

Today's issue of PD

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

Pharmaxis FDA tick

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved the Sydney-based manufacturing facility of ASX-listed Pharmaxis, which yesterday confirmed it would relaunch its Aridol product into the North American market.

Aridol was first approved by the FDA in 2011 to identify bronchial hyperresponsiveness as an aid to diagnosing asthma, but withdrawn from the market in 2013 as part of a corporate restructuring.

US sales will resume by Dec through Methaparm Inc, which is Pharmaxis' exclusive distributor in North America.

Triple pill for high BP

A NEW approach to treatment of hypertension in the form of a triple ingredient medication has proved to be very successful at bringing hypertensive patients to target levels of 140/90 mm Hg or less.

The study enrolled 700 Sri Lankan patients with an average age of 56 and blood pressure of 154/90 mm Hg, randomised to either standard of care or the new combination product of telmisartan (20 mg), amlodipine (2.5 mg), and chlorthalidone (12.5 mg), each of the elements being at half dose.

Statistical significance was achieved and may impact on guideline revisions, authors said.

CLICK HERE for the research.

CSL surges on vax sales

ASX-LISTED CSL Limited yesterday reported a whopping 29% increase in net profit after tax, which surged to more than \$1.7 billion for the year to 30 Jun.

The strong result saw CSL's share price jump more than \$12 to \$214, with ceo Paul Perreault highlighting the success of CSL's Seqirus vaccines business both in Australia and the USA.

In America Seqirus' Holly Springs influenza vaccine facility quadrupled the number of doses produced this season for the US market, while overall sales of the Fluad adjuvanted influenza vaccine for seniors jumped 142%.

Perreault also noted the performance of CSL's plasma-

based therapies, with the global commercial rollout of Idelvion providing Haemophilia B patients with a new standard of care.

"The tightness in supply of our key raw material, plasma, has been a feature across the industry this year," he said, with CSL opening 27 new collection centres in the USA and now operating 206 globally.

Innovation and development is ongoing, with approvals of new indications for CSL products such as Privigen and Hizentra, as well as the recent acquisition of the Calimmune proprietary stem cell gene therapy platform.

The CSL ceo said the company was continuing to anticipate strong demand for its products, with net profit after tax for 2019 anticipated to be up to \$1.95 billion, an increase of 10-14%.

TGA on Vitamania

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has published a response to the *Vitamania* documentary broadcast last Sun (PD 06 Aug), with the aim of providing context around how the TGA regulates vitamins in Australia.

"We assess lower risk medicines for safety and quality only... however the commercial sponsor of the medicine is required to hold evidence that their product works, and they must provide this evidence to the TGA if we conduct a formal compliance review of the product," the response states.

The TGA noted that this approach reduces the cost of approving low-risk medicines which would otherwise be passed onto consumers - see tga.gov.au.

G Female Oral risk



G FEMALE Oral Tablets pose a serious risk to health and should not be taken, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) says.

The tablets contain the undeclared prescription only substance sildenafil and neither the tablets nor the place of manufacture have been approved by the TGA.

They are illegal to supply in Australia, although a number of people may have bought them online, the TGA said.

UK homeopathy gone

THE Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire in the UK has announced that it will no longer routinely fund homeopathy remedies.

This was the last CCG in England to fund homeopathy.

Humanists UK, which responded to two consultations held by the CCG, has hailed this announcement as a victory for evidence-based medicine on the NHS.

This decision follows the decision of the board of NHS England in Nov last year to recommend to all CCGs that they end funding for homeopathic prescriptions and that the Secretary of State for Health should add homeopathy to the 'blacklist' of treatments so that it could not be provided on the National Health Service at all.

In Apr this year, the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine (formerly the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital) ended all NHS-funded homeopathy.

Keep an eye out

ALLERGAN has announced the registration in Australia of the first injectable gel implant, XEN Gel Implant, for leading global cause of irreversible blindness, glaucoma.

Pharmacists are encouraged to watch for patients struggling with multiple glaucoma eye drops to urge their return to their clinician to consider this new option which has led to around half of patients being free of drops within 12 months in some groups.

Visit glaucoma.org.au for more.

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AMH
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The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
**Paediatric Injectable
Guidelines**



Dispensary Corner

TIRED of waiting for attention in the emergency department of your local hospital?

One frustrated woman on the Spanish island of Tenerife chose the less-than-obvious option of setting fire to the hospital.

It happened this week at Our Lady of Candelaria University Hospital in Santa Cruz de Tenerife; fortunately no-one was injured.

Officers detained the unnamed 51-year-old woman who was reportedly surprised that her actions had caused so much damage - she lit her fire near an oxygen tank, which exploded, fanning the flames.

You could argue she certainly got some attention, however.



TONGAN Prime Minister Akilisi Pohiva has issued a challenge to Pacific Island leaders to participate in a year-long weight-loss challenge to set an example to their national communities, *BBC News* reports.

With ten of the islands sitting at the top of the world obesity rate rankings, Pohiva hit out at the regional failure to combat childhood obesity and diseases like heart disease and diabetes.



Vic plans clinical sharing

PHARMACY records in Victoria's 151-strong hospital network are set to be integrated with other systems under a new Clinical Information Sharing system being planned by the state's Department of Health and Human Services.

The department is seeking expressions of interest from suppliers to provide a new Clinical Information Sharing (CIS) solution for the state-wide integration of medical record and patient administration systems.

Tender documents confirm that hospital pharmacy platforms are included, as well as various electronic medical records.

