

## Today's issue of PD

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

### Valium tampering

ROCHE Products, in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration, is recalling all batches of Valium 5mg tablets supplied in blister packs of 50 tablets "due to the discovery of evidence of medicine tampering".

The TGA said it had been identified that some blister pack sheets containing other medicines have been substituted into some packs of Valium 5mg tablets - including BTC Paracetamol Codeine tablets, BTC Rosuvastatin 10mg tablets and Apotex-Pantoprazole 40mg tablets.

The issue is currently being investigated in conjunction with the relevant authorities, but the TGA said it's believed the tampering is not widespread.

Apotex is recalling one batch of BTC Paracetamol Codeine tablets (batch number 40970, expiry date 05/2018); one batch of BTC Rosuvastatin 10mg tablets (batch number F4250 expiry 08/2019) and one batch of Apotex-Pantoprazole 40mg tablets (batch number F4442, expiry 10/2018) because of potentially missing blister sheets.

### Seven Supercare

THE Victorian Government has confirmed seven more Supercare pharmacies will open across the state from 30 Jun this year.

The additions include Parkmore Pharmacy 4 Less, Coburg Pharmacy 4 Less, Reservoir Pharmacy 4 Less, Balwyn Day + Night Pharmacy, Curlewis Pharmacy 4 Less, Bendigo UFS Pharmacies and Traralgon Chemist Warehouse.

The Supercare Pharmacy initiative supports the pharmacies to be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week with a free nurse service operating from 6pm-10pm daily.

The first five Supercare pharmacies began operation last Jul and have received over 50,655 visits between 10pm and 7am in the nine months since then.

## SHPA, RPS to collaborate

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) this morning confirmed the signing of an "historic agreement"

with the UK's Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS), with the organisations to collaborate on training and development opportunities mapped to pharmacist career stages in the UK and Australia.

The pact will see cooperation on "quality-assured education, training and development," including mutually accredited two-year advanced practice specialist residencies for pharmacists working in a range of areas.

SHPA president Michael Dooley said accreditation of advanced practice residency sites would commence in 2018.

"Building a workforce that can deliver a high standard of care across different settings and sectors - hospitals, community, care homes or general practice - while drawing on advanced knowledge of how to best manage complex patient needs is a shared goal of RPS and SHPA," Professor Dooley said.

RPS director Catherine Duggan said the partnership acknowledged research on international workforce co-development recently published in the *International Journal of Pharmacy Practice*.

"Working together will allow us to share expertise across defined areas of pharmacy practice, delivering mutually beneficial

### Ansell condom sale

ANSELL has sold its Sexual Wellness condom manufacturing business to a Chinese consortium for about \$800 million.

The company has been making condoms and other products in Australia since 1969, with the sale of the division following a review which will see Ansell focus on its core medical and industrial manufacturing client base.



programs and services," she said.

Applications for the initiative will open in Oct 2018, with the first intake of pharmacists to

the advanced practice residencies taking place in 2019.

Previous work by the International Pharmaceutical Federation has shown that at a foundation level there exists a common set of practice-related competencies that are globally applicable, Duggan said.

The partnership will build on the residency program launched last year by SHPA (PD 06 Sep 2016) and will provide the model for advanced practice residencies for the future, Dooley added.

"We look forward to progressing this exciting initiative over the next two years, broadening opportunities for Australian pharmacists who will have their SHPA credentials recognised in the UK, via the RPS, and vice versa.

"By committing to developing mutually accredited training and development programs we believe we can build a transformational model that could be adopted across many countries in the future," the SHPA president concluded.

### Guild backs eRx

THE Pharmacy Guild has expressed full support for the application by Fred IT offshoot eRx Script Exchange to continue a revenue sharing arrangement with IP MDS Pty Ltd (formerly MediSecure) to facilitate interoperability between the competing script exchange systems.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is currently considering an application to continue the existing arrangement between the organisations (PD 17 May), with a Guild submission saying the pact results in "significant public benefit" including supporting the ability to deliver important professional clinical services within community pharmacy.

### Pharmacy rich listers

INVESTORS, pharmacy chain originators and supplement companies dominate the pharmacy contribution to the *Australian Financial Review's* (AFR's) annual top 200 Rich List this year.

High profile names such as Chemist Warehouse's **Mario Verocchi** (pictured right - number 128 with \$558m) and **Jack**



**Gance** (pictured left at #131 with \$546m), **Marcus Blackmore** (#136 with \$529m) and **Radek Sali** (of Swisse fame) at #191 with \$372m are most obvious.



Verocchi and Gance founded Chemist Warehouse in 1973 and still own the business, along with the My Chemist brand.

Blackmore (right) has ridden the crest of the wave of Chinese complementary medicine (CM) demand and is supporting ongoing research with a \$10m CM grant to Western Sydney University (PD 03 Apr 17).

