

HPS ceo Wyatt retires

PHARMACY services provider HPS has announced the retirement of its longstanding ceo Tony Wyatt (pictured below).

Having led HPS from a privately owned business, through to private equity investment, and now sole ownership by EBOS Group,

Wyatt said it was an appropriate time to retire and allow HPS to enter this next exciting phase.

"I am immensely proud to have been an integral part of a business that over the past seven years has grown from \$100 million in revenue across 17 sites with 180 staff to \$300 million in revenue across 50 sites and 600 staff," he said.

HPS chief operating officer Jeremy Stones takes the reins effective 01 Nov 2017.



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Poor adherence drives reform

AUSTRALIA'S medicine adherence levels remain "stubbornly low" at between 50% and 60%, and with increasing numbers of patients on five, 10 or more medicines to treat multiple chronic health conditions, there is a crying need for more personalised medicines support delivered through community pharmacies, writes Pharmacy Guild of Australia executive director David Quilty in his *Forefront* editorial.

The impact on health budgets of such poor medicines management in an ageing population includes increased hospital admissions, which the Health Minister Greg Hunt has prioritised to avoid, as his third wave of health reform.

"It is clear that Minister Hunt believes that the focus needs to move from reducing avoidable hospital admissions to rewarding

the states, private health providers and health professionals for actually avoiding admissions and readmissions in the first place," Quilty wrote.

With medicine-related issues the cause of an estimated 230,000 hospital admissions costing over \$1.2 billion annually, the minister sees primary care as playing a major role in avoiding hospital admissions with community pharmacies a key participant.

"Around the world, there is growing evidence that allowing pharmacists to practise at the top of their professional skills can take pressure off the wider health system and reduce unnecessary hospital admissions," writes Quilty.

Pharmacists can help manage the hospitalisation rates and minimise GP time on less critical health issues, he added - [CLICK HERE](#).

CW wins AFL Grand Final

IN AN Australian first, Chemist Warehouse (CW) is gearing up for a major promotion that will see the Pharmacy group place 100,000 seat cushions filled with premium product on all seats at the MCG ahead of this weekend's 2017 Toyota AFL Grand Final.

The seat cushions will include a range of products from key suppliers including Nivea, Aquiam, La Roche Posay and Swisse along with exclusive grand final in-store offers for all attendees.

Earlier this week, a whopping 180 vans delivered over 900 pallets of product to the iconic MCG.

Dedicated Chemist Warehouse Group staff will face the huge task of delivering the seat cushions and setting up the bays ready for placing on every seat ahead of the hi-profile Saturday match.

From 8.00 am today, 28 Sep, CW will see 300 staff and volunteers place 100,000 seat cushions, covering every MCG seat.

"This is unquestionably our biggest activation yet, and we are thrilled to be partnering with the AFL for the 2017 Toyota AFL

Grand Final, one of Australia's most sought-after, and premiere sporting

events," CW chief operating officer Mario Tascone said.

Additional CW staff will then go to Rod Laver Arena to set-up for the AFL Grand Final Footy Show, with a further 10,000 cushions.

During the third-quarter of the Toyota AFL Grand Final, Chemist Warehouse will also give one lucky attendee the chance to 'kick for cash', potentially to take home a \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$20,000 prize.



Fake meds crackdown

SUPPLIES of counterfeit and illicit medicines have been seized at the Australian border as part of an international crackdown involving the Australian Border Force (ABF), the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

Now in its 10th year, Operation Pangea, led by INTERPOL in cooperation with the World Customs Organization, brings together customs, health and law enforcement agencies from over 100 countries.

During the week of 12-19 Sep, ABF officers working in international mail facilities around Australia, detected and seized 48 consignments, predominantly containing erectile dysfunction pills, cancer medication and nutritional supplements.

Federal Health Department deputy secretary, Professor John Skerritt, said the operation served as a timely reminder to consumers about the dangers of obtaining therapeutic goods from unknown or unapproved sources.

