



## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus our regular Health & Beauty feature.

## PBS over Easter

THE Health Department has confirmed it will remit Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Online payments in advance over the Easter period.

If payments are due on Good Friday, 30 Mar 2018, they will be processed early on Thu 29 Mar 2018, with no payments to be made on 30 Mar.

Claims lodged with PBS online from Thu 22 Mar through to Wed 28 Mar 2018 this year will be processed as normal on Fri 06 Apr.

See more details about online claiming at [humanservices.gov.au](http://humanservices.gov.au).

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## Self-care strategy lacking

**DRAWING** the boundaries between individual self care and professional health care is a complex minefield with a lack of strategic direction in the Australian healthcare environment, according to a report by the Australian Health Policy Collaboration.

The report is the result of an ad-hoc alliance between three funding organisations: the Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI), HCF & Remedy Healthcare, and the Australian Health Policy Collaboration at Victoria University.

Reviewing the report, ASMI said that while there were considerable efforts being made to support better self-care throughout the country and there is a multiplicity of sources of information, there is an "overall lack of strategic direction to help people navigate the complex boundary between individual and professional responsibilities for health.

"There is scant evidence that people who most need support with self-care and self-management are being effectively targeted by existing programs," ASMI said.

The World Health Organization defines self care as "the ability of individuals, families and communities to promote health, prevent disease, and maintain health and to cope with illness and disability with or without the support of a health-care provider".

The report itself highlights that

## Fox in the henhouse

**IN A** case of what looks a little like the proverbial fox in the chicken coop, major international tobacco company Philip Morris has announced the extension of its partnership with science innovation group Scuderia Ferrari to transition smokers from "the most harmful form of nicotine consumption – cigarettes – to scientifically substantiated less harmful alternatives that are smoke-free".

"We want to give the world's 1.1 billion men and women who smoke the opportunity to make better and informed choices," said Philip Morris ceo André Calantzopoulos.

with "the potential of responsible self-care by informed individuals" not being effectively harnessed, the narrative around this as a healthcare first option "needs to shift in response to profound social changes, including in patterns of disease in the population.

"A healthy population is achieved through a functional relationship between active and informed individuals, health care services that empower and support people, and governments that invest in the capabilities of individuals and communities to look after their health," the report added.

ASMI summarised in its review of the report, that in relation to self-care, "it is time to think again."

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the report.

## Spironolactone scripts for acne up

**WITH** antibiotic resistance continuing to cause concern, one physician recommends that more dermatologists consider hormonal treatments for acne and hirsutism, reports *Dermatology Times*.

University of Birmingham clinical associate professor of dermatology Julie C. Harper was quoted as saying that with the number of spironolactone courses per 100 females with acne rising from 2.08 to 8.13 among dermatologists and from 1.43 to 4.09 among nondermatologists, between 2004 and 2013, "We are heading in the right direction".

[CLICK HERE](#) for access.

## Board codeine advice

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has reminded pharmacists of their obligations in the event they receive prescriptions for large quantities of combination analgesics containing codeine, in light of this month's up-scheduling of the products.

A Board communiqué issued yesterday noted consideration should be given to legal requirements relevant to pharmacy practice, training materials and other resources developed by the TGA (such as the Codeine Information Hub at [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au)) and pharmacy organisations, practice standards and guidelines, as well as the Board's code of conduct.

In particular "at all times the dispensing of a prescription or any other action taken by the pharmacist must be consistent with the safety of the patient," the Board said, with the guideline outlining that "professional judgement must be exercised by the pharmacist in deciding appropriate action to take, and to consult the patient and the prescriber about any alternative options available to the patient regarding their medication needs".

**MEANWHILE** the communiqué also details a new Guide for National Boards on applications to the Ministerial Council for approval of endorsement for scheduled medicines, including procedures around stakeholder engagement and key considerations for concept development.

The Guide is now available along with AHMAC Guidance document at [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au).

## AUSTRALIA-WIDE LISTINGS

### QUEENSLAND

5657 - North QLD Medical Centre  
Pharmacy for Sale

### NEW SOUTH WALES

2384 - Sydney Eastern Suburbs  
Pharmacy for Sale

### VICTORIA

3677 - Northern Victoria Regional  
Pharmacy for Sale

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

5693 - Western Australia Rural  
Pharmacy for Sale

[pharmacysolutions.com.au](http://pharmacysolutions.com.au)





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## GBMA appoints new ceo

**THE** Generics and Biosimilar Medicines Association (GBMA) has confirmed the appointment of Marnie Peterson as its new Chief Executive Officer.



Peterson (pictured) is currently based in Melbourne as

head of commercial for Dr Reddy's Laboratories, with a range of previous pharmaceutical industry roles in marketing with Actavis/Allergan and Apotex.

She takes the place of Belinda Wood, who resigned as GBMA ceo last year after about five years in the role (PD 20 Oct 2017).

GBMA chair Allan Tillack said he was delighted to welcome Peterson, hailing her "vast

experience and a strong record of accomplishment in the generics sector and actioning strategic objectives.

Tillack said the association has a full agenda for 2018, with the GBMA working to deliver the outcomes

identified as part of its strategic agreement extension negotiated in the 2017 Federal Budget.

"Marnie is well placed to progress this exciting agenda and we are looking forward to her joining us towards the end of March," he said.