Less well known are **Jina Chen** and **Alex Wu**, #93 with \$686m, of Nature's Care which sells about \$230m worth of vitamins and supplements annually and is debt free, AFR says.

Nature's Care is the third biggest player in the Australian market behind Swisse Wellness and Blackmores, selling many of its products via the Chemist Warehouse chain and with about 40% of its products consumed by Chinese customers.

Chen founded the company in the early 1990s, after she successfully treated her father's cough with a garlic extract she had been researching.

An interesting inclusion which may portend a trend is **Barry Lambert** ranked #177 with \$437m, known for promoting legalisation of medicinal cannabis.

He will soon become chairman of hemp firm Ecofibre, which is aiming for a 2018 ASX listing, AFR says.





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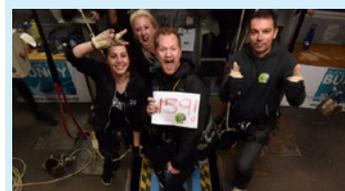
## Dispensary Corner

**FOR** some people, leaping from a bridge harnessed by a rubber band around the ankles is their idea of a great day out.

One adrenaline junkie, New Zealand-based Mike Heard, clearly enjoys it, having made a whopping 430 jumps in a 24 hour period - smashing the previous Guinness World Records mark of 158 right out of the park.

Heard (**pictured**) started the record attempt on the Auckland Harbour Bridge at 7.15pm last Tue and completed 430 bungy jumps 24 hours later, apparently plummeting 18km in total.

However the long-term damage to his body could be life altering, with bungy jumping giving some people retinal haemorrhages, vertigo, inner-ear damage, concussion and even low-grade brain injuries.



**FIND** your happy place and you could cut stress levels by 85%, according to researchers at New York's Rutgers University.

They tested their hypothesis by making 134 volunteers dunk their hands in icy water for 14 seconds, with those who recalled happy memories apparently feeling calmer and more distracted.

The study was published last month in the *Nature Human Behaviour* journal, with authors concluding that "remembering the good times...can dampen the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis stress response".

## UQ China antibiotic link

**THE** University of Queensland is sharing knowledge about antibiotic resistance with colleagues in China, last weekend taking part in the inaugural Queensland Guangdong Clinical Pharmacy and Education Symposium.

UQ antibiotic resistance researcher Professor Jason Roberts (**pictured**) delivered the keynote address at the event, which was attended by over 150 pharmacists from China's Guangong Province along with academics from the Department of Pharmacy at Xinhua College of Sun Yat-sen University.

He said it was hoped the symposium would pave the way for improved practices in antibiotic use.

Symposium director Peter Little, who's head of UQ School of Pharmacy, said clinical pharmacy education and practice were critical because of the vital role



pharmacists play in reducing the spread of antibiotic resistance.

"Antibiotic resistance is particularly important in China because of past practices with over-use of antibiotics and 'off-label' prescribing," Professor Little said.

He said the symposium was a valuable opportunity

for people working in hospital pharmacies and pharmacy schools in China and Australia to collaborate on current pharmacy practice and how it can be improved.

It's hoped the event, organised by the Guangdong Pharmaceutical Association, will also lead to student and staff exchange opportunities between China and symposium partners in Brisbane which also include the Princess Alexandra Hospital and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

## New APC phone no

**THE** Australian Pharmacy Council has changed its main contact telephone number.

Effective immediately the APC can be contacted on 02 6188 4288



## 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 5: My baby doesn't need moisturiser lotion because they have smooth skin

**AS I'VE** mentioned before, a baby's skin is five times thinner than an adult's fully developed skin lining. This also means that a baby's skin loses moisture much quicker than an adult, making their skin weaker and leaving them more vulnerable to infections should their skin become damaged. The skin is the body's largest organ, and it's also the body's first line of defence from diseases and infection in the environment.

I would recommend using quality oils like coconut, olive or mustard oil before bathing your baby and applying moisturiser about two to four times a day, especially if you find that your baby's skin seems dry. This is to ensure that your baby's skin is always hydrated and receiving the best care for their skin.

## Win with Burnaid®

This week Pharmacy Daily and Burnaid® are giving away each day a prize pack including Gel Spray, Burn Kit, Burn Gel, 10x10 Dressing and magnet.

Burnaid® gel is a water based gel (hydrogel) that cools and soothes to help relieve the pain of minor burns. Made with Australian purified Melaleuca oil to provide antiseptic benefits. For the treatment of minor burns, scalds and sun burn. Next month is also



National Burns Awareness Month, an initiative of Julian Burton Burns Trust in partnership with Burnaid®. Started last year and continuing this year, it aims to provide awareness around the correct first aid treatment for minor burns. **CLICK HERE** to learn more.

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

**What is the main active ingredient in Burnaid® Gel Spray?**

*Check here tomorrow for today's winner.*

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