

Today's issue of PD

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

PSA voting record

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) says almost a quarter (24%) of its eligible members cast votes in its 2017 Branch Committee Elections this year, with the record response an indication of the passion of the profession.

For the first time PSA offered an online voting platform for the elections and this year there was an "unprecedented number of nominations" including female and early career pharmacists, as well as nominees from various cultural backgrounds.

The newly elected members hold office for a three year term starting on 01 Jul 2017.



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Global speakers connect

THE preview program for this year's Pharmacy Connect conference

has been released, with a global line-up of international pharmacy speakers set to present.

The Guild-organised event will take place 01-03 Sep at the Sydney Hilton Hotel, with conference convenor Kos Sclavos saying the conference "will provide insight into the experiences and knowledge of our pharmacy colleagues across the globe".

Key speakers include DeAn Mullins, president of the US National Community Pharmacists Association, who is also a certified diabetes educator.

Other visitors will include Darragh Connolly, President of the Irish Pharmacy Union; Ian Strachan from the UK's National Pharmacy Association; and Christine Venter, President of the South African Association of Community Pharmacists.

Graham Blanchard, president of the Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand will make a return appearance following his presentation at APP 2017 in Mar this year, while Perry Eisenschmid, ceo of the Canadian Pharmacists Association rounds out

Diabetes webinar

AUSTRALIA and New Zealand's leading diabetes experts will be presenting in a webinar on 20 May focussing on clinical best practice and sharing the latest clinical evidence in diabetes care.

The virtual event will reveal results of the largest injection technique study in the world, along with the new international insulin delivery recommendations.

Western Sydney Diabetes Initiative senior staff specialist endocrinologist Professor Glen Maberly, Northern Health nurse practitioner and cde Michelle Robins, Perth Diabetes Care pharmacist and cde Teresa Di Franco and Mt Druitt Medical Centre GP principal Dr Kean-Seng Lim will present - registration closes 19 May - **CLICK HERE**.



the international line-up.

Sclavos said the Guild was thrilled

to bring to delegates such a large cohort of international speakers - all with extremely diverse knowledge and backgrounds in the pharmacy industry - in just the second year of the conference.

"All of these speakers will explore key issues currently facing pharmacy in Australia, and provide insight into how delegates can learn from their experiences overseas," Sclavos said.

Pharmacy Connect will feature more than 30 speakers in total plus a trade exhibition with 60-plus exhibitors, a welcome reception and gala dinner, while the National Student Business Plan competition will also be conducted at the event.

Registration, accommodation bookings and preview program are now available online.

See pharmacyconnect.com.au for more information.

Maxigesic progress

AN APPLICATION to the US Food and Drug Administration by AFT Pharmaceuticals for registration of Maxigesic tablets has been accepted, with the company saying it's a "significant milestone in getting Maxigesic into the key US market".

Other key drivers for the product will include the 01 Feb 2018 rescheduling of codeine in Australia and possibly a similar proposal under consideration in NZ.

Wizard rewards

WIZARD Pharmacy is highlighting its Rewards scheme as a key way for pharmacies to drive customer retention and deliver business growth - see **page three**.

Chemo under dosing

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has detailed part of the outcome of an investigation into chemotherapy under dosing at Royal Adelaide Hospital and Flinders Medical Centre, with probes of notifications about five pharmacists and four doctors now completed.

The AHPRA noted that the matters have been "extremely distressing for the patients and families involved" adding that confidentiality provisions limit what it can say about actions taken against individual practitioners.

However as a general overview, eight of the nine investigations completed thus far were finalised with "no further action" required - meaning there is no current or ongoing risk to the public.

One matter has resulted in a caution, while three of the most complex matters are still under investigation and may result in regulatory action, the Board said.

New insomnia Rx

MSD'S Belsomra, the first and only orexin receptor antagonist, which treats insomnia by reducing wakefulness and allowing sleep to take over, can now be prescribed and dispensed in Australia on a private prescription, with a pack of 30 tablets costing about \$60.



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Dispensary Corner

THERE'S a reason your mother told you not to play with matches.

But a New York man clearly didn't listen and has now set a new Guinness World Record - for extinguishing 37 lit matches with his tongue, in under a minute.

The curious feat was achieved by 61-year-old Ashrita Furman (pictured) who is probably now on a liquid diet as the burns heal.

The strict rules of the competition stipulated he was only allowed to extinguish one match at a time, and was not permitted to blow on them at all.

Furman is somewhat of a stunt junkie, holding more than 200 world records including for such feats as hopscotch, carrying bricks and jumping on a pogo stick underwater - and he also happens to hold the world record for holding the most world records.



ALSO in the "only in America" category, Chuck McCarthy of Los Angeles has become the city's first "people walker," charging \$7 per mile to accompany people around the streets near his home.

The alternative to dog-walking "requires no leash - just an ability to walk, talk and above all, listen," according to *The Guardian*.

The idea has caught on as a way to help mental health by encouraging human interaction - and it's been so successful McCarthy is considering launching an Uber-style app to expand the service to more cities.

Priceline Potts Point wins



PRICELINE Pharmacy last week held its annual awards, with Priceline Pharmacy in Potts Point, NSW having been named the group's Store of the Year for 2016.

The accolade recognises the highest percentage sales growth, Sister Club performance and "brand citizenship" across the network.

Franchisee Edward Tanzil relocated his small pharmacy in 2014 and at the same time converted to a Priceline Pharmacy, with the move a clear success with the store's retail manager Trang Dinh also the NSW winner of Retail

Manager of the Year.

Other awards announced at the gala event hosted by radio personality Em Rusciano included Michael Alexander from Priceline Pharmacy Gisborne, named Priceline Pharmacist of the Year; Nicole Watt of Priceline Pharmacy Bridgewater as national Retail Manager of the Year; and Hall of Fame inductee John Loveridge who joined the brand in 2005 and now has pharmacies in NSW, SA and Vic.

The Priceline Potts Point team is pictured above with API chairman Peter Robinson.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to PD's weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is Narisha Ashelford, Certified Sleep Consultant and DU'IT Baby Skincare Expert.



Myth 3: My baby gets too messy, so I need to scrub him or her down

BABIES get messy, let's face it, but there is no need to 'scrub' your baby's skin down during cleansing. The baby's skin is supple and sensitive during this growing stage. In fact, excessive rubbing will not only irritate the skin, but can also disrupt the growth of your baby's own protective skin barrier and lead to greater problems down the track.

As the child's skin is so delicate, you must ensure you use products that keep your little ones fresh and clean without the worry of nasty chemicals drying out and damaging your baby's skin. With the blend of natural plant-based ingredients, such as aloe vera and chamomile, I can be assured that the products I use are keeping my baby's tender skin soothed with non-toxic, allergen free products.

WIN WITH PLUNKETTS

Each day this week, Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away Plunkett's Vita E Cream, Ointment and Oil.

Plunkett's Vita E combines potent levels of Vitamin E plus rich Rosehip Oil. Natural Vitamin E ensures quick absorption and a soft cream texture while helping skin retain moisture. Rosehip Oil is rich in vitamins A and C and helps improve skin elasticity. For more **CLICK HERE**.



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

In which country is Plunkett's Vita E made?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.

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