



CVS free delivery

THE threat posed by Amazon's purported plans to move into pharmacy has prompted US chemist giant CVS to announce it will begin offering free delivery of prescriptions in early 2018.

All 9,700 CVS stores will offer free next-day delivery, while in selected markets, same-day delivery will be made available, including in Miami, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington DC and San Francisco.

Prescription products and a selection of OTC items will be delivered in secure, tamper-proof packaging to customers' doors to assure privacy.

PDL compounding concern

PHARMACEUTICAL Defence Limited has highlighted the ongoing evolution of compounding in Australia as representing "a particularly high regulatory concern at the present time".

In a post published on the PDL website this week, Kellie Dell'Oro and Tamir Katz from Meridian Lawyers urged pharmacists to make sure they are familiar with the Pharmacy Board of Australia's (PBA's) Guidelines on the Compounding of Medicines, which apply to both simple and complex compounding.

"Recent regulatory actions, both State and Federal, have highlighted the importance for compounding pharmacists to be aware of specific clauses in the PBA's compounding guidelines," the lawyers said, in particular sections which state that a compounded medicine should only be prepared when an appropriate commercial product is unavailable, where a commercial product is unsuitable (such as where a patient was allergic to an excipient in the commercial item) or when undertaking sanctioned research.

The compounding of a medicine that would be a close formulation to an available and suitable commercial product "should not take place," they warned, noting complaints made to AHPRA alleging unprofessional conduct where pharmacists have either been unaware of newly available commercial products or have compounded items where there has been only a slight difference between the compounded product and an equivalent commercially available product.

Recent cases have involved compounding of a testosterone cream similar to the commercially available AndroForte 5, as well as litigation and regulatory action around compounded medications containing phentermine, which is also commercially available as Duromine.

Variations across states and territories should also be borne in mind, the authors added - see www.pdl.org.au.

Today's issue of PD Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news including our regular **Health & Beauty** feature.

Vitex to debut new Sydney factory

PHARMACEUTICAL contract manufacturer Vitex will next week formally unveil a new \$100 million manufacturing facility.

Located in Western Sydney, the new factory is expected to create more than 420 new jobs and "will ensure Vitex is well positioned to keep pace with rapidly expanding export markets as demand for Australian-made vitamins, supplements and wellness products grows," the company said.

IQVIA new name for QuintilesIMS

NEW York listed QuintilesIMS has announced that it will be changing its name to IQVIA, a company dedicated to using analytics and science to help healthcare stakeholders find better solutions for their patients.

The company said that with the IQVIA CORE software, it is able to provide customised solutions for clients leveraging the world's largest curated healthcare information source, advanced analytics, leading technologies and extensive industry knowledge across diseases, geographies, and scientific methods.

"Today is a defining moment for our organisation as we introduce a new name that aligns with our vision to help stakeholders drive healthcare forward," said IQVIA chairman and ceo Ari Bousbib.

"Our clients have been instrumental in our becoming IQVIA," he said.

"IMS Health and Quintiles came together because our clients were asking for better, faster ways to bring innovations to patients and capture the

improvements the industry has been pursuing for years."

Bousbib added that since the merger, the company has worked to integrate its capabilities in advanced analytics, leading technologies and therapeutic expertise into powerful, differentiated offerings.

"Our vision is to outpace the inevitable progress of change across the life sciences and accelerate our ability to empower healthcare decision makers to meet the future head on."



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Corum comes to rural rescue



CORUM Health came to the aid of a pharmacy in rural Victoria earlier this year, when a water pipe burst and threatened to completely destroy the business.

The heritage building housing Avoca Gold Chemist in remote Avoca (see map above) had the pipe burst at the worst possible time - late on Friday night - with water inundating the pharmacy all weekend and the disaster

only discovered by the locum pharmacist 60 hours later, on the following Monday morning.

About half the stock was destroyed, along with paper files and records while the computers and other equipment around the dispensary ended up saturated.

