

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from **Dermal Therapy**.

Pharmacist reprimand

A PHARMACIST based on the NSW North Coast has been formally reprimanded and ordered to pay 60% of court costs of the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) after a 2014 investigation into reports of large quantities of high strength opioids being ordered in the region.

The probe subsequently narrowed in on Tuncurry Pharmacy in Tuncurry which was found to have a high rate of dispensing fentanyl and oxycodone to patients with a past or present Opioid Treatment Program history.

The pharmacist-in-charge, Stephen Elliott, subsequently had conditions imposed by the Pharmacy Council of NSW in 2015, and the HCCC launched its own investigation and referred a complaint against Elliott to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

In a decision handed down last week, the Tribunal found the pharmacist's conduct was not motivated by bad intentions, but was "seriously incompetent over a significant period of time".

However it was agreed that an order for suspension or cancellation of his registration was not appropriate, and given the passage of time and Elliott's "conscientious efforts to address the shortcomings in his practice," other proposed conditions on his registration were not considered necessary.

Alcohol and drug use

ALCOHOL and illicit drugs are responsible for nearly one in every 20 deaths in Australia, according to new analysis from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Drawing on data from the 2011 Australian Burden of Disease Study published in 2016, the report *Impact of alcohol and illicit drug use on the burden of disease and injury in Australia* assesses the health impact of alcohol and illicit drugs on the lives of Australians. Visit aihw.gov.au for the report.

Guild urges united vax front

PHARMACY Guild executive director David Quilty has urged doctor's groups to present a united front with pharmacists to help boost influenza vaccination rates in the Australian community.

Writing in *Forefront* yesterday, Quilty recounted a conversation last year with a senior executive from a doctor's organisation who made it clear that "flu vaccinations in community pharmacies are a good idea because they provide enhanced access for patients who are unlikely to visit a doctor".

However Quilty said the unnamed doctor's representative added that his group was unable to "publicly support pharmacist vaccinations for political reasons".

That's been increasingly clear in recent weeks as the AMA and RACGP have ramped up their rhetoric against pharmacy flu jabs.

Quilty noted that the public health benefits of herd immunity dictate that pharmacies pay a vital role in vaccinating as many as possible of the millions of Australians who do not visit their GP for a flu shot.

"Last year some 69% of Australians did not get a flu shot and everyone in the health system should be working together to reduce the size of the unacceptably high unvaccinated population cohort, rather than taking pot shots at each other," Quilty said.

Walmart vs Amazon bidding for PillPack

US RETAIL giant Walmart is in talks to pay less than US\$1b to acquire PillPack, with rumours also of Amazon showing interest, according to a report by *CNBC*.

PillPack is an online pharmacy medication management company startup that in 2016 was valued at US\$330m, home-delivering prepackaged drugs monthly.

The company, which also offers a 24/7 service, reported revenue of more than US\$100M in 2017 and has raised US\$118M in funding from investors, including US pharmacy giant CVS and Menlo Ventures, since launching in 2013.



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New dermal therapy

DERMAL Therapy has expanded its range with the addition of three new products including Anti-Ageing Hand Balm, Anti-Itch Soothing Lotion and Very Dry Skin Cream.

The products are now available - for details see **page three**.

Medicines experts



THE theme of this year's World Pharmacists Day on 25 Sep 2018 will be "Pharmacists are your medicines experts", according to Carmen Peña, president of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP).

"This year, we focus on the extensive expertise that pharmacists have and put to use every day to ensure better patient health," she said.

The theme emphasises that pharmacists are a trusted source of knowledge and advice, not only for patients but for other healthcare professionals, she explained.

The official logo and a microsite in six languages is now live at fip.org/worldpharmacistsday.

FIP is also producing a set of four shareable animations outlining the value that pharmacists represent.

