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## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news, a cover wrap from **Curash** and a full page from **Pharmacy 4 Less**.

## Curash cares for baby

**CURASH** is showcasing its range of "expert skincare" products for baby's skin on the **cover page** of today's *Pharmacy Daily*.

## Pharmacy sunscreen education role

**COINCIDING** with the launch of their new Dry Balance Sunscreen, Banana Boat has released infographics to support pharmacy staff communicate with their customers about protecting themselves from the ravages of prolonged exposure to the sun.

The company recommends applying 35mL or seven teaspoons of sunscreen for each application 20 minutes before exposure with reapplication every two hours.

Seeking shade, wearing hats, sunglasses and other protective clothing are also part of the mix.

**CLICK HERE** for the infographics.

## Life Pharmacy in the pink!



**THE** Life Pharmacy Group has again celebrated its support for Breast Cancer Awareness month across its metro and country stores.

This year the group wanted to try something new and decided to colour their normally green bags pink during the awareness month, heightening the focus with the instantly recognisable colouring.

Life Pharmacy professional manager Mark Silcock said, "Our

## EBOS upbeat about 2018

**EBOS** Limited, the majority owner of the TerryWhite Chemmart group, says its healthcare business continues to perform strongly despite the ongoing impact of PBS reforms and lower levels of activity in the non-prescription OTC channel.

Speaking at the EBOS annual general meeting today, ceo Patrick Davies highlighted the last year of rebranding and alignment for the

retail pharmacy operations, as well as the acquisition of HPS (**PD** 24 May), Australia's largest provider of outsourced pharmacy services.

He said HPS gave EBOS market leadership in the sector and provided the platform for further revenue growth.

Other key developments include a new pharmaceutical distribution centre in Brisbane and a Sydney-based contract logistics facility, with both projects set to come on stream this financial year.

EBOS chairman Mark Waller noted the ongoing diversification of the company's business, with pharmacy operations now accounting for less than 50% of the group's gross operating revenue.

## Valeant ATO stoush

**MULTINATIONAL** specialty pharmaceutical and medical device company Valeant Pharmaceuticals international has determined to continue to defend itself against the Australian Tax Office over \$150 million in supposed back taxes and penalties, following a freeze on its local assets being lifted.

The freeze had delayed its proposed \$1.23b sale of iNova which completed 29 Sep.

The ATO alleged Valeant had deliberately structured the deal via an intermediary in Singapore to avoid paying tax in Australia.

Court documents released yesterday revealed the details, with Valeant saying it had not paid any tax relating to the matter and would appeal the assessment.

## Mayne to appeal 12-hr oxycodone rejection

**LISTED** pharmaceutical company Mayne Pharma may take Federal Court action to revive its failed push to have its longer-life (12-hour) generic oxycodone pain relief product introduced into Australia.

Already supplying four to six hour oxycodone products in Australia, the company was unable to convince the Administrative Appeals Tribunal to register its 12-hour version.

According to a *Fairfax* report, the company may take the case to the Federal Court with new evidence supporting the product.

## Sigma, Chemist Warehouse settle

**SIGMA** Healthcare this morning confirmed an agreement with Chemist Warehouse in the long-running dispute over their supply deal (**PD** breaking news).

First flagged five months ago (**PD** 24 May), Sigma had warned the disagreement could hit its bottom line by as much as \$10 million.

Chemist Warehouse had flagged its intention to acquire some products from an alternative wholesaler, and Sigma took legal action saying it was a breach of the group's supplier agreement.

Mediation ensued (**PD** 26 Jul) and today announced a settlement which includes an undertaking by Chemist Warehouse/My Chemist "not to pursue the procurement of products from another CSO wholesaler for the remaining term of the agreement".

## Insulin injection skills

**GUILD** Learning and Development has announced the creation of a new CPD accredited module for pharmacists, titled 'Improving the injecting experience for patients using insulin'.

Supported by an unrestricted educational grant from BD (Becton Dickinson), the module describes the challenges faced by people with type 1 and type 2 diabetes, including the commencement of insulin therapy and some of the common adverse events.

Accredited for two hours of Group 1 CPD, the course can be accessed via [myCPD.org.au](http://myCPD.org.au).