"These products could be counterfeit and not assessed for safety, quality and performance," Skerritt said.

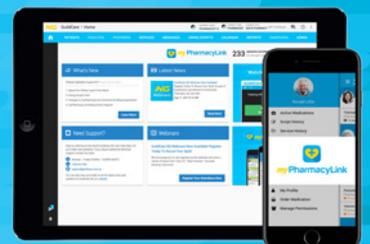
CVS aligns with CDC

US PHARMACY chain CVS has announced it will be limiting the supply of opioids dispensed for acute conditions to seven days, down from 10 days, in line with the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines - see healthaffairs.org.

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Dispensary Corner

ALL that glitters . . . but if it's in a plastic bag inserted in the rectum? Maybe not so much.

A Sri Lankan man who raised suspicion by the way he kept looking around in an airport departure lounge was found to be carrying nearly a kilogram of gold stashed in his rectum, *Yahoo!News* reports.

The 45-year-old man, headed for India, was arrested at Colombo airport on Sunday after customs officials noticed "suspicious movements" (!).

The suspect was carrying 904.77 grams of gold worth 4.5 million rupees (\$29,577), but was freed after payment of 100,000 rupees.

"This is not the first such detection and this is a common method of smuggling," an airport official was quoted as saying.

But that hiding place certainly 'rect'im - no graphic today.



SCRAP that diet and chow down on pork shoulder, sirloin steak (pictured), chicken, mackerel and avocados, say researchers at the University of Warwick, UK.

These foods could help dieters lose weight because they trigger a reaction in the brain which makes people feel fuller, reports *The Telegraph*.

Certain foods contain types of amino acids which stimulate the tancytes more than others.

Foods found to be high in the stimulating amino acids also include plums, apricots, lentils and almonds.

Drug induced deaths in Aust

HARMFUL drug use continues to be a serious public health issue in Australia with 1,808 drug induced deaths registered in 2016, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics report, 'Causes of Death, Australia 2016'.

This is the highest number of drug deaths in 20 years, and is similar to the number recorded in the late 1990s, when a steep increase in opioid use, specifically heroin, led to deaths peaking at 1,740 in 1999.

Although the number of drug induced deaths is the highest on record, the death rate per capita of 7.5 per 100,000 people is lower than that in 1999 (9.2 deaths per 100,000 people).

Changes in drug deaths have been significant over this period, the report said.

In 2016, an individual dying from a drug induced death in Australia was most likely to be a middle aged male, living outside of a capital city who is misusing prescription drugs such as benzodiazepines or oxycodone in a polypharmacy setting.

The death was also said most likely to be an accident.

This profile is quite different from that in 1999, where a person who died from a drug induced death was most likely to be younger (early 30s) with morphine, heroin or benzodiazepines detected on toxicology at death.

The ABS summary article provides further information and analysis on the demography of drug induced deaths in Australia in 2016.

To read the full ABS analysis and its implications, go to abs.gov.au.

Lucy Walker at PA2017

2017 Guild Pharmacy of the Year winner Lucy Walker, will motivate and inspire delegates, as she shares her story of success at this year's PA Conference, (PA2017).

Walker will outline how her pharmacy is leading the way in providing innovative and optimal healthcare for members of her rural community.

Conference topics and presenters are at pharmacyassistants.com.

WIN WITH INNOXA

This week Pharmacy Daily and INNOXA are giving away each day the new INNOXA Eye Lift Palette.

INNOXA introduces an all-in-one kit that is designed to prime, contour, define and brighten the eye area, creating a more youthful and lifted appearance. Containing a cream to powder base primer that optimizes soft focus and is long lasting, and a silky touch matte powder that is pigment rich and provides moisture, with the INNOXA Eye Lift Palette you can achieve this bright and awakened look in five simple steps. **CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE** for more info.

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

How many steps does it take?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Antonella Panajia from Main Street Pharmacy.



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