



Arrow for Emtrix

ARROW Pharmaceuticals is now the exclusive Australian distributor of Emtrix Nail, a topical treatment that promotes healing of discoloured and deformed nails caused by fungal infection or psoriasis (*PD* yesterday).

Some *Pharmacy Daily* readers yesterday received a copy of the newsletter which incorrectly stated that Apotex, not Arrow, was distributing Emtrix.

Sigma breaks ground

SIGMA Healthcare will today commence construction of its biggest ever infrastructure development - a new \$110 million state-of-the-art distribution centre in Western Sydney.

The Kemps Creek facility will host a "sod-turning ceremony" this morning with local dignitaries alongside Sigma ceo Mark Hooper, who said the investment was evidence of the company's commitment to boosting efficiency. "Sigma services the biggest network of pharmacies in Australia and our distribution centres are critical to ensuring a smooth and speedy wholesale distribution chain, especially for those time sensitive medicines critical for community health," he said.

Hooper said the company was committed to growth, with its network of distribution centres "critical to achieving that outcome".

The new distribution centre is expected to be fully operational in the first quarter of 2020.

Free Health Check

PRICELINE Pharmacy will make its Women's Health Checks free for a month, with a target of assisting 50,000 women across the country.

"Given Priceline pharmacists' extensive training in women's health, they are well placed to provide excellent service and the pharmacy chain is amplifying this by offering its Women's Health Checks free to encourage in store consultations," the company said.

Pictured are Priceline pharmacist Amy Jones with Meshel Laurie after having her free Women's Health Check in store at Priceline Pharmacy, Victoria.

Chemsave-AuMake alliance

ASX-LISTED retailer AuMake International and privately owned Chemsave have announced the formation of a strategic partnership aimed at strengthening the brands and broadening their reach among daigou and Chinese tourists.

The combination will see Chemsave's 150 member pharmacies and its online platform chemsave.com.au working together with AuMake's eight retail stores across Sydney.

While initially focusing on the distribution of AuMake's own



AuMake
International Limited



branded products such as Health Essence health supplements and Medigum Honey, it's envisaged the deal may expand in the future.

The products will become available in Chemsave member pharmacies, opening up a new category according to Chemsave chief Michael Dixon.

He told *Pharmacy Daily* the two organisations have also identified future strategies involving the entire supply chain to realise further value from the alliance.

The pact commits the companies initially to a two-year arrangement plus a two-year option to extend on a mutually agreed basis.

AuMake has a range of skin, body care and cosmetics as well as dairy products and baby foods including formula and has established itself as a China friendly environment with bilingual staff, multiple payment options including WeChat, Alipay and Unionpay.

The company also offers logistics delivering products anywhere in the world, including China.

Nature's Care sale

NATURE'S Care is understood to be about to be taken over by a Chinese consortium in a deal worth about \$800m, according to a *News Limited* report yesterday.

The family-owned business was put on the market two years ago after the massive \$1.67 billion price paid by Hong Kong-based Biostime for rival Swisse.

The report says although Nature's Care is distributed across Australia, including through major reseller Chemist Warehouse, almost half of its products end up in China.

The company's range is also sold in Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia, with Nature's Care reportedly generating about \$60 million in annual profits.

Olive wellness

MELBOURNE pharmacist Angelo Pricolo is urging Australian pharmacy professionals to subscribe to a new website launched by the so-called "Olive Wellness Institute".

Based on new research by US and Italian geriatric and nutritional scientists, the Institute aims to highlight the health and long-life benefits of extra virgin olive oil.

Published in the latest edition of the *Journals of Gerontology*, the study found olive oil along with the Mediterranean diet plays a significant role in reducing the risk of stroke, type 2 diabetes and other serious conditions, along with the potential of improving gut microbiota.

The Olive Wellness Institute (OWI) website provides pharmacists and the public with a storehouse of evidence-based, peer-reviewed data available on the subject.

Pricolo said he regularly advises customers in his pharmacy to include extra virgin olive oil in their diet "mainly due to the phenolic antioxidant and squalene properties, and overall benefits it has on cardiovascular health".

Subscription to the community is free at olivewellnessinstitute.org.



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Dispensary Corner

DOCTORS have issued a warning about eating super spicy food, after a US man ate a so-called 'Carolina Reaper' chilli pepper in a contest and ended up in hospital.

The incident has been reported in *BMJ Case Reports* as the first case to be associated with eating chilli, with the victim suffering so-called "thunderclap" headaches.

The headaches are caused by the tightening of vessels supplying blood to the brain, with the condition formally known as "reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome".

The headaches only last a few seconds at a time, but were described as "debilitating" and occurred over a number of days.

The doctor who reviewed the case has warned anyone eating hot chilli peppers to urgently seek medical attention if they suddenly experience head pain.



Interestingly, the specially bred Carolina Reaper chillis (pictured above) were created by the very appropriately named Ed Currie from the Pucker Butt Pepper Company in South Carolina, who started growing them after learning that the capsaicin contained in chillis had potential as a cancer-fighting medication.

He donates half of his annual harvest to cancer research.

Carolina Reapers have a Scoville Heat Unit rating of 1,569,300 - compared to about 5,000 for the more prosaic jalapenos.

My Health Record guidelines

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia yesterday launched new pharmacist guidelines "to promote meaningful clinical use of the My Health Record system to enhance patient-centred care".

The PSA said the new guidelines would help increase the number of pharmacists using the digital health system which allows healthcare providers to securely share data.

Information such as allergies, medical conditions, treatments, medicines and scan reports can be accessed through the system, with

benefits including reduced hospital admissions, less duplication of tests, better coordination of care & more informed treatment decisions.

PSA national president Shane Jackson said the new guidelines were a "game changer for pharmacists' contribution to enhancing medication safety".

Project working group chair and Qld pharmacist Chris Campbell said the My Health Record Integration helped to make key clinical decisions possible at the point of professional interaction, such as dispensing and medication review.

"Until now, pharmacists have been dispensing, counselling, providing advice and conducting medication reconciliation partially blindfolded," he said.

Australian Digital Health Agency ceo Tim Kelsey said PSA's strong leadership for My Health Record was much appreciated, as the agency gears up for the "opt-out" expansion of My Health Record nationally later this year.

The guidelines are available for download now at psa.org.au.

Alderman venture

WELL known clinical pharmacist and pharmacy educator Chris Alderman has launched a new business called Australian Medication Safety Services, after concluding his association with Ward Medication Management.

Australian Medication Safety Services is a "consultancy addressing all aspects of safe and effective medicine use" - more info at medsafetyaustralia.com.au.

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 SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

True or False? Dermal Therapy Soap Free Wash cannot be used on itch or flaking skin.

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Deb Caldera from Jardine's Pharmacy, WA.



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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ROYAL Caribbean now offers non-refundable as well as refundable deposit options for its new 2019-2020 sailings.

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Consult your travel agent or **CLICK HERE** for more options.

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