A key part of the new system would be to facilitate access to the summary information in a patient's My Health Record, including information across the broader health ecosystem such as general practices, private diagnostic providers, specialists and clinical information from other states and

territories across Australia.

"The combination of access to local health data provided by the CIS and a summary of a patient's medical history from outside Victoria via the MHR will enable healthcare providers to have a more complete record of their patient's medical history," the specification states.

A briefing session will take place in Melbourne tomorrow, with expressions of interest due by 17 Sep 2018 and expectation that a final shortlist of providers will be available in early Nov.

NZ isotretinoin alert

NEW Zealand's Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring is encouraging reporting of cases of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder in connection with isotretinoin for severe acne, after a 14-year-old male developed the condition shortly after starting treatment.

Win with Dreambaby®

Each day this week Pharmacy Daily and Dreambaby® are giving readers the chance 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 SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

What does the ergonomic contoured backrest of the Dreambaby® Ezy-Potty provide?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



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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Seabourn Sells Cuba

BE AMONG the first to experience Cuba in Seabourn style, on the most port-intensive, culture-immersive voyages to the most intriguing island in the Caribbean.

One option is the 12-day Stars of the Cuban Sky cruise - Ocean-View Suites start at A\$8,499 per person twin share.

This voyage departs Miami, Florida 04 Nov 2019 - ask your travel agent or seabourn.com.

Next up for Oceania

OCEANIA Cruises is refurbishing its sister ships *Insignia*, *Sirena*, *Regatta* & *Nautica*, and has some outstanding launch cruises on offer to experience the upgrades.

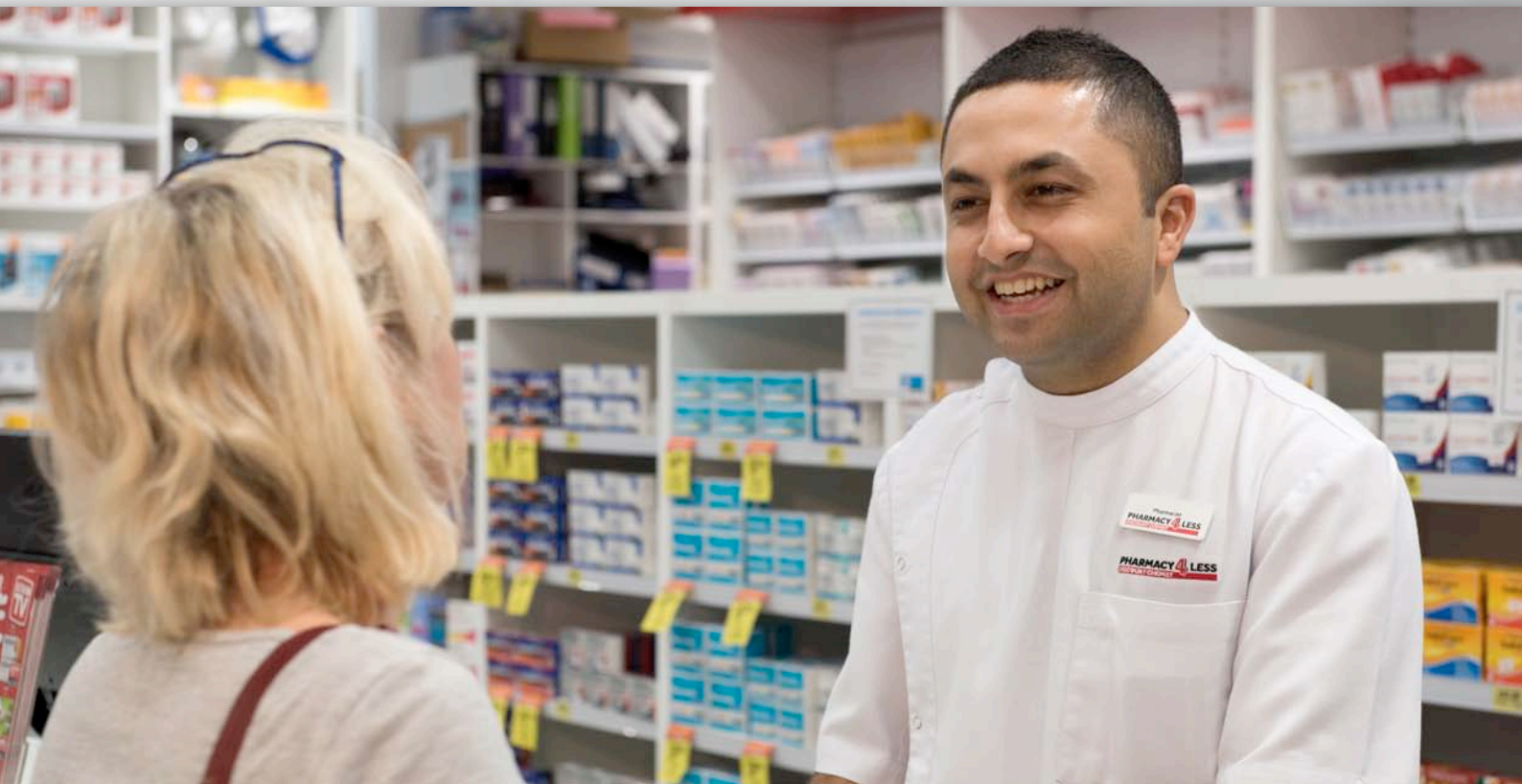
For example, enjoy the totally renewed *Sirena* on the 10-day Medieval Mediterranean cruise, Barcelona to Venice, via Monte Carlo, Florence, Rome, Amalfi, Taormina, Corfu, Kotor, and Dubrovnik in May 2019.

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