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Essure device notice

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has published a notice on the current status of the Essure contraceptive device, which is the subject of a newly launched class action in Australia.

The TGA notes that Essure was cancelled from the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) on 09 Feb 2018, but in addition no new Essure devices had been supplied for the Australian market after 31 May 2017.

Since 1999 Essure has been the subject of 59 adverse event reports.

Win with Dreambaby®

Each day this week Pharmacy Daily and Dreambaby® are giving readers the chance to win the new Dreambaby®

Aqua Range designed to help with toilet training valued at \$54.95.

Prize comprises The EZY-POTTY which comes with an ergonomic contoured backrest for added comfort and support, is easy-to-clean, non-slip and lightweight and designed to make the first stage of potty-training a cinch. Also included in the prize is the EZY-TOILET TRAINER SEAT which cleverly fits snugly onto your regular toilet seat to make it smaller and reassuring for little ones and lastly, the DREAMBABY® 2-UP STEP STOOL which provides height challenged help with toilet training, brushing teeth or simply looking in the mirror! www.dreambaby.com.au or call 02 9386 4000.

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

What does the Dreambaby® Step Stool help with apart from toilet training?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Sharyn McElean from Albany Creek Day and Night Chemist.



Pharmacists too busy for ADRs

THE high accessibility of community pharmacists in Australia means they are ideally placed to document adverse drug reactions (ADRs) - but a lack of time, the complexity of the reporting process and insufficient training means under-reporting is “highly prevalent” according to a new University of Tasmania study published last Fri.

The *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy* research paper reports the results of a survey of 232 community pharmacists from Qld, NSW, Vic and Tas which aimed to measure their knowledge and perspectives towards ADR reporting.

Less than a third of respondents (31%) reported sufficient knowledge and training on ADR

reporting, and only 35% of those polled had reported at least one ADR to the Therapeutic Goods Administration during the previous 12 month period.

Those who didn't report ADRs were more likely to cite a lack of time as a barrier, while a significant number said they were more likely to report events if the practice was remunerated.

The study authors concluded that the ADR reporting rate by community pharmacists in Australia is low, “even though the vast majority believe they have a professional obligation to report.”

“The most significant barrier to reporting ADRs is lack of time, and this can be addressed by simplifying the current reporting procedures.”

The outcome was reinforced by the fact that the number of hours worked per week by community pharmacists was a significant predictor of their rate of ADR reporting.

The full paper is accessible online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

ASMI Skerritt update

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry (ASMI) will host a regulatory update on Fri 31 Aug in North Sydney featuring Adj. Professor John Skerritt, head of the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

The breakfast session will cover the new and enhanced penalties and sanctions now available to the TGA to address non-compliance, the new complaints system and more - to register [CLICK HERE](#).

UK Viagra sales soar

A MOVE to make erectile dysfunction medications available over-the-counter in UK pharmacies this year has resulted in “firm growth” in Viagra sales, according to market analyst firm IRI.

The reclassification saw Pfizer launch “Viagra Connect” in Britain on 27 Mar, with an initial two week exclusive deal through Boots pharmacies before it became generally available in Apr.

IRI said an increase in unit sales, based on analysis of POS data, “suggests that more men are becoming increasingly proactive about seeking treatment for the condition,” while trade publication *Chemist + Druggist* also cited pharmacists saying they were having more conversations with patients about erectile dysfunction.

FDA Fabry approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Galafold (migalastat), which is the first medication for adults with hereditary disorder Fabry Disease.

Patients with the condition develop slowly progressive kidney disease, cardiac hypertrophy, arrhythmias, stroke and early death.

Galafold treats Fabry disease by targeting a type of fat that builds up in the organs.

Attia refused license

THE Civil and Administrative Tribunal of New South Wales has refused an application by convicted pharmacist Mina Attia to reinstate his license to practise.

Attia had been found guilty of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct in his role as a pharmacist and wholesaler of pharmaceutical goods (*PD* 03 Jan 2017) as a result of some Viagra transactions.

In Mar last year Attia sought to overturn the ruling but was rejected and has now faced the same result with the Tribunal ordering that he not be allowed to apply for reinstatement for a further 12 months.

See caselaw.nsw.gov for more.

