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ADE trigger tool

UNDERSTANDING that elderly patients with multimorbidity are especially vulnerable to adverse drug events (ADEs), Spanish researchers have identified 51 triggers for detecting potential ADEs in this cohort and essential for enabling timely interventions that can mitigate the ADEs.

The triggers were culled by a panel of experts from an original 72 possibilities and then grouped into five modules: 11 as care module triggers, 10 as antidotes/treatment, 11 medication concentrations, 18 abnormal laboratory values, and one as an emergency department trigger.

Authors wrote that subsequent validation in clinical practice was needed to confirm the accuracy and efficiency of these triggers for this population - [CLICK HERE](#).

Thunderstorm asthma tools

THE National Asthma Council of Australia has released a handy flowchart for pharmacists as a tool to identify and advise at-risk patients on thunderstorm asthma.



The flowchart is one of a suite of supportive resources for health professionals in preparation for the upcoming grass pollen season.

The new resources include an information paper on the causes, prevention and treatment of thunderstorm asthma, an updated information paper on managing allergic rhinitis in people with asthma, and a handy flowchart for pharmacists to identify and advise at-risk patients.

National Asthma Council Australia spokesperson and pharmacist

Dr Jenny Gowan said the thunderstorm event last year was a timely reminder for pharmacists and pharmacy staff to refresh their knowledge on evidence-based best practice of asthma and allergic rhinitis.

Free workshops, a webinar series and online learning modules are also being made available at nationalasthma.org.au.

Lilly ends Acrux deal

SHARES in Melbourne-based biotech Acrux crashed 28% down 7.5 cents to 19 cents last night upon news of termination of its testosterone replacement therapy Axiron licensing deal with US-based pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly and Co, according to *Sky News*.

Acrux secured its licensing deal in 2010, which Acrux described as one of the largest such deals undertaken by an Australian biotech company, but now it will terminate in 90 days.

Acrux said generic testosterone treatments were creating commercial uncertainty, and the testosterone market was declining.

Tom Watson Oration

THIS year's Tom Watson Oration sponsored by the Faculty of Pharmacy, The University of Sydney, was delivered by Professor Deanna Kroetz from the Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences in the School of Pharmacy at the University of California San Francisco.

Professor Kroetz's presentation



was titled "Challenges and Opportunities for Implementation of Pharmacogenomic Findings" and covered the fundamental science and clinical evidence guiding the impact of a person's genetic make-up and how this can be used to guide drug and dose selection of medicines for optimal treatment across a range of clinical areas.

Pictured are Professor Alan Boddy (USyd), Professor Deanna Kroetz (UC) and Professor Andrew McLachlan (USyd).

Tasmania's Priceline PATY

LOCAL pharmacy assistant Samuel Vince (**pictured**), from Priceline Pharmacy Hobart, has been chosen to represent Tasmania at the National Finals of the 2017 Pharmacy Guild of Australia/ Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award (PATY).



"Each candidate displayed a strong commitment to their work and the industry, which was a pleasure to see – it was a hard task to pick just one, but Samuel really shone," Pharmacy Guild of Australia training manager and national

PATY judge, Deborah Scholz said.

Vince will represent Tasmania at the National Finals at the 2017 Pharmacy Assistant National Conference on 26 Oct on the Gold Coast, competing for over \$10,000 in cash, prizes and rewards.

Judges picked Vince from 12 other state finalists at the Tasmania workshop on Tuesday where each participant demonstrated their pharmacy knowledge and showcased their skills in customer service and leadership.

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Dispensary Corner

THE death of the sickie could be upon us if researchers from the University of Pittsburgh have a say.

A computer is being developed that rates how much pain someone is in by detecting small changes to their facial expressions.

Such a system could help doctors determine how to treat patients and may save the prescription of painkillers.

The researchers hope the system could one day be available as an app that doctors have on their smartphones.

Study author Dr Jeffrey Cohn from the University of Pittsburgh said, "These metrics might be useful in determining real pain from faked pain."



BABIES who sleep in separate rooms from their parents have earlier bedtimes, take less time to nod off and get more shut eye, new research reveals.

They are also less likely to require feeding at night, a study in Philadelphia found.

Parents of such babies find bedtime less difficult and report sleeping better themselves, the research adds.

Lead author Dr Jodi Mindell from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia said, "One main reason is that they are more likely to self-soothe to sleep."

The researchers studied questionnaires completed by the US parents of 6,236 infants aged between six and 12 months.

Case by case S3 advertising

AS OPPOSED to a default arrangement whereby all pharmacist-only medicines (S3) can be advertised directly to consumers, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has recommended advertising permissions be managed on a case by case basis, in its submission to the Therapeutic Goods Administration consultation relating to the advertising of S3 medicines.

The PSA also sought to be the lead provider of training for pharmacists around new advertising regulations.

The Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI) has consistently promoted the value of switching many S4 medicines to S3 (**PD** yesterday) and especially allowing balanced advertising, emphasising a focus on benefit as well as risk around S3 products.

Monash public health advocate Ken Harvey acknowledged "that S3 advertising gives an additional opportunity for the pharmacist to act as a health professional to assist patients to select their medicines," and may also increase the health literacy of consumers and assist medicine compliance.

However, Harvey was quick to highlight the irony of a GP being unable dispense because of the obvious conflict of interest, whereas the pharmacist is forced to live daily with this dilemma.

Medicines Australia's submission broadly supported the proposals but warns that obtaining scheduling and marketing authorisation increases complexity and regulatory burden for sponsors.

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia also broadly supported proposals in the consultation brief while identifying some medicines that are dispensed in other countries without a doctor's script, namely sildenafil, calcipotriol, trimethoprim, azithromycin, finasteride and nortisterone.

The Guild reinforced its range of previous recommendations on the topic including an "Ask the pharmacist" reference to be associated with advertising of S3 medicines.

While generally supporting the proposals, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia raised the issue of possible confusion around appendix changes details.

Read full submissions: tga.gov.au.

WIN WITH DESIGNER BRANDS

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and Designer Brands are giving away each day their DB Sheer Radiance Tinted Gel Moisturiser in Light/Medium and Medium/Dark.

The perfect oil-free alternative to cakey foundations and CC Creams, for light to medium coverage that doesn't feel heavy on the skin. This tinted formula works to create the perfect 'no-makeup-makeup' look and glowing skin. Vitamins A, C & E keep skin hydrated and looking fresh. Aloe Vera and Green Tea soothe skin and reduce redness. **CLICK HERE** to find out more.

To win, be the first person from SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What is the RRP of the Sheer Radiance Tinted Gel Moisturiser?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jessica Thiele from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.



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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