Avoca Gold Chemist is the only pharmacy in the town, and staff had to quickly figure out how to restart operations as soon as possible.

The pharmacy's business manager Marilyn Smith contacted her account manager at Corum Health, Peter Simaris, who gallantly drove from Melbourne to Avoca the following day with a new Safeguard system to replace one destroyed.

He used the six-year-old POS computer - which fortunately missed the flood - to set up LOTS dispense for the pharmacy.

The solid-state drive was rescued from the saturated Safeguard, and with no moving parts it booted up immediately so no patient records were lost and the pharmacy was able to resume dispensing.

Smith said "there's obviously a reason the system is called Safeguard Plus, as it protected our files and facilitated the fast resumption of trading within three days of the flood.

"Without Peter's personal dedication and commitment, I'm not sure how long we would have been out of business...the town depends on our pharmacy for medication so it was important we were operational as soon as possible," she said.

Ibuprofen/paracetamol = opioids for trauma

ADDING even more fuel to the fire of the rescheduling debate is new research from US emergency department doctors who found that a combination of Ibuprofen with paracetamol works just as well as a combination of any of three different opioids with paracetamol in reducing pain brought on from a sprain, strain or fracture in the arms or legs.

The study authors from Albany Medical College, Albany, New York randomised 416 patients (ages 21 to 64 years) with moderate to severe acute extremity pain in two urban emergency departments to receive different combinations of analgesia, with no important differences in efficacy observed.

CLICK HERE for the *JAMA* paper.

FDA genetic testing

THE US Food and Drug Administration has announced a new review pathway for consumer-facing genetic testing, saying the new technology presents "unique challenges to FDA regulation".

After a six month trial, the FDA has decided to implement a novel regulatory approach which allows genetic health risk (GHR) tests to be exempted from premarket review under certain conditions.

Certain tests which evaluate vitamin D levels and genetic carrier screening tests will also be exempted from premarket review - more details at www.fda.gov.

CW bigger and bigger

CHEMIST Warehouse's gross annual sales in Australia are approaching \$5 billion, with the company recording compound annual growth of 22%.

The figures were revealed in a presentation to suppliers last Fri in Melbourne by co-founder Damien Gance, who noted that Chemist Warehouse stores make more retail sales per square metre than supermarkets like Woolworths.

Gance also announced that when the company opens up across the Tasman, expected to be in the coming days, prescriptions would be free in the company's NZ stores.

Souvenaid trial doubt

NUTRICIA'S Souvenaid, the nutrient drink specially designed to help Alzheimer's disease patients, has come under a cloud after some failed phase II clinical trial results published in *Lancet Neurology*.

While not totally dismissing the results as a fail, authors said bigger studies are needed to establish hoped-for efficacy.

According to the study, although patients in the Souvenaid group did have slightly less brain shrinkage on scans, which the researchers said was "promising", the treatment did not appear to offer an advantage based on various memory and cognitive tests.

Prof Tara Spiers-Jones, a dementia expert at the University of Edinburgh, said a healthy lifestyle is still the most important factor in prevention - see thelancet.com.

\$2.8m My Aged Care upgrade project

THE Federal Government has announced a \$2.8 million investment in "detailed business case planning" for a major project to further develop and improve the My Aged Care online portal.

Used by more than 1.2m older people, their families and representatives annually, My Aged Care is also utilised by over 2,000 aged care assessors, 3,500 service providers and thousands of health care professionals.

The business case will gather input from consumers, providers, assessors and health professionals with the aim of making the website and service more functional.

More online self-service options will be complemented by added efficiencies for health professionals and service providers with the aim of helping to reduce cost pressures, while the system will be underpinned by a stable IT platform so My Aged Care can continue to service increased demand.

WIN WITH DESIGNER BRANDS

This week Pharmacy Daily and Designer Brands are giving away a set of three Lavish Lip Oil valued at \$35.97.

