



Thrivor launch

YESTERDAY saw the official launch of a new Australian business called Thrivor which aims to improve the experience of people affected by cancer and other chronic illnesses.

Thrivor seeks to provide a practical, seamless end-to-end experience for people outside of the hospital with an app developed by Justin McLean, a global strategy partner with consulting firm PwC, after his own experience when being diagnosed with colorectal cancer in his mid-40s.

The free app allows users to manage and record appointments, organise transport to treatment, hire a cleaner or babysitter, book a home visit nurse and connect with support networks.

Current providers linked with the Thrivor app include Uber, Better Caring, Hipages, Prezsee and Sittr.

PSA slammed on homeopathy

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has “not been strong enough on homeopathic products,” according to an article published in *The Conversation* by the Queensland University of Technology’s Professor of Pharmacy Greg Kyle and associate lecturer Katherine Brown.

The interim report from the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation (**PD 22 Jun**) suggests the segregation of complementary medicines, as well as stopping the pharmacy sale of homeopathic remedies, Kyle and Brown note.

They claim the PSA position statement on homeopathic items “stops short of recommending pharmacists do not sell them”.

“A ban on homeopathic products would be a positive change for the pharmacy profession...for too long pharmacists have claimed

‘health professional’ status while functioning more like shopkeepers, primarily chasing profits,” they said.

PSA ceo Lance Emerson described the comments as “incorrect and insulting,” with the society’s policy clearly stating “pharmacists must use their professional judgement to prevent the supply of products with no reliable evidence”.

Special PPI claims

THE Health Department has announced a special claiming period for Clinical Interventions and Dose Administration Aids under the 6CPA Pharmacy Practice Incentive, due to the recent announcement of program changes which take effect from 01 Jul (**PD 21 Jun**).

Claiming for the 01 Jun-30 Jun PPI period will be open from 01-14 Jul via the 6CPA Registration and Claiming Portal at 6cpa.com.au.

From next month the Clinical Intervention Incentive Payment will continue to be claimed using this process but with new claiming periods, while claiming for the DAA program will be a separate monthly process, also via the 6CPA portal.

Vic Guild results

THE results of the 2017 Victorian Pharmacy Guild Branch Committee election have been announced, with newly elected members including Vihung Kapadia (district 2), Marilyn Tsonakis (district 3) and Carlie Streeter (district 9).

They will replace Sam El-Ahmad whose seat was contested, as well as Stuart Hall and Bill Scott who have retired as members.

Victorian branch president Anthony Tassone highlighted the outstanding work of Bill Scott who has given over 30 years of service.

He was branch president for nine years, as well as being former chair of the Pharmacy Ownership Committee which was pivotal in maintaining pharmacist-only ownership in Victoria.

Scott also was hailed as the lead negotiator for the Third and Fourth Community Pharmacy Agreements.

Other candidates elected include Angelo Pricolo (district 1), George Tambassis (district 4), Anthony Tassone (district 5), Paul Krassar (district 6), Grace Chong (district 7), Kin Chong (district 10) and Bruce Robertson (district 11), with round 2 nominations for districts 8 and 12 being called in Sep and elections kicking off on 14 Jul.

Record for PATY

NOMINATIONS are now closed for the 2017 Pharmacy Guild of Australia/Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award, with more received than ever before.

The award received 633 nominations, the Guild said.

National president George Tambassis said, “It’s great to see so many owners, pharmacists, managers, colleagues and customers recognise the work of dedicated pharmacy assistants throughout Australia, and wonderful to see so many nominating themselves.”

Don’t break a leg

BRITTLE bones of Australians aged 50+ are expected to cost \$3.1 billion in 2017, while the total cost over 10 years will climb to \$21.9 billion by 2022, according to a new report titled *Osteoporosis Burden of Disease* released by Osteoporosis Australia.

The release coincides with the launch of the independent SOS Fracture Alliance, a national alliance of 30 medical, allied health and consumer groups focusing on osteoporotic fracture prevention.

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Dispensary Corner

JUST when pharmacists are getting good at giving injections, along comes a new solution which might make it all obsolete.

It's actually still a fair way off, but a new "painless" influenza vaccine delivery system which uses hundreds of "tiny hair-like microneedles" on the sticky side of a bandage dressing (pictured) has just successfully undergone its first human trials.

Developed by researchers at Emory University and the Georgia Institutes of Health, the patch only punctures the top layers of the skin, and as well as its innovative delivery system has other advantages including being able to be stored at room temperature.

The trials were reported online at www.thelancet.com.



A CHINESE "vlogger" who planned to eat aloe vera live online as part of a performance to showcase its health benefits has rushed herself to hospital after realising she was actually biting into a poisonous plant.

The 26-year-old bought two giant leaves for her internet 'Aloe Vera Feast,' but after taking a large bite said "oh, that's bitter, that is really bitter" and then abruptly cut the feed.

It turns out she was eating agave Americana, a toxic plant sold in China as an ornament.

While recovering in hospital she said her mouth went numb and felt like her throat was "on fire".

TWC goes paperless for aged



TERRYWHITE Chemmart has partnered with Procura Software to roll out MediMap, Australia's first paperless medication charting system for aged care.

Already used by 60% of care facilities in New Zealand, MediMap is an electronic prescribing and medication charting tool for the aged & community care sector and is the first of its kind to be granted Federal Government approvals.

TerryWhite Chemmart (TWC) ceo Anthony White said the introduction of MediMap "helps

empower our local pharmacies to better collaborate with their allied health network via digital innovation, which can only improve patient health outcomes.

"The software allows pharmacists, doctors and nurses to truly work together for the benefit of the patient," White added.

Pictured above from left are Life Care Parkrose Village's Kim Bannon; Paul Drury of Terry White Chemmart; MediMap ceo Greg Garratt; and GP Andrew Kellie from East Adelaide Healthcare.

Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by *Cruise Weekly*.

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This week Pharmacy Daily and Dreambaby® are giving readers the chance to win each day a Multi-Stage Potty Seat, 2-Up Step Stool and Watch-Your-Step® Anti-Slip Bath Mat.

Dreambaby's Multi-Stage Potty Seat makes toilet training easier for both parents and children. It can be used as a free-standing potty or to fit in with your existing toilet. The Dreambaby® 2-Up Step Stool, is a great help with toilet training, brushing teeth or simply looking in the mirror! The Dreambaby® Watch-Your-Step® Anti-Slip Bath Mat has a "Too Hot" Indicator and, with its textured surface, is designed to place on the floor of your bath to ensure a safe and secure grip bathtub environment for all. For more visit www.dreambaby.com.au

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