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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news including our regular **Health & Beauty** feature.

PSA appoints Belinda Wood as GM

FORMER ceo of the Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (GBMA) Belinda Wood (pictured)



has taken up the role of General Manager, Policy and Advocacy for the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA).

PSA national president Dr Shane Jackson welcomed the move, saying "The PSA Board recognises that as this is an important time for PSA and for the profession, we need the right team to deliver tangible improvement in the recognition of the role of pharmacists in the healthcare system.

"I am confident that Belinda will drive the PSA agenda of expanded roles for pharmacists, improved recognition of the expertise of pharmacists and will also lead our work on improving remuneration for pharmacists," Jackson added.

Wood said she was pleased to take the role, saying "my focus will be to represent PSA as the leading professional body for Australian pharmacists, advocate for pharmacists to be fully utilised in medicines management and develop opportunities for pharmacists regardless of where they practise their profession".

Flu vax advertising advice

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has updated its guidance for advertising of vaccination services, reminding pharmacists there are strict controls around the release of information to the public.

All vaccines for human use are classified as prescription-only, meaning advertising of these medicines to consumers is banned.

Thus while advertising of immunisation of vaccination services themselves is not prohibited, pharmacies must avoid using information that might enable consumers to identify the particular vaccine being used or its manufacturer.

The TGA has recommended that advertisements for seasonal influenza vaccination services inform the public that it is either a "trivalent" or "quadrivalent" vaccine, as well as informing

that influenza vaccines are free to people from high-risk groups identified in the National Immunisation Program and that these people should seek advice from a medical practitioner.

Any ads for vaccination services must also avoid using price comparisons, incentives to encourage consumers to obtain the service, representations that harmful effects will occur from not being vaccinated, or references to any misleading therapeutic benefit.

TGA Latuda approval

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced its approval of Latuda (lurasidone HCl) for the treatment of schizophrenia in adolescents (aged 13-17 years) as "an important therapy" for young patients with this debilitating mental illness.

Latuda has a streamlined authority required PBS listing for schizophrenia.

Latuda PI is at guildlink.com.au.

Leave certificates

THE Pharmacy Guild is reminding patients that with the pending flu season, their community pharmacy is the go-to place for vaccinations and absence from work certificates, especially where they are unable to get to their doctor easily.

An update from the NSW branch of the Guild yesterday noted that "pharmacists may now issue these certificates as proof of legitimate absence for their patients," and can be used to verify either:

- Absence from work due to illness or injury (personal leave)
- Absence due to illness or injury of a member of the employee's immediate family or household (carer's leave).

"Pharmacists are able issue certificates for conditions within their scope of practice, and if the illness or injury falls outside of this they may refer their patient to a doctor or relevant healthcare professional," the notice advised, urging consumers to visit findapharmacy.com.au to find their "closest Guild Member Pharmacy offering these services".

Quit smoking course

THE Woolcock Institute of Medical Research has announced it will be hosting a 'Nicotine Addiction and Smoking Cessation Training' course with smoking cessation specialist and founding editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Smoking Cessation*, Associate Professor Renee Bittoun.

The three-day program covers causes, consequences, treatment and research of smoking cessation, nicotine addiction and appropriate evidence-based smoking cessation techniques in practical application.

The course runs 19-21 Jun in Glebe, NSW - [CLICK HERE](#) for info.

AUSTRALIA-WIDE LISTINGS

QUEENSLAND

5657 - North QLD Medical Centre Pharmacy for Sale

NEW SOUTH WALES

2402 - North West NSW Pharmacy for Sale

VICTORIA

3677 - Northern Victoria Regional Pharmacy for Sale

TASMANIA

6018 & 6021 - Tasmanian Pharmacies for Sale

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Immunotherapy hope

UNIVERSITY of Queensland (UQ) researchers have announced the development of a vaccine delivery technology called NanoEmulsion that enables treatment to be tailored precisely for different types of cancer.

UQ's Professor Ranjeny Thomas said the technology had the potential to improve the precision of cancer immunotherapy, leading to better outcomes and reduced harmful side effects.

