



Today's issue of PD

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

Guild hails 'dividend'

AUSTRALIA'S community pharmacies have helped deliver an "extraordinary dividend to taxpayers" as they have dealt with PBS price disclosure over the past several years, according to Pharmacy Guild executive director David Quilty.

Writing in the Guild's fortnightly *Forefront* update yesterday Quilty detailed figures which show the PBS has become the "most fiscally sustainable part of our entire health system," contrasting a 2.9% forecast annual drop in pharmaceutical expenditures through to 2021 with Medicare costs which are predicted to rise by 4.4% per annum over the period.

He urged the government to provide a stable, sustainable policy environment to support the thousands of small businesspeople who had invested their livelihoods in the pharmacy sector.

CW opens in NZ

CHEMIST Warehouse's first outlet in New Zealand has opened, with the Auckland store claiming to offer prices up to 90% cheaper than other pharmacies.

As foreshadowed by Chemist Warehouse co-founder Damien Gance last week (*PD* yesterday) the pharmacy giant is also offering zero cost prescriptions on medicines subsidised by the NZ government.

MHR comes to pharmacy

THE Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) has unveiled a significant upgrade to pharmacy dispensing software systems, with pharmacists now able to upload dispense records and view hospital discharge summaries, shared health summaries and allergy information to the My Health Record system.

The new option is available with enhanced Minfos, POS Works and RxOne software, with the enhancements following the launch of the Community Pharmacy Software Industry Partnership late last year (*PD* 15 Dec 2016).

EBOS group gm Andrew Hall said the integration of Minfos and My Health Record "helps deliver better health outcomes by reducing the

time pharmacists spend chasing clinical information, allowing them to spend more time with patients".

Similarly POS Works md Mark Campbell said the company was proud to bring the power of My Health Record to its users.

"Our software delivers full e-health capabilities including My Health Record integration and e-script scanning that supports busy pharmacists working in modern dispensing environments," Campbell said.

Finally RxOne md Margie Peat said the company was proud to complete interconnectivity with My Health Record, which had been a significant project.

Medical Software Industry Association (MSIA) president Emma Hossack said the successful implementations were proof of the new working relationship between the ADHA and industry.

Other software providers are well advanced in their development work and are expected to integrate with My Health Record in the coming weeks.

EMA to relocate

THE European Medicines Agency (EMA) will select a new host country for its offices and staff in two weeks time, as part of the ongoing fallout of the Brexit vote.

The massive project will see the construction of new office premises, along with significant staff relocation issues.

The EMA noted that the new host country would need to be capable of providing schooling for around 600 children of various ages with varying linguistic needs, along with a mix of affordable, good quality housing for up to 900 new households that can accommodate different staff needs, from single occupants to large families and with good transport links to the new Agency building.

Call to use pharmacists

UK'S Pharmacists' Defence Association has called for pharmacists, as experts in medicines management, to take the pressure off time-poor GPs by helping manage patients with long-term and chronic conditions.

The group was reacting to a report 'Rising Pressure: The NHS Workforce Challenge'.

Visit health.org.uk for the report.

Pharmacists boost adherence rates

VANDERBILT Specialty Pharmacy (VSP) at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville has developed a model that integrates pharmacists in its specialty clinics and the result has been increased patient adherence rates.

An outcomes study of VSP's findings was published in the Aug 2017 issue of the *Journal of Managed Care and Specialty Pharmacy*.

Under the integrated model, VSP had an average medication possession ratio of 95% in 20 clinics while the industry average was 80%, authors wrote - [CLICK HERE](#).

More fake sildenafil

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) have issued safety advisories for two



counterfeit sildenafil brands that some Australians may have bought online. Maximum Powerful (Baiwei USA) tablets (left)

and Red Ant tablets (right) have both been found to contain the undeclared pharmaceutical.



Neither product has been assessed by the TGA for quality, safety or efficacy as required under Australian legislation, and places of manufacture have not been approved by the TGA.

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Dispensary Corner

FAST food junkies concerned about not being able to get their favourite dessert calorie fix can now relax, with the launch of a new smartphone app which tracks the status of McDonald's ice cream machines.

Dubbed Ice Check, the app aims to reduce the pain of ordering a McFlurry or a 30c cone only to be told the machine is broken.

Users simply check the app to be shown where their closest McDonald's eatery is, and whether its machine is working.

The app (pictured) was created by Raina McLeod, who told *BuzzFeed* she came up with the idea "after a late night Oreo McFlurry craving went unfulfilled".



SOME curious chronological confusion has led to the first born of a pair of baby twin boys actually being technically younger than his brother.

Samuel and Ronan Peterson came into the world in Massachusetts, USA overnight on 06 Nov - and according to official records Ronan is the older one, despite being born 31 minutes after Samuel.

That was because Samuel was born at 1.39am Eastern Time - and when Ronan was delivered half an hour later the clock had reset to 1.10am because Daylight Saving Time had ended.

CannabisAccess online

CANNABISACCESS has announced the launch of Australia's first medicinal cannabis online ordering system.

The CannabisAccess portal (www.cannabisaccess.com.au) is designed to help healthcare professionals navigate the information and regulations surrounding the prescription of medicinal cannabis.

The company's new upgrade allows pharmacists to order medicinal cannabis online while also giving doctors the ability to apply for state approvals to prescribe.

To date, CannabisAccess has focused on helping the approximately 400 registered doctors through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approval process, Special Access Scheme Category B (SAS B), via a pre-populated portal link which sped up the approval process and reduced the risk of error.

After receiving TGA approval, doctors then need to meet the requirements of their respective

states before they can issue a prescription.

Today's upgrade makes the process of achieving the relevant state approvals and ordering products much more streamlined and efficient.

Commenting on the release, ceo Giles Craig said,

"For doctors and pharmacists, going through the approval process for the first time, it can be both confusing and time consuming.

"These controls are vital to ensuring patient safety and we support compliance with the current regulatory regime.

"However, navigating these regulations represents a steep learning curve for doctors, leaving them less time with their patients.

"Our aim is to increase the efficiency of healthcare professionals and by doing so, facilitate more patients getting access to the benefits of medicinal cannabis."

Products available for order via the CannabisAccess website are only those that have been approved for import by the TGA.



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 SA or NT to send the answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What is the DB instagram address?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



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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