

## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Pharmacy 4 Less.

## AHPRA recruits

**THE** Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is calling for applications for appointments to the List of Approved Persons for its hearing panels across the country.

Health practitioner members can be any registered practitioner who holds a minimum of five years experience and is of good standing within their profession.

Applications close on 31 Aug - more info at [ahpra.gov.au](http://ahpra.gov.au).

## CVS ScriptPath debut

**AMERICAN** pharmacy giant CVS is debuting a new ScriptPath Prescription Label and Prescription Overview in its 1,000-plus locations in California this week.

The pharmacy chain has 9,700 locations under its banner and its new ScriptPath Prescription Management system uses a sophisticated tool to automatically review all of a patient's CVS Pharmacy medications and prescribers' instructions.

The system, which finished rolling out this week, also provides a schedule of the most effective times to take medications along with clearer directions, larger text, colour-coded icons and clear refill details to make repeats easier.

CVS Health chief medical officer Troyen Brennan said the system "... can help improve medication adherence and overall health".

## Ramsay deregulation push

**THE** Ramsay Pharmacy Group has urged "partial deregulation" of the Australian pharmacy sector, with a proposal that any person could own a pharmacy apart from industries and individuals with a clear conflict of interest, such as supermarkets, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and retailers of tobacco and alcohol.

The suggestion is part of the company's response to the current Qld Parliamentary Inquiry (PD 23 May), contending that current pharmacy ownership restrictions are not necessary to protect consumers and deliver accessible & affordable medicines.

"Indeed, in-house hospital pharmacy dispensaries...are owned by corporations - yet the medicines are supplied at a lower cost, under the professional control of a registered pharmacist and provided with the highest level of professional care.

"There is no evidence to suggest that removal of ownership restrictions, whether wholly or partially, would be detrimental to the community at large," Ramsay says, noting there is no basis on which to differentiate pharmacy from other health services such as medical centres, pathology services and diagnostic imaging services which are not confined to doctors.

The Ramsay submission notes that the Pharmacy Guild is not supportive of its pharmacy franchise network, accusing it of having waged a campaign against the acquisition of several pharmacies by Ramsay franchisees despite them having passed legal

**Hugo® Canes**  
Ergonomic handles  
FAST Sellers,  
Great Colours, POS Stands ++



**20% OFF**

requirements in Qld, NSW and Vic.

The Ramsay network was established in 2013 and now comprises 54 nationally, with 27 in Qld including two 24/7 pharmacies in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast.

Ramsay also owns the Malouf Pharmacies brand in Qld, which the company confirmed operates under a franchise arrangement.

"Ramsay Health Care, through Ramsay Pharmacy, is able to provide a vertically integrated pharmacy service and an expanding community pharmacy brand... this approach [and] a strong focus on the improved quality use of medicines sets the foundations for reduced medication misadventure, an improved transition of care, and optimised patient outcomes," the company said.

## Oxycontin lawsuit

**COUNTY** & municipal authorities in the US state of Missouri have formally filed a potential landmark lawsuit against oxycodone manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies and pharmacies.

The suit, filed in Missouri's 22nd circuit court in St. Louis, alleges multiple instances of misconduct on the part of the defendants with respect to the marketing of Oxycontin, and the distribution and management of those medications.

Defendants include Walgreens and CVS, Purdue Pharma and Teva Pharmaceuticals, which have been accused of flooding Joplin and Jasper County with prescription opioids in recent years.

## DHL to join CSO?

**HEALTH** minister Greg Hunt is considering expanding the \$200m funding pool for the Community Service Obligation (CSO) to allow the participation of logistics firm DHL, which currently provides direct distribution of selected items from some drug manufacturers.

A decision is expected within a month, according to a report in the *Pharma in Focus* newsletter today.

The change would be a potential outcome of the current CSO Review (PD 13 Jun) which is seeking input from the industry on a range of issues including direct supply and new payment arrangements for high cost medicines.

The existing CSO deeds expire at the end of Dec, after a six month extension to allow for the review.

DHL provides distribution under the Pfizer Direct system, as well as for 14 high-priced AstraZeneca medications plus Amgen's Prolia.

Current CSO guidelines mandate that participants stock at least one brand of every PBS medicine, and supply of PBS and NDSS items to any distribution point nationally.

## New Pharmac chair

**NEW** Zealand's medicines agency Pharmac has a new chairman, with the appointment of former Labour government minister Steve Maharey to the role.

Maharey is also an ex-vice chancellor of Auckland's Massey University, and replaces Stuart McLauchlan, moved aside after eight years by NZ health minister David Clark who said it was "time to refresh the leadership of the board".