"Flexible cancer vaccines are a long-sought treatment strategy in cancer immunotherapy," Professor Thomas said.

"Cancer vaccines represent a precision cancer treatment strategy which stimulates the immune system to attack cancer cells without affecting other cells in the body," he added, noting that current cancer vaccines have limited flexibility and effectiveness.

NanoEmulsions are described as tiny carrier packages that encapsulate proteins made only by cancer cells.

In this way, they "educate the immune system about cancer proteins," Thomas explained.

The paper has been published in *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*. [CLICK HERE](#) for access.

Arrow nails it

ARROW Pharmaceuticals has announced that it is now Australia's exclusive distributor for Emtrix Nail, a topical treatment that promotes healing of discoloured and deformed nails caused by fungal infection or psoriasis.



Emtrix Nail is an easy to apply topical treatment, clinically proven to restore healthy appearance, normalise thickness and reduce discolouration of nails affected by onychomycosis (nail fungus).

Arrow said the product increased hydration, smoothed the outer layer of the nail plate and prevented further growth of fungi.

21 antidepressants reviewed

A COLLABORATION of 18 authors from across the globe have reviewed comparative efficacy and acceptability of 21 antidepressant drugs to find a wide variation in parameters tested, in a study published in *The Lancet*.

Focusing on major depressive disorders, the authors conducted a systematic review and network meta-analysis scanning a range of academic databases.

The research aims to inform clinical guidelines and the therapeutic stakeholder shared decision making process.

Visit thelancet.com.

TGA seeks input

AUSTRALIA'S Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is calling for feedback from all stakeholders regarding proposed adoption of a number of European Union guidelines.

Visit tga.gov.au to provide input.

Women's health poll



NOT-FOR-PROFIT organisation Jean Hailes for Women's Health yesterday launched its annual Women's Health Survey.

The online survey, now in its fourth year, seeks to reveal insights into the health concerns, fears and needs of women in Australia.

"The results of our annual women's health survey are used in so many ways to help women and their health professionals," says Janet Micheltore, executive director of Jean Hailes.

Particular focuses of the group's work includes the provision of resources around anxiety, menopause and endometriosis.

Last year, more than 10,000 women responded to the survey, with this year's poll open for responses until 05 Jun.

Supporting resources along with survey details can be accessed at jeanhailes.org.au.

MMJ Cannabis Access move

ASX-LISTED cannabis company MMJ PhytoTech has announced a \$1 million investment for a 16.7% ownership stake in Biologics Research Institute, the owner of Cannabis Access, an online portal for medicinal cannabis access in Australia.



Cannabis Access supports Australian healthcare professionals seeking to access the appropriate type of medical cannabis for their patients within the current regulatory environment by making the process faster and easier.

The portal showcases the products locally available and the conditions they are best suited to treat, along with research details.

Doctors need to obtain both TGA and state approvals (apart from in NSW where the procedures have been simplified (**PD 02 Mar**)), and the portal prepopulates the forms necessary for doctors to undertake the application processes.

Cannabis Access says 500 Australian doctors and pharmacists have signed up to the service and the company expects this to "grow rapidly over the next few years".

Cannabis Access executive chairman Giles Craig said, "We are delighted to have the support of MMJ as we roll out our strategy to work with doctors throughout

Australia and make it easier for them to prescribe medical cannabis.

"This investment is an endorsement of our strategy and provides us with the capital needed to accelerate our program," he said.

"Based on mature markets for medical cannabis access such as California, we estimate the addressable market in Australia to be around 500,000 patients.

"Currently, there are only 500 patients who are legally using medical cannabis in Australia at a time when we understand up to 100,000 patients are accessing it through other means," he added.

Transitioning contacts

THE US Food & Drug Administration has approved the first contact lens which automatically darkens when exposed to bright light.

Acuvue Oasys Contact Lenses with Transitions Light Intelligent Technology are soft contact lenses indicated for daily use to correct the vision of people who have myopia or hyperopia.

