

## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news including a photo page from Pharmacy 4 Less our weekly Health & Beauty feature and a full page from Crampeze.

## New Crampeze

**CRAMPEZE Gel** can be used in combination with Crampeze Forte or Crampeze Night Cramps to relieve muscle cramps and aches, joint pains, soreness and mild rheumatic pain - for details see the last page of today's PD.

## Apotex recalls valsartan medications

**APOTEX** has announced the recall of four strengths of its APO-Valsartan tablet blister packs, due to the presence of trace elements of N-Nitrosodiisopropylamine (NDIPA) in the finished products.

NDIPA belongs to the N-nitroso chemical class known to contain mutagens and carcinogens, with the recall being conducted in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

The products being recalled include APO-Valsartan tablets in the 40mg, 80mg, 160mg and 320mg strengths, with Apotex saying patients returning affected packs of the product should be given a full refund and offered an alternative equivalent product by the pharmacist, or referred to their doctor immediately.

Apotex said based on information available it expects the health risk posed by the use of APO-Valsartan tablets to be very low.

The Apotex recall follows a similar action undertaken by Alphapharm trading as Mylan Australia, which initiated a nationwide consumer-level recall of all batches of its Dilart and Dilart HCT valsartan medicines in Australia last month (PD 26 Nov) due to potential contamination with NDEA (N-nitrosodiethylamine).

Manufacturing issues have affected a range of valsartan products across the globe this year, impacting products containing ingredients from a number of Chinese and Indian manufacturers.

## PSA pharmacist wage alert

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has slammed a decision by the Fair Work Commission to "stagnate the minimum safety net pay for community pharmacists," with PSA National President Chris Freeman saying the ruling was a "completely inadequate reflection of the complex work that pharmacists do".

The Commission has decided the current base pharmacy award rate of just over \$27 per hour should remain in place, with Freeman saying the figure "does not reflect the profession's significant training, expertise and accountability".

However Freeman has also urged that in the context of the broader pharmacy sector, any increase in

the award rate should be met with a corresponding boost to funding into the pharmacy sector to make pay rises affordable.

"We urge all pharmacists to discuss fair remuneration with their employers when accepting employment and at regular intervals," the PSA National President said.

He said the issue of fair pay for pharmacists went far beyond the minimum wage.

"Pharmacists need to be appropriately remunerated for their significant training as healthcare professionals with the most expertise in the quality use of medicines," Freeman added.

He noted that the recent PSA case put to the Fair Work Commission focused on the change in scope of practice for the profession.

"Our health system has seen a significant change in the complexity of health problems faced by patients, and pharmacists are now practising at a deeper and more intense level.

"The current division of base pharmacist wage categories are simply antiquated," Freeman said.

"Pharmacists should be paid a fair day's wage...without which, our profession will never meet its full potential, promulgating the professional dissatisfaction and disenfranchisement experienced by so many," he concluded.

## Anti-vax warning

**THE** NSW Health Care Complaints Commission has issued a public warning under s94A of the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993* regarding "Misleading and Unsafe Practices by Anti-Vaccination Campaigners".

The HCCC said it was concerned about a number of complaints it continues to receive from such campaigners and the potential risks that such persons and associations pose to public health and safety.

"Anti-vax messages have the potential to engender fear and alarm in the community, often targeting vulnerable members of the community through misinformation which may have a detrimental effect on the health care decisions of individuals," the Commission warned.

The HCCC particularly highlighted selective quotes from scientific research and studies in support of anti-vax claims, including "exaggerating the risks and minimising or discrediting the benefits of vaccines.

"The research presented does not align with the evidence base on which independent and government bodies make recommendations," the HCCC said, urging consumers to exercise caution when relying on information promoted via social media and websites that are not government affiliated or endorsed.

## China push for Pharmacy 4 Less

**THE** Pharmacy 4 Less group has signed a new agreement with Chinese e-commerce and logistics group JD Worldwide, which will significantly reduce delivery times for the pharmacy group's customers across China.

The pact was sealed last week in an official signing ceremony at the Pharmacy 4 Less offices - for details see page two of today's PD.

## Mayne US rights

**MAYNE** Pharma has assumed control of the US rights for SUBA-itraconazole in patients with Basal Cell Carcinoma Nevus Syndrome (BCCNS, commonly known as Gorlin Syndrome) following the revision of an agreement with HedgePath Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Under the terms of the revised deal Mayne Pharma will pay a 9% royalty on net sales of SUBA-itraconazole for the treatment of BCCNS in the US to HedgePath, as well as committing up to \$5 million in funding to HedgePath to progress the development of the product to other cancer indications.

