioid crisis and we are committed to working collaboratively to find solutions".

## **Peptic ulcer & NSAIDs**

NON-STEROIDAL antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) including low-dose aspirin are among the most commonly used medicines but are associated with gastrointestinal injury, says an article in the NPS MedicineWise's publication Australian Prescriber.

A new CPD activity for pharmacists around the article recommends proton pump inhibitor therapy to reduce the risks associated with NSAID ingestion.

Visit nps.org.au to access.

#### Pantoprazole recall

APOTEX has announced the recall of one batch of Apotex-Pantoprazole 20mg tablets (batch number F5314, expiry 11/2018), in the latest expansion of recalls associated with the valium substitution scandal (PD 29 May).

The new recall is in addition to the previous recall of a batch of 40mg tablets, with pharmacists advised to quarantine all affected packs and return to the wholesaler for credit.

#### Cannabinoids for BCs

**CANNABINOIDS** have been found to be effective against some types of breast cancer (BC) in recent studies, according to an ASX update from Zelda Therapeutics.

It appears from the studies that the products may be beneficial across a broad spectrum of breast cancer types including hormone receptor positive, HER2+ and the very difficult-to-treat Triple Negative cancer types, Zelda said.



Welcome to PD's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is Dr. Jaspreet Singh, Vicks Senior Scientist.



# Managing pain during cold & flu

**ACCORDING** to a global Vicks survey, most Australians experience between 2 and 5 colds / flus every year<sup>1</sup> . Nearly 20% of Australians report minor pains such as headache, body and muscle aches<sup>1</sup>. While simple analgesics can tackle the aches and pains, colds are multisymptom conditions, therefore multi-symptom relief (MSR) products should be considered reducing the need for multiple medications.

For aches and pains, Paracetamol is a safe and effective analgesic and antipyretic, and can be recommended during pregnancy/breastfeeding or in case of gastrointestinal problems. With liver problems, where paracetamol may be contraindicated, a suitable nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) may be recommended. There is little evidence that low-dose codeine medicines are any more effective for pain relief or cough than similar medicines without codeine<sup>2</sup>. With the planned up-scheduling of codeine products, Pharmacists can utilise combination MSR products containing Paracetamol or NSAIDs to provide relief from pain due to cold & flu, while ingredients such as Phenylephrine and Chlorpheniramine help to manage a blocked and runny

- 1. Data on file. Vicks global cough, cold and flu survey, 2014.
- 2. Update on the proposal for the rescheduling of codeine products. https:// www.tga.gov.au/media-release/updateproposal-rescheduling-codeine-products Accessed on: 18 May 2017

# WIN WITH **DESIGNER** BRANDS

This week Pharmacy Daily and Designer Brands are giving away a set each day of their 2017 Beauty Heaven Glosscar Award Winners. The awards

saw DB's Glow Get Em Bronzer win best new bronzer, while their Pro Brow Kit with Stencils won best new brow powder, the Express



Makeup Remover won best makeup Remover and the

Spray and Set Makeup Setting Spray took out the best new tool. CLICK HERE for more.

To win, be the first person from NSW or ACT to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

How many categories did Designer Brands win in the 2017 Beauty Heaven Glosscar Awards?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.

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# Does your brand deliver the promise?



\*Brand may not appear as shown

SO YOU CAN DELIVER REAL VALUE TO WHO'S IMPORTANT **YOUR CUSTOMERS** 

WIZARDpharmacy



June 2017

#### **New Products**

- Onivyde (nanoliposomal irinotecan as sucrosofate) is a topoisomerase inhibitor formulated into a liposomal dispersion for intravenous use. Onivyde has been shown to extend circulation of irinotecan and prolong the duration of active therapy at the site of tumour cells to inhibit tumour growth. Onivyde is not equivalent to nonliposomal irinotecan formulations and should not be interchanged. Onivyde is indicated for treatment of metastatic adenocarcinoma of the pancreas, in combination with 5-fluorouracil and folinic acid (leucovorin) in adults who have been previously treated with gemcitabine based therapy. Onivyde is available as one 10 mL vial containing irinotecan sucrosofate equivalent to 43 mg irinotecan (or 50 mg irinotecan hydrochloride trihydrate).
- Ristempa (pegfilgrastim (rbe)) is a long-acting form of recombinant human granulocyte colony stimulating factor (G-CSF). Ristempa is composed of filgrastim (recombinant methionyl human G-CSF, Neupogen) with a 20,000 dalton polyethylene glycol (PEG) molecule covalently bound to the N-terminal methionine residue. Pegfilgrastim has reduced renal clearance and prolonged persistence *in vivo* compared to filgrastim. Ristempa is indicated for the treatment of cancer patients following chemotherapy, to decrease the duration of severe neutropenia and so reduce the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia. Ristempa is contraindicated with known hypersensitivity to *Escherichia coli* derived proteins, or filgrastim. Ristempa is available as one ready to use prefilled syringe containing 6 mg of pegfilgrastim in 0.6 mL (10 mg/mL).

#### **New Indications**

- Fycompa (perampanel (as hemisesquihydrate)) is now indicated for the adjunctive treatment of primary generalised tonic-clonic seizures in adults and adolescents from 12 years of age with idiopathic generalised epilepsy.
- INOmax (nitric oxide for inhalation), in conjunction with ventilatory support and other appropriate agents, is now indicated as part of the treatment of perioperative and postoperative pulmonary hypertension in newborn infants, infants and toddlers, children and adolescents, ages 0-17 years in conjunction with heart surgery, in order to selectively decrease pulmonary arterial pressure and improve right ventricular function and oxygenation.
- Kalydeco (ivacaftor) is now indicated for the treatment of cystic fibrosis (CF) in patients aged 6 years and older who have an R117H mutation in the CFTR gene.

#### **New Contraindications**

- Accupril (quinapril hydrochloride) and Accuretic (quinapril hydrochloride/hydrochlorothiazide) are now contraindicated in combination with sacubitril/valsartan due to the increased risk of angioedema.
- Angiomax (bivalirudin) is now contraindicated in severe renal impairment (GFR< 30 mL/min) and in dialysis dependent patients.
- DBL Amikacin Injection (amikacin sulfate) is now contraindicated in myasthenia gravis.
- DBL Sulfamethoxazole 400 mg and Trimethoprim 80 mg Concentrate Injection BP (sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim) is now
  contraindicated in patients with a history of drug induced immune thrombocytopenia with use of trimethoprim and/or sulfonamides.
- Diane-35 ED, Juliet-35 ED (cyproterone acetate/ethinylestradiol), Petibelle, Yasmin, Yaz, Yaz Flex
  (drospirenone/ethinylestradiol) and Triquilar ED (levonorgestrel/ethinylestradiol) are now contraindicated with the use of
  direct acting antiviral (DAA) medicinal products containing ombitasvir, paritaprevir or dasabuvir and combinations of these.
- Indocid (indometacin) is now contraindicated in severe hepatic impairment.
- Prezista (darunavir) is now contraindicated with elbasvir/grazoprevir and lurasidone.
- Stelazine (trifluoperazine hydrochloride) is now contraindicated in uncontrolled cardiac decompensation.
- Xifaxan 550 mg (rifaximin) is now contraindicated with intestinal obstruction.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.