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## Dispensary Corner

**A MAN** in Ireland has taken ignoring public health advice to a whole new level by roller blading during a hurricane.

Despite very public warnings to stay inside, the unidentified man was filmed dodging flying debris such as roof tiles as he blissfully bladed around the streets of Cork during ex-Hurricane Ophelia.

An image of the man was uploaded to Twitter which promptly went viral.

It is not known if the man was able to successfully return to base after the jaunt, however, we can confirm he was able to hit his personal top speed.



**THE OLD** saying goes that you should pull up a chair next to a proctologist at any party because they will always have the most interesting anecdotes and the following story certainly backs up that point of view.

Indian customs authorities this week found more than 10kg of gold "inside" 29 passengers after conducting a "thorough" cavity search at Madurai International Airport in Tamil Nadu.

A consolation for the smugglers was that they were permitted to walk free - if a little gingerly - as none were carrying enough to meet the criminal threshold.

Authorities can't confirm if the confiscated gold has depreciated in value since the incident.

## Opioid doctor struck off

**THE** Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) has confirmed the suspension of the Australian medical registration of a GP after pharmacists in Alaska raised concerns about his prescribing patterns.

Dr Mahmood Ahmad's Alaskan medical licence was summarily suspended in June 2016, and the Medical Board of Australia subsequently decided last Aug to suspend his registration immediately as a result.

Ahmad challenged the Board's decision, and took the matter to VCAT claiming the suspension was not appropriate.

The Tribunal heard evidence of the pharmacists in Anchorage, Alaska who described what they found to be "unusual and troubling prescribing patterns, with new patients without a documented history of prior opioid prescriptions presenting with simultaneous prescriptions for multiple controlled substances, or high dose

opioids, or both".

Vague diagnoses - typically 'chronic pain' - were listed on all prescriptions, with a total of 10 different pharmacists raising issues about the doctor with authorities in Alaska.

Dr Ahmad voluntarily and irrevocably surrendered his licence to practice in Alaska, and as a consequence civil charges against him were dropped.

However in the VCAT hearing he said the action in Alaska had been initiated by pharmacists in error, and had given undue weight to "strident and extreme opinion testimony".

However after considering testimony from the doctor and other evidence, the Tribunal concluded the concerns of the pharmacists were valid, and indicated an "apparently reckless disregard for patient safety".

VCAT upheld the Board's decision, saying it was reasonable to believe he posed a "serious risk to persons".

## Guild Update

### ScriptMAP 2020 updated

**THE** Pharmacy Guild has updated its financial support product, ScriptMAP 2020, to ensure users have the most up-to-date dispensing remuneration forecasting tool available.

The update further strengthens ScriptMAP 2020's forecasting which is unique to each individual pharmacy. The updated version is available from this week.

The changes to the updated version include taking into account the agreement between Medicines Australia and the Federal Government which includes the extended/ additional F1 statutory price reductions and an increase in the 16 per cent Statutory Price Reduction to 25 per cent.

To compensate for the downtime during which the upgrades have been implemented, the Guild is offering an additional three months' free subscription to users who purchased the ScriptMAP 2020 annual subscription and one month free additional subscription to users who purchased a monthly subscription in the month before the service was suspended (i.e. after 5 June 2017).

New subscriptions to ScriptMAP2020 can be purchased through the ScriptMAP 2020 interface. Visit [guild.org.au/scriptmap2020](http://guild.org.au/scriptmap2020) to find out more.

## Win with Cancer Council Australia

Every day this week, Pharmacy Daily and Cancer Council Australia are giving away a sun protection prize pack! Prize packs include the new Sensitive Invisible Sunscreen (75mL) and Sensitive Sunscreen (200mL), valued at over \$30! The new Sensitive Invisible contains 22% zinc oxide that reflects UV rays whilst also being easy to rub-in, leaving an invisible finish on the skin. Both formulas are dermatologically tested, fragrance and paraben free.

To win submit your answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)



Product Description	Symbion Codes	Sigma Codes	API Codes	RRP
NEW Sensitive Invisible SPF30 75ml	434906	266791	26422	\$14.95
NEW Sensitive 50+ Pump 200ml	434949	266825	26421	\$19.45

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*Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kadey Hooper from Mount Barker National Pharmacy, SA.*

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