

Pharmacy fertility kit

A NEW fertility kit has been launched to pharmacy designed to help men and women get "fertility fit," to ultimately heighten the chance of conception.

Presented as a "one-stop" fertility shop, the kit is comprised of a four-step plan with supporting products and medical devices to aid female and male fertility, including pre-conception health and support, menstrual cycle monitoring for ovulation, timed sexual intercourse and testing for pregnancy.

The \$130 RRP kit provides information, knowledge and tools to support natural conception, according to Prof Bill Ledger, fertility specialist from UNSW and the Royal Hospital for Women.

To place a wholesale order for the 'conceiveplease Fertility Kit', contact Health Direction Pty Ltd on 02 4655 8855 or visit conceiveplease.com.



Aussie pharmacists honoured by FIP

THREE Australian pharmacists have been newly granted Fellowships of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, with the accolades bestowed yesterday in Seoul, Korea, during the opening ceremony of the 77th World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Interestingly Australia is the only country across the globe to have more than one fellowship awarded this year, indicating the leading position of the Australian pharmacy sector.

The honorees include Monash University's Kristie Galbraith; Dr Betty Chaar from the University of Sydney; and former NSW Pharmacy Guild president Paul Sinclair, all of whom are pictured accepting their awards from FIP president Carmel Pena.

FIP Fellowships recognise individual members of the Federation who have "exhibited strong leadership internationally, distinguished themselves in the pharmaceutical sciences and/or practice of pharmacy, of pharmaceutical sciences and/



contributed to the advancement or practice of pharmacy, and who have served FIP".

Kristie Galbraith (above) is Associate Professor at Monash University, and director of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences postgraduate studies and professional development unit.

Paul Sinclair is a Sydney community pharmacist and was heavily involved in the negotiation of and administration of the Community Pharmacy Agreements over the last decade; while Sydney University's Dr Betty Chaar (left) is a lecturer in professionalism in pharmacy with many years experience in community pharmacy ownership, hospital pharmacy, pharmaceutical industry, academia and research.



GMP forms deadline

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration is planning a series of process improvements for Good Manufacturing Process (GMP) clearances this month and alerts manufacturers they need to submit any 'draft' GMP Clearance applications using the current form, before the redesigned GMP Clearance application forms go live.

Lodgements must be made by 5pm (AEST) on 18 Sep, or thereafter from 9am on 26 Sep onwards.

Go to tga.gov.au for full details.

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Pharmacy cannabis course

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has announced the launch of Australia's first, community pharmacy specific, medical cannabis training course.

Guild Queensland Branch president and national vice president Tim Logan said that registrations for the online course would open tomorrow Tue 12 Sep.

"While there are many positive stories in the media regarding outcomes of medicinal cannabis, it is vital for community pharmacists to understand the full scope of this emerging area," Logan explained.

"Developed specifically for community pharmacy, this course

will provide a complete overview of what, why and how to dispense medicinal cannabis according to Commonwealth, state and territory legislation and guidelines.



"Importantly, the course will continue to be updated as the environment changes to provide current information on the dispensing of medicinal cannabis across Australia," Logan said.



The three hour course will be delivered via three online modules and will cover therapeutic uses of medicinal cannabis, emerging clinical guidance

and clinical trials underway in Australia, the current legal status of medicinal cannabis in all states and territories of Australia as well as Commonwealth and state specific requirements to prescribe and dispense medicinal cannabis.

In addition, there is an overview of products and modes of administration.

The course will also provide supportive tools and resources to prepare pharmacists to dispense medicinal cannabis and send out email updates regarding medicinal cannabis legislation changes in Australia.

The cost of the Guild course is \$55.00 including GST and CPD credits are available.

For more information or to register, visit guild.org.au or email cpd.training@qldguild.org.au.

BKL running festival

BLACKMORES is once again the major sponsor this year of the Sydney Running Festival, which has proven so popular that the 10km Bridge Run option is now sold out.

There's still space available in the 3.5km Blackmores Family Fun Run, the Blackmores Half Marathon and the Blackmores Sydney Marathon, with all participants running across the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the events completing near Sydney Opera House at Circular Quay.

CLICK HERE to download the 2017 Running Festival Event Guide.



Pharmacy House progresses



CONSTRUCTION is progressing for the purpose-built Pharmacy House, located in Deakin close to Parliament House, PSA national president Dr Shane Jackson announced, launching Stage 2 of the project's fundraising campaign.

Jackson congratulated donors including PSA members and several leading pharmacy groups that have supported the new building.

"I sincerely thank the pharmacists and organisations who have donated to the new Pharmacy House – their support will ensure it's more than just a building; it's part of a drive into the future for all pharmacists providing healthcare to all Australians," Jackson said.

"We are very grateful to those members who have already donated to the new building, and hope members will continue to support their headquarters over the next 12 months."

Many pharmacists have already donated along with companies including Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd (PDL).

For more information or to make a donation, visit psa.org.au.

Watch a time lapse video of construction so far - **CLICK HERE**.

Alcohol not so wise

NEW research out of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine UK has found that alcohol industry groups misrepresent the alcohol-related risk of cancer in public information.

By surveying websites and documents from 27 alcohol industry organisations, including Australia's Drinkwise, the researchers found denial and misrepresentation of the cancer risk from consuming alcohol, and distraction from the effects of alcohol on common cancers such as breast and bowel.

They concluded that the alcohol industry was using similar tactics as the tobacco industry, to the detriment of public health.

"Denying, distortion and distraction" were identified as the main strategies employed.

Alcohol consumption is a well-established risk factor for a range of cancers, including oral cavity, liver, breast and colorectal cancers, and accounts for about 4% of new cancer cases annually in the UK, the report's authors wrote in *Drug and Alcohol Review*.