**little bodies**

**STERIOD FREE ECZEMA MANAGEMENT REGIMEN FOR KIDS**

Pharmabroker Sales  
[WWW.LITTLEBODIES.COM.AU](http://WWW.LITTLEBODIES.COM.AU)

Always read the label. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist consult your healthcare professional.

**SOFTENS & REPAIRS**

DRY, ROUGH, CALLOUSED AND IRRITATED HANDS.

**D'U'T** Call HealthOne 02 9965 9600

- Anti-aging
- Non-greasy
- Sweet almond scent
- Diabetic friendly
- No Petroleum, Parabens
- No Mineral Oil
- Results within 5 days
- Australian Made

**FIND OUT MORE**



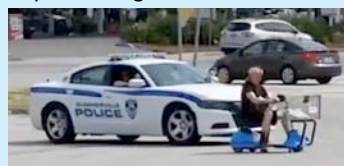
## Dispensary Corner

**YOU'VE** heard of a high-speed police chase - but how about a low speed one?

A US TV station has broadcast footage of a curious incident in the town of Summerville, South Carolina, where a shopper at a Walmart supermarket apparently tried to abscond with one of the store's mobility scooters.

It appears the motorised shopping cart was running out of power, as the miscreant attempted to propel it using his feet to escape from a police car as it came alongside at about 5km/h.

Officers were able to detain the man without incident and return the vehicle to the store, with Walmart management declining to press charges.



**RESEARCHERS** from the London School of Economics have confirmed what many have long suspected - watching some reality TV shows can be bad for your mental health.

A new study found programs such as *Keeping Up With The Kardashians* and *The Apprentice* may make viewers less sympathetic to the plight of the poor.

Even as little as 60 seconds of "exposure to materialistic media" was enough to significantly increase anti-welfare sentiment, said lead author Dr Rodolfo Leyva.

He said the research helped explain why the UK public's support for the unemployed had been decreasing in recent years.

## Valsartan update

**A PRELIMINARY** assessment by the European Medicines Agency in relation to recalled valsartan medicines (**PD** 11 Jul) has estimated there could be one extra case of cancer for every 5,000 patients taking the affected drugs at the highest dose (320mg) every day for seven years.

The evaluation is based on average levels of the carcinogenic NDMA impurity detected in the active substance from Zhejiang Huahai Pharmaceuticals.

Companies that had used the Zhejiang Huahai active substance are required to test their valsartan medicines to determine the actual NDMA levels in the final products.

All of the impacted drugs have been recalled in the UK, EU and US but the EMA said it was important to note there was no immediate risk to patients and that other non-impacted valsartan medicines continue to be available.

## COSBOA summit

**THE** Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) is inviting attendance at its upcoming National Small Business Summit, taking place 30-31 Aug at Sydney's Swissotel - for more info and to register see [cosboansbs.com.au](http://cosboansbs.com.au).

## New CM documentary



**A TELEVISION** program looking at aspects of complementary medicines will screen this coming weekend on the SBS network, and is said to provide a balanced view of the science behind vitamins and supplements.

*Vitamania* is presented by Derek Muller, who was formerly part of the ABC's *Catalyst* team and is also known for creating YouTube channel Veritasium which showcases "counter-intuitive concepts in science" to over five million online subscribers.

"This year the world will spend \$100 billion on vitamins and supplements...every week a new benefit is claimed," according to the promotional blurb.

"When we look to scientists and they disagree, how do we decide whether to take vitamins or not?" it adds, with the program said to "daringly explore" the industry.

Muller's new program has been welcomed by Complementary Medicines Australia, with ceo Carl Gibson saying it "shows the vital role our products make to supplement life's journey".

He highlighted the high quality of Australian-made products, the importance of taking the appropriate dosage and seeking medical assistance for side effects.

*Vitamania* will be broadcast on SBS at 8.30pm on 12 Aug 2018, with a preview now online at [pharmacydaily.com.au/videos](http://pharmacydaily.com.au/videos).



## Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is

**Amit Saha,**  
Group Technical  
Manager at Little Bodies.



## The special characteristics of babies' skin

**THE** skin is a complex and dynamic organ that performs several vital functions. The maturation process of the skin starts at birth with the adaption of the skin to a dry environment compared to that of being in utero. Skin is in a process of evolving from birth to adulthood. Whilst this evolution is taking place and the skin as a barrier is maturing, impaired skin function makes the skin vulnerable to chemical damage, microbial infections, and skin diseases, possibly compromising the general health of the infant.

There are some obvious differences between infant skin and that of an adult. In babies, the dermis is thinner than in adults; the ratio of skin surface area to body volume is significantly higher in babies than in adults; sweat is not able to regulate a baby's body temperature as effectively as it does in adults and the acid mantle which only begins to develop after the baby has been born, is liable to break down during childhood.

