

Another honour for Marcus Blackmore

BLACKMORES executive director Marcus Blackmore has been named as the Ernst & Young 2018 Champion of Entrepreneurship for the eastern region of Australia.

The accolade was awarded last week at the EY Entrepreneur of the Year awards, with Blackmore cited for his "sustained, outstanding entrepreneurial achievement".

The program launched in Australia in 2001 and since then has recognised more than 1,500 people for their vision and achievement.

Blackmore said his entrepreneurial journey had been "about taking lessons from others and acknowledging the importance of learning from failures".

Other previous winners of the award include Terry White Chemists founder Terry White AO.

NAPSA \$25k Fullife funding

THE National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association recently handed over a gigantic novelty cheque for \$25,230.61 to pharmacist Ian Shanks, the founder of the Fullife Foundation.

The money was raised during this year's annual NAPSA Charity Cup, which saw pharmacy students from across Australia work together for a worthy cause - in this case the Ethiopia-based charity which works on the ground to improve the livelihood of women and children.

This year's NAPSA funds will go towards building a new "health post" which will serve as the first point of contact for health checks and immunisations for a rural region in remote Shurmo, Ethiopia which has a population of about 8,000 people.

As well as the fundraising NAPSA members packed more than 6,000 birthing kits for the Foundation.

The University of New England's PhUNE group was awarded overall Charity Cup winner, with the



highest donation per member and a fourfold increase from last year, while key contributions also came from WA's WAPSA (highest amount) and South Australia's SAPSA which received the innovation award.

Fullife's Ian Shanks is pictured above with Stephanie Samios, NAPSA Pharmacy Awareness Chair.

EpiPen shortages

MYLAN Australia has confirmed that while supply of EpiPen 300mcg adrenaline auto-injectors to wholesalers is increasing, they continue to be in short supply.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration is telling patients who are still having difficulty obtaining EpiPens that they should contact their pharmacy for help.

"Mylan has advised that, as a back-up, pharmacies can still follow instructions provided online by Mylan Australia to assist patients," with pharmacies able to call 1800 931 625 for more information.

Spring spotlight in PD

THE next *Pharmacy Daily* spotlight feature is in the works, and will showcase products for the upcoming season.

The Spring Spotlight promotion features four items on a page, with insertions including an image, a brief description and a call to action for phone, email or website ordering.

To have your products included call 1300 799 200 or email Mel on advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Price disclosure to cut even deeper

REMUNERATION for Australian community pharmacies will drop by 19c per prescription under the next round of price disclosure for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme which becomes effective 01 Oct.

The Pharmacy Guild has calculated the impact of the changes which will see further originator brands excluded from price calculations, with a further estimate that reduced trading terms will also impact gross profit by 5c per script.

That's on top of a 24c impact from the Apr round of price disclosure.

The Guild is advising pharmacies to plan their stock levels ahead of 01 Oct which is a Mon, potentially impacting the ability of some pharmacies to receive deliveries immediately following the cuts.

"The Guild recommends that members discuss with their wholesaler pre-1 October ordering, pricing arrangements and access to deliveries," said president George Tambassis in an update last Fri.

PD TIPPING WINNERS

NRL ROUND 21

KIM MCCLURE
from Vita Gold

AFL ROUND 19

RAY BUCKETT
from Health One

Pharmacy Daily

Unsolicited packages

PHARMACIES across the UK have received a class 1 medical alert warning them about unsolicited packages from an organisation called "The Cyrus Project".

According to a report by *C+D*, a number of healthcare providers were targeted in a 24 hour period on the weekend, with requests to "sample" the product.

England's chief medical officer Dame Sally Davies said, "Public Health England has confirmed initial testing on packages received to date shows it is highly unlikely the substance contained is hazardous."

The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee described precautionary measures to be taken by community pharmacy teams - **CLICK HERE** for more.

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Dispensary Corner

TWO elderly gentlemen have been safely returned to their nursing home in Germany, after absconding to attend a heavy metal music festival.

Police were alerted after the pair were found missing from the centre, discovering them several hours later banging their heads at the famous "Wacken Open Air".

A police spokesman said they were "disoriented and dazed" as well as somewhat reluctant to leave the venue at 3am.

"They obviously liked the metal festival," the officer told the *Norddeutscher Rundfunk* news broadcaster.



FRUSTRATED baseball fans in the USA can now get some confidential help, after the launch of a new service for those who love the New York Mets.

The Flushing Meadows-based team is having a shocking season, and last week lost 25-4 to the Washington Nationals - their worst defeat in history.

Online mental health marketplace UMA Health has launched a promotion offering the opportunity to help aficionados cope, with free therapy sessions available to those who complete a form which asks them to describe their most difficult moments as Mets fans.

UMA said the tongue-in-cheek campaign aims to help eliminate the stigma of seeking assistance for mental health issues.

In-pharmacy screening tick

COMMUNITY pharmacies are well suited to deliver a wide range of point-of-care tests, according to a paper published in *Research in Social & Administrative Pharmacy*.

In the future this will allow easier access to various screening and diagnostic tests for patients, the authors concluded, after examining a number of interventional studies that reported on the effectiveness of certain point-of-care tests and accuracy studies investigating analytical quality.

Eleven community pharmacy studies were identified focusing on blood glucose, cholesterol, creatinine, uric acid, liver enzymes, international normalized ratio (INR) for anticoagulation therapy, bone mineral density for osteoporosis,

forced expiratory volume for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and infection with human immunodeficiency virus.

The researchers wrote that the included studies showed point-of-care tests conducted and analysed in community pharmacies not only had satisfactory analytical quality but it was also shown that the interventions applying these tests were effective overall.

CLICK HERE to access the abstract.

Nicotine innovation

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a statement relating to the new steps the agency is taking to "support the development of novel nicotine replacement drug therapies to help smokers quit cigarettes".

"The development of novel NRT products, regulated as new drugs, is a critical part of our overall strategy on nicotine," FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said.

With around 70% of US smokers saying they want to quit, e-cigarettes are being proposed as a viable option in an FDA draft guidance document being presented for public comment.

Visit fda.gov for more details.

\$1m for dementia

DEMENTIA Australia has welcomed a \$1 million funding boost from the Federal Government, with the money to be used to support technology including the organisation's EDIE virtual reality training system for aged care professionals, and the Dementia-Friendly Home app.

See dementia.org.au.

Organ donation boost

THE UK Government is considering the introduction of an opt-out system for organ donation in England by 2020, contingent on the approval of "Max's Law".

"Max's Law" is named after 10-year-old Max Johnson, from Cheshire, who was saved by a heart transplant, the *BBC* reports.

UK Prime Minister Theresa May named the proposed legislation.

A similar opt-out system has been in place in Wales since 2015; Scotland is planning a similar scheme and Northern Ireland has also indicated interest.

Pharmacy Guild Update

Pharmacy Connect- don't miss it!

THERE are only a few weeks to go until the third annual Pharmacy Connect conference in Sydney, 7-8 September.

Don't miss this opportunity to stay abreast of industry issues and new business opportunities.

Highlights include:

- Updates on 6CPA funding and 7CPA negotiations
- Tips on how to successfully grow your business
- Preparing your pharmacy for current and future technologies
- Professional services case studies
- Networking with peers, industry leaders and suppliers
- Access to CPD credits

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