The lenses contain a photochromic additive that adapts the amount of visible light filtered to the eye based on the amount of UV light to which they are exposed.

Win with Dermal Therapy

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Dermal Therapy are giving away a selection of the pictured products to the value of \$30.



Dermal Therapy Soap Free Wash is made from ingredients known for their immediate hydrating ability. Formulated and designed for dry, sensitive, itchy or flaking skin. The mild and effective soap free formula thoroughly cleanses, without stripping the skin of its essential oils. Ideal for use in the shower, bath or basin and mild enough for daily use on the entire family. Visit www.dermaltherapy.com.au to find out more.

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

True or False? Dermal Therapy Soap Free Wash can be used on the entire family.

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Joss Beare from Blooms the Chemist Kingaroy.

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Pharmacy Daily



Dispensary Corner

BOOK that spa retreat - science has confirmed what we've suspected all along.

According to a study published in *Science Daily*, Japan's famous snow monkeys seek out thermal pools to not only warm up, but also to enjoy a little bit of welcome stress relief.

Scientists who studied the macaques found reduced levels of the stress hormone glucocorticoid when they analysed the droppings of those who had just taken a dip.

"This indicates that, as in humans, the hot spring has a stress-reducing effect in snow monkeys," said the appropriately named lead researcher Rafaela Takeshita.



THERE'S been a tragic mix-up in Russia, where medical staff accidentally filled the IV bag of a patient undergoing routine surgery with formalin.

The alleged mistake meant that rather than being rehydrated with saline the unfortunate victim was embalmed, leading to her death despite extensive further intervention at a hospital in her home city of Ulyanovsk.

Her mother has accused the doctors of murder, with the UK *Sun* reporting that a criminal investigation of the incident is now under way.

Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly promoted feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy. Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Dermal Therapy Very Dry Skin Cream

Dermal Therapy **Very Dry Skin Cream**

contains 12.5% urea and 1% dimethicone in a synergistic blend of emollients and skin conditioning agents. Very Dry Skin Cream has been clinically proven to increase skin hydration by 52% and provide protection for your skin. Its concentrated moisturising base has a non-greasy formula which is suitable for use on very dry and itchy skin such as, winter itch, ichthyosis, xerosis, eczema, psoriasis, dermatitis or other dermatological conditions, especially on arms, legs, elbows and back.



Stockist: 1300 555 597

RRP: \$14.95

Website: www.dermaltherapy.com.au

Strike a Pose Face Palette by DB

Designer Brands (DB Cosmetics) brings to market the ultimate all-in-one face palette

Strike a pose with bronzer, blush and highlighter shades to illuminate and define. The palette colours are both blendable and buildable for accurate definition. This palette also features unique ombre and marble finishes. As with all Designer Brands products, this face palette contents have not been tested on animals and are certified vegan.



Stockist: 1300 765 332

RRP: \$9.99

Website: www.dbcosmetics.com.au

Conceive Plus Fertility Lubricant



For couples who are trying to get pregnant, **Conceive Plus** is a personal lubricant covered by an Australian registered patent formulated to relieve vaginal dryness often experienced when trying to conceive and which, in a large number of cases, goes unnoticed. The formula is developed to be compatible with sperm oocytes and embryos for use by all couples trying to conceive.

Within pharmacy the ideal shelf position is next to pregnancy tests and ovulation kits. Conceive Plus is available over-the-counter in a multi-use tube and individual pre-filled applicators for intra-vaginal application.

Stockist: Symbion and Sigma

RRP: \$24.95

Website: www.conceiveplus.com.au

Beyoncé Heat Seduction



Beyoncé Heat Seduction opens with an exciting blend of exotic island spice cocktail, mandarin and dewberry. In the heart, vibrant gingerlily and fresh freesia frame the African jungle trail orchid to create an irresistibly bold, mesmerizing floral bouquet. The dry down is a deeply sensual

union of rich golden amber and precious musk. This unique fragrance will stir the wildest African animal in anyone within its spell, and will linger through the longest day, or night.

Stockist: 1800 812 663

RRP: \$49.00 100mL

Website: www.coty.com