It is with these difference in mind, that we can understand the importance of using specific skin care products on young skin. Amongst other factors, perfumes, soaps and chemicals can be irritants to sensitive baby skin and should best be avoided.



**Mumbrella HEALTH MARKETING SUMMIT**

Headline Sponsor **tonic HEALTH MEDIA**

**Save \$100 with your Pharmacy Daily discount**

**Book with discount code PDHEALTH18**

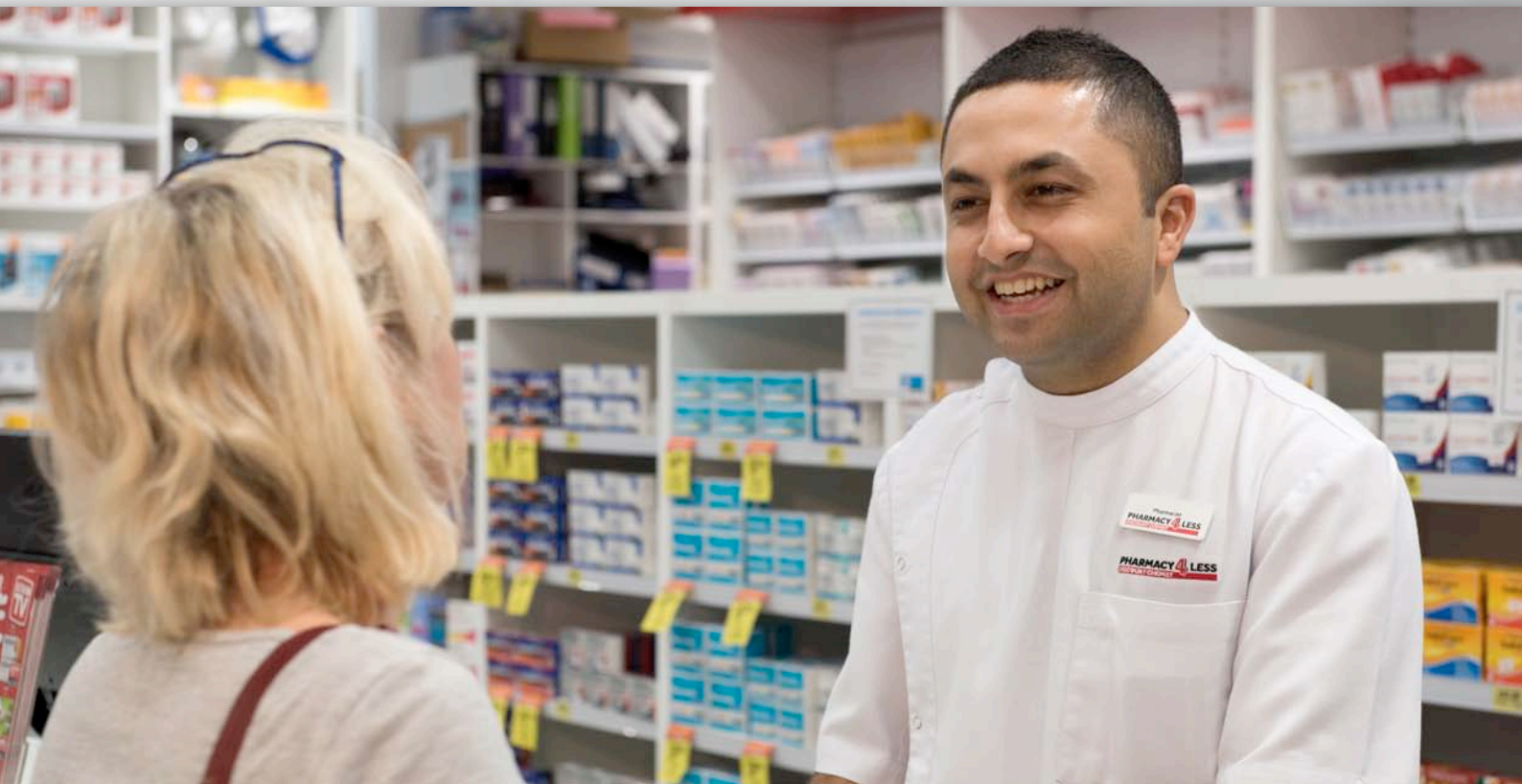
**BOOK NOW**





# WANT TO BE A PHARMACY OWNER?

Become a franchisee & benefit from  
our many years of experience



JOIN AUSTRALIA'S FASTEST GROWING DISCOUNT PHARMACY FRANCHISE  
Two franchising models available to suit different sized businesses

**PHARMACY 4 LESS**  
DISCOUNT CHEMIST

**your  
ChemistShop** 

Call today for more information Feras Karem: 0414 653 803

**Click to Enquire**