Hydrate and add glowing, pigmented colour to lips with this bi-phase lip oil. Give the cute little bottle a quick shake to mix the colour and hydrating oil formula together and get ready for the perfect, pretty pout. Use the integrated tapered cushion applicator to press this decadent treat into lips for a burst of glistening colour. Super comfortable to wear, this lip oil is always smooth on the lips and never sticky. **CLICK HERE** to see more.

To win, be the first from WA to send the answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What Vitamins is the Lavish Lip Oil formula enriched with?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, April Pearce from Ayr Hospital.



Dispensary Corner

A FAIRLY gutsy - or you might even say ballsy - health promotion has certainly attracted attention for a pharmacy in Devon in the UK.

A formal complaint was lodged over a window display at the pharmacy which involved a large pair of testicles under the sign "How well are you looking after your crown jewels?"

It was apparently the brainchild of the pharmacy's manager Lynda Kelley (pictured below with the offending items) who said she wanted to raise awareness of testicular cancer.



The giant balls, "nestled on a tinsel-fringed cushion" proved somewhat confrontational for one customer, with Kelley saying she was "deeply saddened" to find someone was offended.

"If there is a cancer which can be prevented then we need to get that message across, and our target audience for testicular cancer is young men," she said.

She said while many passers-by have had a laugh, the message is clearly getting through.

"We've been bold with what we did so it would get attention, rather than just a poster which wouldn't work," Kelley said.

The campaign will continue all month, to help a charity which supports men with testicular cancer called "It's in the Bag".

Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly promoted feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy. Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Schick Hydro Silk TrimStyle

Schick Hydro Silk TrimStyle is a convenient 2-in-1 razor and bikini trimmer featuring the advanced Schick shave technology on one end and a waterproof trimmer on the other. Formulated with the same water activated Hydra-Renew serum and blade technology as the Beauty Heaven award winning Hydro Silk Razor System, the waterproof bikini trimmer can be used in or out of the shower for convenient bikini maintenance. The wide trimmer, sharp blades and adjustable comb with four settings provide an easy solution to obtain a customised trim length.



Stockist: Major wholesalers
RRP: Razor \$21.99, 4 pack refills \$19.25
Website: www.schick.com.au

Beauty-Full Volume Blow-Dry Crème



TRESemmé brings Fleximax Volumisers and Fibre Polishing Actives as key ingredients in TRESemmé Beauty-Full Volume Blow-Dry Crème. Promising to give hair va-va-voom volume and fuzz&friz control, this TRESemmé masterpiece helps maintain hair manageability. Adding this product to the daily post-wash styling routine will help achieve a distinctive "look-at-me" root lift, volume and bounce. Only a small amount of TRESemmé Beauty-Full Volume Blow-Dry Crème, the size of a ten cent piece, will give hair this beautiful lift and touchable finish.

Stockist: 1800 888 449
RRP: \$6.99 for 70mL
Website: www.tresemme.com.au

Blister Shield Plasters by Scholl

Scholl Blister Shield Plasters with Hydra Guard Technology are an advanced blister protection plaster that utilises a dual layer Hydra-Guard technology. The hard outer shield protects and guards the formed blister from friction and rubbing, while the soft gel island provides cushioning and may assist healing by keeping the blister hydrated and flexible. The waterproof plasters provide pain relief, invisible cushioning and are clear and discreet. Always read the label. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist, see your healthcare professional.



Stockist: 1800 226 766
RRP: \$9.95
Website: www.scholl.com.au

Scar Stick from Remescar



Remescar Scar Stick is a silicone stick that helps scars to heal, restoring skin to a normal colour and texture. It leaves behind a transparent film that hydrates, protects and restores the skin, stimulates collagen production, increases scar elasticity and reduces itching. B-gluca helps accelerate the wound's healing process, while UVA and UVB filters protect from the sun's damaging rays. The treatment stick is suitable for the face and body, and can be worn under makeup.

Stockist: 1800 791 381
RRP: \$29.99
Website: www.keysun.com.au