SUBA-itraconazole is a patented formulation with improved absorption and reduced variability compared to conventional itraconazole capsules, which are used to treat fungal infections but also have anti-cancer properties.

## Win with SkinB5

This week **Pharmacy Daily** & **SkinB5** are giving away each day the NEW SkinB5's Clear Skin Superfood Booster valued at \$63.90.

Clear Skin Superfood Booster is an innovative nutritional approach to skin wellness for blemish and acne prone skin, using specially selected ingredients to supply the body with key vitamins, minerals, essential fatty acids, amino acids, digestive enzymes, probiotics & prebiotics. Available from Sigma PDE CODE PD301911. Visit [www.skinb5.com.au](http://www.skinb5.com.au) for more.

To win, be the first person from WA to send the correct answer to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Does SkinB5 Clear Skin Superfood Booster contain probiotics?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Katy Duldig.



# Pharmacy 4 Less seals JD Worldwide deal

**PHARMACY 4 LESS** has signed an agreement with Chinese e-commerce giant JD Worldwide, with the deal enhancing the Australian pharmacy group's reach into the Chinese market.

Officials from JD Worldwide visited the Pharmacy 4 Less offices in Sydney last week to seal the pact, which follows discussions which had been ongoing for some months after Pharmacy 4 Less Managing Director Feras Karem recognised changes in cross-border e-commerce trends.

"We have been doing business in China since 2015 and we look forward to this exciting new chapter," Karem said, adding "Australian Discount Pharmacy holds such importance for the Chinese customer, and we look forward to the opportunities that are ahead with JD".

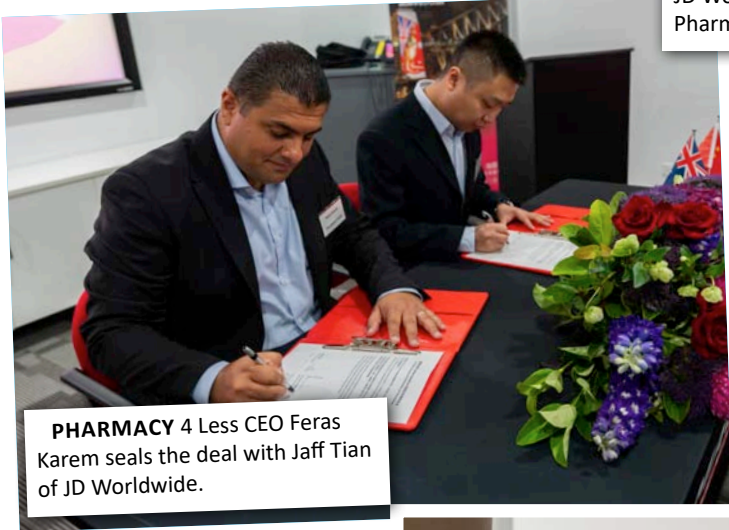
Under the new venture, Pharmacy 4 Less will utilise JD's market-leading warehousing and logistics capabilities in China, giving local consumers faster delivery and a better shopping experience than the current cross-border model.

"It's all about the shopping experience. To be able to place an order and receive your parcel only hours after it has been placed in certain cities is a great experience.

"We know there is demand in China for quality Australian products, but our biggest limiting factor to date has been our delivery time," Karem said, with the current business model meaning parcels can take up to three weeks to clear customs and reach consumers. "With JD's bonded-warehouse model, delivery becomes a matter of hours or days," he added.



**PICTURED** from left: Jason Cai, MD Zebra Digital; Sean Cui, JD Worldwide; Yuan Xing, JD Worldwide; Feras Karem, Pharmacy 4 Less; Jaff Tian, JD Worldwide; Billal Karem, Pharmacy 4 Less; and Assad Karem, Pharmacy 4 Less.



**PHARMACY 4 Less** CEO Feras Karem seals the deal with Jaff Tian of JD Worldwide.

JD Worldwide Business Development Director, Jaff Tian, said the company's platform had helped businesses from across the globe reach Chinese consumers with its advanced logistics infrastructure. "We look forward to developing this relationship with Pharmacy 4 Less in 2019," he said.

The signing ceremony at the Pharmacy 4 Less office in Sydney (pictured) included representatives from key suppliers including Swisse, Bayer, Pfizer, PharmaCare, Vitaco, Phytologic and McPherson's.

Guests also included members of the JD Worldwide team who flew in from Beijing and Melbourne to take part in the occasion.

Pharmacy 4 Less said it was currently expanding its product range on the JD Worldwide platform, and any suppliers interested in partnering with the company should contact Billal Karem on [billal@pharmacy4less.com.au](mailto:billal@pharmacy4less.com.au).



