



### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Pharmacy 4 Less.

### Collaborative care hub

**COLLABORATIVE** roles of pharmacists in primary care and Health Care Homes will be the focus of the panel session on Fri 28 Jul at the flagship conference PSA17, hosted jointly by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA).

PSA national board director Dr Shane Jackson will chair the expert panel session which will feature pharmacists already working in collaborative care models here.



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jointly by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA).

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## Review report 'imminent'

**THE** Pharmacy Guild says it believes the long-anticipated Interim Report of the Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation Review is likely to be released in the next week or so.

The interim report was initially flagged for delivery in Feb this year "to allow everyone equal time and opportunity to consider and provide new feedback and comments" (*PD* 19 Dec 2016).

However the release has been repeatedly pushed back, with the department citing a delay due to the "serious illness of one of the panel members" (*PD* 06 Mar).

The interim review report was finally handed to Health Minister Greg Hunt a month ago (*PD* 19 May) and at the time the department told *Pharmacy Daily* it would be released publicly this financial year - which gives it just a week to go.

The Guild yesterday reiterated its position on the review, stressing that it was a report "to", not "of" government - meaning it can canvass recommendations, but

cannot make changes.

"The Guild will consider and respond constructively to the Review Interim Report and remains hopeful it will focus on practical recommendations that address real issues and build on one of the best and most successful parts of Australia's health system," said Guild exec director David Quilty.

### Willach compounds

**PHARMACY** dispensing efficiencies company Willach Australia has signed a distribution agreement with German compounding systems manufacturer SAMIX to supply its range of compounding systems and consumables to Australian pharmacy customers.

Willach md John Koot said the partnership brought together "two businesses focused on a common goal of premium service offerings that facilitate high-level pharmacy specialisation."

The arrangement brought SAMIX products to market with the benefit of Willach's infrastructure including its online shop, Koot said.

See [shop.willach.com.au](http://shop.willach.com.au).

### Phebra US pricing

**FOLLOWING** stories of Australian pharmaceutical manufacturer Phebra supplying the US with sodium bicarbonate injectable to manage a hospital supply shortage, and pricing at up to 10 times local cost (*PD* Tues), the company has released a clarifying statement.

Phebra says it "is manufacturing the Sodium Bicarbonate Injection under contract for a US supplier and is not responsible for price setting in the US market."

The short supply was the result of Pfizer recalling batches due to fears of manufacturing contamination of some injectables.

The company also stressed that its US manufacturing agreement will not impact on the manufacture and supply of sodium bicarbonate injection to the Australian market.

Phebra ceo Dr Mal Eutick said the company was pleased that it was able to respond quickly to alleviate the critical shortage of the medicine in the US.

### Codeine re-scheduling

**THE** impact of codeine re-scheduling in Feb 2018 will be the focus of multiple education sessions at this year's Pharmacy Connect, conference convenor Kos Sclavos has announced.

"We all know that 01 Feb is not an ideal time for change in pharmacy, with limited accessibility of pharmacy reps after Christmas trading and during their conference period," Sclavos explained.



"Due to the timing, I predict that this change will be even more difficult and complex to manage than anticipated.

"There are a number of changes that pharmacy will need to understand and digest prior to 01 Feb."

Sclavos added that the conference had developed an education program to assist owners, managers, pharmacists and key staff in the lead up to this change.

"The presentations differ in approach to the issues and thus delegates can consider their own solution", Sclavos said.

AFT and RB are session sponsors.

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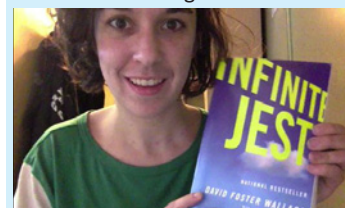


## Dispensary Corner

**SOME** books are just too hard to digest, but not David Foster Wallace's satirical novel *Infinite Jest*, according to one deeply offended reader who has taken the word "digest" literally.

Comedienne Jamie Loftus has actually made not just a meal of the book but many meals, working her way through its 1,079 pages in the hope of annoying at least some of its male-chauvinistic fans, and creating an impressive online profile at the same time.

Creating the hashtag #eatinfinitjest, Loftus has amassed a huge following with her images of her various methods to aid digestion.



### ONLY in America?

Recollecting the famous Deep Purple song, a publicly traded US company specialising in cannabis branded real-estate has announced that 'Smoke on the Water Inc' at Lake Selmac is to undergo a series of modifications including authentic new Indian-style teepees - mainly to accommodate the booming camper tourism sector now able to use recreational marijuana.

Smoke on the Water plans to provide "turn-key solutions for marijuana-friendly campgrounds and resorts" by providing fully functional vacationing solutions to campground operators meeting demand from stress free "pro-personal choice" and marijuana-smoking holiday makers.

## Guild flags codeine plan

**THE** Pharmacy Guild says it wants to work constructively with governments to maintain "direct pharmacy access" to medicines containing codeine for the temporary relief of acute pain - despite the up-scheduling of these items effective 01 Feb 2018.

Details of a Guild proposal emerged yesterday, which would see codeine continue to be

available under strict conditions.

While normally it would be a prescription-only product, "there would be an exception in these clearly defined circumstances" - that is, for acute pain, in accordance with strict and auditable protocols, and with real time monitoring and referral as necessary to prevent misuse.

"The codeine issue is a vital one for the broader pharmacist profession as, without this exception, pharmacists' role as medicine experts, counsellors and advisors will be undermined," said Guild exec director David Quilty.

### 1st Group takes Tonic

**ONLINE** health media and technology group 1ST Group Limited yesterday confirmed a partnership with Tonic Health Media, a firm led by Dr Matthew Cullen and high profile health spokesman Dr Norman Swan.

The deal will see the launch of the MyHealth1st TV & Health Guide, offering over 700 health videos and 1,000 articles via a website and mobile app.

Tonic Group content is also shown on screens in over 4,500 general practices, hospitals, pharmacies and health centres.

### NSW eHealth boost

**DIGITAL** health is one of the many winners from yesterday's NSW budget, with eHealth NSW receiving an extra \$536 million over the next eight years.

Projects funded include expansion of the eMeds electronic medication management program, and the roll-out of phase 2 of the state's electronic health record.

## Win with Aromababy

This week Pharmacy Daily and Aromababy are giving away five Eczema Care Kits including Pure Baby Moisture Cream 125mL, Pure Baby Wash 150mL and best selling Barrier Balm.

Aromababy offers a comprehensive selection of natural and organic products for mother and child, all of which are free from dairy/goatsmilk, sulphates and parabens. Aromababy's best seller Barrier Balm is now available in two convenient sizes. Gift-with-purchase, free samples, testers, training and product for Maternal and Child Health Nurse available to pharmacy. Email [info@aromababy.com](mailto:info@aromababy.com) or call 03 9464 0888 for more information.

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

Aromababy was formulated as the first natural baby brand of its kind. What year was Aromababy launched in Australian pharmacies?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kristy-Lee Albrecht from University of Western Australia.



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Publisher/Editor in chief: Bruce Piper

Managing Editor: Jon Murrie

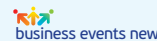
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