Win with NS-8 Natural Footcare

This week Pharmacy Daily and NS-8 Natural Footcare are giving away NS-8 Heel Balm, NS-8 Leg Care Cream and NS-8 Sports Socks.

Give your feet some love!

Spring is here and it's time to make sure your feet and legs are ready - soft and smooth. NS-8 Natural Footcare is based on natural active ingredients rather than petrochemicals to deliver superior results. NS-8 Heel Balm is not greasy, so you don't need socks, and natural exfoliants gradually remove dry, thickened skin, so you don't need foot files. NS-8 Leg Care Cream refreshes and moisturises hot, tired legs, softening and smoothing dry skin. Australian owned and made.

To win, be the first from NSW or ACT to send the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

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Dispensary Corner

IT'S THE same virus that has spread fear across South America in the past two years, but in the US scientists have hopes it might be used to treat brain cancer.

Zika virus - the mosquito-borne affliction that has caused countless birth defects - might be a new weapon in the treatment of hard-to-treat tumours.

According to the *BBC*, scientists have used Zika injections to shrink aggressive tumours in mice.

Though human trials are a long way off, teams from the Washington University and the University of California San Diego schools of medicine have begun modifying the virus in the hope of creating a tame version of Zika.

Promising trials in mice and in donated human tissue have shown Zika can kill aggressive cancer cells without harming other brain tissue.

A NINE-YEAR-OLD boy in Turkey has had a close brush with death after biting down on a hot-dog that stopped his heart.

Doctors in Istanbul report the boy suffered a near-fatal heart attack and had to be resuscitated after his frankfurter encounter.

Though now fully recovered, the boy has been fitted with a cardiac defibrillator implant and has the hot dog to thank for revealing a life threatening condition.

According to *CBS News*, the boy had gagged slightly as he wolfed on the hot-dog, activating the vagus nerve which serves the heart, in turn triggering an irregular heart rhythm.

He has been diagnosed with Brugada syndrome, and so too has his brother who was later tested as a precaution.

Pharmacy jobs key

INTERNATIONAL Pharmaceutical Federation president Carmel Pena has urged investment in the pharmaceutical workforce in order to boost global health coverage.

Opening the 2017 FIP World Congress in South Korea (see p1), Pena said one of the most important ways of achieving universal health coverage was through service provision, but "this in turn requires a sufficient pharmaceutical workforce".

Pena drew attention to the investment FIP had already made in the pharmaceutical workforce and raising the visibility of pharmacists in global health policies.

She highlighted the recent decision of the United Nations to include pharmacist numbers as an indicator of the density of health care professionals - in addition to doctors, nurses and midwives.

Nhill Pharmacy Vic's PATY

PHARMACY assistant Stephanie Meiklejohn (pictured) from Nhill Pharmacy in Victoria's central West has been chosen to represent Victoria at the National Finals of the 2017 Pharmacy Guild of Australia/Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award (PATY).

Guild training manager and national PATY Judge Deborah Scholz said the Award was the premier opportunity to recognise and reward outstanding pharmacy assistants throughout Australia.

Judges picked Stephanie from 15 other state finalists at the Victoria workshop on Thursday where each participant demonstrated their pharmacy knowledge and



showcased their skills in customer service and leadership.

"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 Stephanie really shone," Scholz said.

"I would also like to acknowledge Katherine Salloum who was awarded the Victoria winner of the Glucojel Super Star Award for outstanding customer service skills in community pharmacy," Scholz said.

National finals are to be held at the 2017 Pharmacy Assistant National Conference on 26 Oct with the National winner taking home over \$10,000 in cash and rewards.

Park that asthma

CHILDREN who live in the city may have fewer days with asthma symptoms the closer they live to parks and green spaces, according to research being presented at the European Respiratory Society International Congress 2017 today.

The Baltimore, USA, study looked at inner-city children with persistent asthma and compared the number of days they suffered with symptoms over a period of two weeks with the distance from their homes to the nearest park.

Children had one extra day suffering with asthma symptoms for every 305 metres between their home and the park.

The effect was strongest for children aged six years and older.

NortriTABS a-flagged

APOTEX has announced that with NortriTABS listed on the PBS as a-flagged effective 01 Aug, it is interchangeable with Allegron (nortriptyline hydrochloride) for the treatment of major depression.

The listing is a "restricted benefit" for major depression only, with NortriTABS being the first listed generic nortriptyline available through pharmacy in Australia.

CLICK HERE for the PI document.



Welcome to *PD's* weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is **Michelle**



Vogrinec, mum of three, creator of GAIA Natural Baby, MD of GAIA Skin Natural Australia.

Don't stay 'Mum' on stretchmarks

THE reality is a stretchmark is a form of scarring. During pregnancy the body is affected by changes in hormone levels and skin is stretched by the growth of the baby and in preparation for breastfeeding. When dealing with stretchmarks prevention is better than cure. Moisturise, moisturise, moisturise! Skin becomes more pliable and better able to stretch when it's well hydrated.

At first, stretchmarks may show up as reddish or purplish lines that may appear indented and have a different texture from the surrounding skin. Fortunately stretchmarks often turn lighter with daily massaging with a hydrating cream or body oil. Many natural oils, especially pure essential oils, contain moisturising essential fatty acids, skin healing and collagen regenerating minerals and enzymes, and natural antioxidants to repair damaged skin.

Look out for products containing oils such as: Rosehip, Jojoba, Wheat Germ Oil, Cocoa Butter, Aloe Vera, Shea butter and Vitamin E. Pure Essential Oils such as: Lavender, Frankincense, Mandarin/Tangerine, Neroli and Patchouli have also been shown to aid in reducing the appearance of stretchmarks.