**BILLAL** Karem, GM e-Commerce, Pharmacy 4 Less.



**BRENT** Allan, GM Marketing, Pharmacy 4 Less.



**PHARMACY 4 LESS**  
DISCOUNT CHEMIST

## Dispensary Corner

A DERMATOLOGICALLY aware bank manager in the UK failed to confront a masked robber while he was standing in line because she feared he had a skin condition and didn't want to cause offence.

London's *Daily Telegraph* reports the thief had remained silently in a queue in a Durham bank for 15 minutes while wearing blue latex gloves, a hood and a facemask.

The bank's manager had approached him and asked if she could assist, but he had replied "no" and continued to wait.

It was only when served that the man said he had an acid bomb, and forced the cashier to place £370 in his bag.

When asked why the bank had allowed the man to remain in the queue, Prosecutor Jane Waugh told a UK court the manager was concerned the man might have had a skin condition and didn't want to upset him.

Despite the bank's concern for his health, the thief was jailed.

THE US Food and Drug Administration is taking its role seriously this festive season, issuing a consumer update warning people to make sure glitter is edible before they eat it.

The official guidelines aim to help bakers determine exactly which types of the sparkly stuff can be sprinkled onto cupcakes, and which are better left for craft.

Edible glitter is required to include a list of ingredients such as sugar, gum arabic, corn starch and colouring, and should be clearly labelled as such.

However phrases on packets such as "non-toxic" do not indicate it is edible, the FDA said.

## 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](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### Soothing Skin Relief Hydrating Spray

Naturalus Australia brings to market a wide range of skincare products.

Naturalus Soothing Skin Relief Hydrating Gel Spray provides instant cooling and soothing relief to your damaged or irritated skin with this 99% Aloe Vera moisturising formula. With an ultra-concentration of aloe vera in each product it's the closest you can get to the real plant. Naturalus Soothing Skin Relief Hydrating Gel Spray rehydrates naturally leaving a silky smooth skin texture together with the subtle sense of refreshing coolness.



Stockist: 08 8382 3000  
RRP: \$10.95  
Website: [www.naturalus.com.au](http://www.naturalus.com.au)

### CHARM - Complexion Essentials



Nude by Nature CHARM - Complexion Essentials is a limited-edition gift set for Christmas. Enriched with natural Australian ingredients, the

set includes: Natural Mineral Cover Foundation (4g), Airbrush Mineral Primer (15mL), Limited Edition Mineral Brush 11 and Limited Edition Cosmetics Bag (small). Nude by Nature CHARM - Complexion Essentials is now available in two shades: Light/Medium and Medium. This beautifully presented set is genuinely valued at \$63.80. This outstanding Nude by Nature gift option is exclusive to pharmacies.

Stockist: 1300 366 147  
RRP: \$19.95  
Website: [www.nudebynature.com.au](http://www.nudebynature.com.au)

### Ready, Set, Party - Deluxe Palette

Bobbi Brown Ready, Set, Party, Deluxe Eye & Cheek Palette is a deluxe palette for Christmas. The palette includes: Eye Shadows in Ivory,



Pink Copper (sparkle), Naked, Nearly Nude, Taupe (sparkle), Glowstruck (metallic), Molten (metallic), Frappe, Nude Smoke, Chocolate Fizz (metallic), Starlight Star (metallic) and Toasted, Bronzing Powder in Stonestreet, Blush in Powder Pink, Calypso Highlight Powder, Ink Liner in Blackest Black, and Smokey Eye Mascara. Made for the ultimate Bobbi Brown fan, it is packed with everything needed for endless eye and cheek looks.

Stockist: 1800 304 283  
RRP: \$200  
Website: [www.bobbibrown.com.au](http://www.bobbibrown.com.au)

### Burt's Bees Bounty Trio



Burt's Bees Bounty Trio is a special limited-edition gift set for Christmas. The set includes: Coconut & Pear, Honey, and Beeswax Lip Balms. Each Burt's Bees lip balm provides the perfect pop of stunning shine and silky softness to the lips. Burt's Bees

Bounty Trio comes in a keepsake Bounty Trio Tin Box that can be hung on the Christmas tree or used for a gift box with its bright Christmas theming.

Stockist: 1800 813 661  
RRP: \$14.99  
Website: [www.burtsbees.com](http://www.burtsbees.com)

# CRAMPEZE®

NEW

## GEL

Can be used in combination with  
Crampeze Night Cramps or  
Crampeze Forte

Crampeze® Gel contains  
ingredients traditionally used in  
aromatherapy and western herbal  
medicine to relieve:

MUSCLE CRAMPS

MUSCLE ACHES

JOINT PAINS AND SORENESS

MILD RHEUMATIC PAIN



Always read the label and use only as directed. If symptoms persist, consult your healthcare professional.