7CPA Guild-PSA unity

PHARMACEUTICAL Society of Australia president Dr Shane Jackson in a show of solidarity was invited to write the lead editorial for the current edition of the Guild's *Forefront*, highlighting the close workings of the two organisations toward positive future outcomes across many fronts such as Pain Medschecks, digital health and especially the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement.

Jackson said in the lead-up to the 7CPA the outcomes of services delivered by pharmacists must be made clear so that "practising to full scope of practice" is embraced by the government - guild.org.au.



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Pharmacy Daily



Dispensary Corner

JAPANESE employment practices are under scrutiny after reports of a woman being reprimanded because she fell pregnant “before it was her turn”.

She was working at a childcare centre in northern Japan, and after sharing the news of the blessed event was criticised because it clashed with a schedule drawn up by the boss, which listed when female staff were allowed to marry and have children.

Her husband wrote about the drama to the *Mainich Shimbun* newspaper, saying “apparently there was an unspoken rule that one must not take their ‘turn’ before a senior staff member”.



VISITORS to the Detroit Zoo in the USA will definitely need to wash their hands well when they get home, with the attraction set to hand out free souvenir buckets of animal excrement next week.

The Detroit Zoo Poo promotion will take place on 14 Apr as part of the zoo’s GreenFest celebration which showcases how waste is recycled at the facility.

The lucky first 1,000 visitors to the “anaerobic digester educational display” will receive a bucket of s**t after learning how 500 tons of animal manure are converted annually into methane gas to power an animal hospital.

It’s certainly a better use for the poo than getting the monkeys to fling it at visitors.

Apotex practitioner CMs

CANADIAN-OWNED pharmaceutical generics and complementary medicines company Apotex has announced the launch of its “Australian manufactured, evidence-based” Amplio range of practitioner-strength vitamins (**pictured**).

The initial eight Amplio products will be further expanded in Jun 2018 with four additional products, the company said, adding that the new range would “enable pharmacists to tap into the lucrative \$4.7 billion complementary medicines category”.

Apotex will showcase the new Amplio range at the upcoming APP2018 conference, and “demonstrate ways in which this unique range of formulations will offer solutions to pharmacies wishing to elevate their



preventative healthcare solutions offering”.

With these products only available to consumers following consultation with a pharmacist or allied healthcare professional, the new practitioner range offers pharmacy enhanced opportunity

for meaningful customer engagement and reinforcement as a true healthcare destination.

In addition the company has promised Amplio will offer pharmacy a national training program via a team of dedicated trainers, while supporting online modules will outline the evidence-based benefits of the formulations, provide technical product knowledge and facilitate appropriate product recommendations.

More info is available by calling Apotex on 1800 276 839.



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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Win with Nutri-Synergy

Every day this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett’s are giving away an NS prize pack valued at \$38 each including NS Working Hands, NS-8 Heel Balm and NS-8 Leg Care Cream.

Hands, Legs and Heels

Dry, rough, cracked hands, legs and heels? NS Working Hands is an intensive repair treatment, it absorbs quickly so that hands get back to work fast. NS-8 Heel Balm is diabetic friendly and recommended by podiatrists while NS-8 Leg Care Cream refreshes and cools dry, tired, heavy legs. Visit: www.Plunketts.com.au.

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

Fill in the blank: NS-8 Heel Balm is a petro-chemical ____ treatment.

Congratulations to yesterday’s winner, Song Huan Eow from Scarborough Beach Pharmacy.



3 NEW PRODUCTS HAVE JOINED THE DERMAL THERAPY FAMILY!



ANTI-AGEING HAND BALM

50g

Clinically tested moisturising formula containing a unique plant based ingredient that improves skin collagen and elasticity for visibly younger hands.



ANTI-ITCH SOOTHING LOTION

250mL

A steroid free, 3 action formula designed to relieve itchy and irritated skin on large skin surfaces.

Also available in 85g Cream



VERY DRY SKIN CREAM

250g

12.5% urea in a concentrated moisturising base to provide optimum hydration for very dry skin with visible results in 1 day.

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