SHPA journal out

THE Aug edition of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists' *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research* has been published online, with a strong focus on communication and cooperation between pharmacists and other health professionals.

The *JPPR*, which is available free to SHPA members, also includes a newly published study on “Medication use to manage comorbidities for people with dementia” by authors from the University of Western Australia.

An editorial focusing on the personal effects of prescribing and dispensing errors is featured courtesy of Dr Mark Naunton, Head of Pharmacy at the University of Canberra, who called on pharmacists to use communication skills to influence prescribing.

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Dispensary Corner

POLICE in northeastern Spain have expressed astonishment and dismay after a driver they pulled over tested positive for "every possible kind of drug".

According to *Euronews* a patrol car was called in the town of Carcastillo after a neighbour raised concerns about "several people getting in a vehicle influenced by alcoholic beverages".

That was just the start of it, with the driver's drug test finding high levels of cannabis, cocaine, opiates and amphetamines - as well as alcohol.

The driver was fined a total of €2,000 for failing both the alcohol and the drug test, as well as losing a whopping 12 points from his driver's licence.

FAST food may not be particularly healthy, but it came in very handy in the NZ town of Waihi this week, where some KFC hot chips helped tame a wild pig on the loose.

The playful porker, estimated to weigh around 150kg, hit the streets late on Sun night, with emergency services scrambled to deal with the problem.

A local police spokesman, Constable Harley North, confirmed "we got into a pursuit with a pig" - but fortunately staff at a nearby KFC were also quick thinking and broke out a box of chips and some of those super soft, white bread rolls.

The distraction worked, allowing officers to corral the beast into a jury-rigged pen at a local church.

"The pig was left to contemplate his sinful behaviour," North said, with the pudgy porcine prankster later escorted home by his abashed owner.

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

Magnetic Makeup Brush Starter Kit

TBX Magnetic Makeup Brush Starter Kit is a makeup brush kit that is the perfect initiation into the range, or ideal for travel. It contains three full-sized brushes, including the TBX Magnetic Foundation Brush, the TBX Magnetic Powder Brush and TBX Magnetic Eyeshadow Brush, as well as the TBX Metal Display Plate and Brush Case, which is made of faux leather. Compact and portable, this product is designed for glamour-on-the-go.



Stockist: 1800 181 040
RRP: \$54.95
Website: www.thebeautyexchange.com

Natural Shadow by NYX Professional



NYX Professional Makeup **Natural Shadow** is an eyeshadow palette that features six

different shades reflective of the mood or hour of the day or night. The palette has been designed to enhance the shape and colour of the eyes and allows shadow to set softly or heavily depending on the desired look. The shadows can be worn solo, mixed or used as a base to bring out the personality you wish to convey. The Natural Shadow palette can be a constant companion to enhance total facial impact when meeting people, to mutely match the mood of a situation, and every possibility in between, regardless of the hour, day or night.

Stockist: Major wholesalers
RRP: \$12.95
Website: www.nyxcosmetics.com

Glow This Way Illuminating Concealer

Perfect for masking minor imperfections and giving dimension to the complexion, Designer Brands (DB) **Glow This Way Illuminating Concealer** applies like a dream and gives a 'real skin' look that is never flat or cakey. Correct any pigmentation under the eyes or around the mouth without fear of the dreaded creasing. This buildable formula is enriched with aloe vera as well as vitamin C and E, making it perfect for applying over blemishes without aggravating them. DB Cosmetics are all certified vegan and not tested on animals.



Stockist: 03 8544 8000
RRP: \$11.99
Website: www.dbcosmetics.com.au

QV Flare Up Bath Oil



Pharmacy-only company Ego Pharmaceuticals has a range of QV Flare UP products to help relieve the symptoms of eczema and dermatitis flare ups. **QV Flare Up Bath Oil** is for the relief of skin flare ups - it calms irritated skin and reduces roughness and scaling. Its dual-action formula both reduces the level of bacteria and helps prevent moisture loss while at the same time leaving a thin film of occlusive oil on the skin, which helps to rehydrate skin, breaking the itch-scratch cycle. Always read the label and use only as directed - not recommended for infants under six months of age.

Stockist: 03 9586 8800
RRP: \$16.28 (200mL) \$22.82 (500mL)
Website: www.egopharm.com