### SMS suspension

**A PHARMACIST** in Canada has been ordered to pay a fine of CAD\$17,000 for texting information about a patient to someone who was outside the "circle of care".

Diane Roy was suspended in Oct 2016, with a formal complaint lodged last Nov with the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists.

At a hearing earlier this week the pharmacist admitted to sending a text message with a full list of the patient's medications to an unnamed person, with sanctions including a three month licence suspension, a written reprimand and required training on ethics and confidentiality.

A \$2,000 fine was exacted along with \$15,000 in costs.

### Muscular atrophy win

**NEUROSCIENCE** pharmaceutical company Biogen together with Ionis Pharmaceuticals announced successful Phase III trial results with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) hopeful drug Spinraza (nusinersen).

Published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the study was able to demonstrate "stabilisation or improvement in motor function in individuals with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) where the natural history of the disease is a decline in motor function over time".

Visit [nejm.org](http://nejm.org) for the research.

## FOR SALE

### JVM Sachet Machine -Model JV-280BX

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**Price: \$25,000**

Contact Brendan Bennett 0401 595 692 for further details.



### Board application date extended

**THE** Pharmacy Board of Australia is accepting late applications for practitioner member vacancies, which can now be lodged through until 5pm on 09 Mar 2018.

The Board said the closing date had been extended to "give registered practitioners more time to express interest in being part of health practitioner regulation nationally".

Pharmacists from the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory are especially encouraged to apply, according to a Board communique issued yesterday.

The three-yearly recruitment rounds are an opportunity for Australian Health Ministers to consider appointments so that National Boards have the best mix of experience, new and diverse views to help inform their regulatory decision-making.

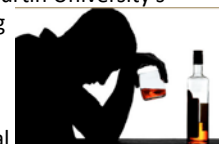
Registered practitioners are also able to express interest in the role of Board Chair, while Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply, as are people from rural or regional areas of the country.

There are eight practitioner member positions available.

More information on the vacancies and how to apply can be viewed on the Board's website at [pharmacyboard.gov.au](http://pharmacyboard.gov.au).

### Alcohol-linked deaths

**ALMOST** 6,000 Australians died from alcohol-attributable disease in a single year, about one every 90 minutes, according to new research released by Curtin University's National Drug Research Institute (NDRI).



The National Alcohol Indicators project revealed an estimated 5,785 Australians died from alcohol-attributable causes in 2015 with cancer responsible for 2,106 (36%) of deaths while injuries, cardiovascular diseases and digestive diseases were the next leading cause (17%, about 1,000 deaths each).

Alcohol-caused breast cancer (18%) and liver disease (15%) were the most common among women, while among men, liver disease (18%) and bowel cancer (10%) were the most common.

Hospitalisations attributable to alcohol exceeded 144,000 in 2012-13, an average of about 400 a day with the main causes recorded as alcohol dependence (21%), falls (12%) and alcohol abuse (10%).

Education and research director at Cancer Council WA Terry Slevin said, "It is likely most people will be quite shocked to learn that more than one third of alcohol related deaths are due to cancer".

Visit [ndri.curtin.edu.au](http://ndri.curtin.edu.au) for access.

## Win with Dermal Therapy

Every day this week Pharmacy Daily and Dermal Therapy are giving away a selection of the pictured products to the value of \$30.



Dermal Therapy Lip Balm is clinically tested to be fast acting providing visible results in 1 day to dry and chapped lips. The concentrated formula contains a synergistic blend of ingredients designed to soften and alleviate severe dryness and discomfort, keeping them smooth and healthy all year round. Dermal Therapy Lip Balm is also ultra- moisturising providing intensive hydration to severely dry and chapped lips. Visit [www.dermaltherapy.com.au](http://www.dermaltherapy.com.au) to find out more.

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

Dermal Therapy Lip Balm is \_\_\_\_\_ moisturising.

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kerry Polkinghorne from Pharmacist Advice Bongaree.





### Dispensary Corner

**WANT** greater muscle flexibility without the need to fork out for expensive yoga classes? Then perhaps pay some close attention to the following toy thief.

Nicknamed "Butt Crack Babe" by the adoring press, this 34-year-old woman from Taiwan (pictured rather unceremoniously below) has become famous for her ability to break into skill-tester machines across the city, albeit sometimes without leaving a flattering CCTV image behind.

The duplicitous contortionist is able to successfully squeeze her upper body through a 10-inch opening to gain entry to the machines & swipe the fluffy loot.

If only someone could've told her simply tilting the machine works just as well #wastedeffort.



**JUST** when you thought it was safe to unclog your arteries again, Dunkin' Donuts in the United States unveils the unusual fusion of girl scout cookies with the humble cup of joe.

A trio of new flavours set to be introduced includes Thin Mint, Coconut Caramel, and Peanut Butter Cookie, all of which are being merged with cups of coffee, presumably to help maximise taste and toxicity.

We thought the Girl Scouts were big on community service? This is not in America's best interests.

## 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)

### 3-Minute Miracle Repair & Protect

Pantene Pro-V 3 Minute Miracle Repair & Protect Conditioner is a conditioner formulated for weak, damaged hair due to frequent styling and colouring. It will moisturise the hair and help repair damage, as well as insulate and hydrate strands for a healthy look and feel. The SMART Pro-Vitamin formula features micro-nourishers that moisturise, help seal cuticles and repair damage from root to tip, as well as active ingredient histidine to help repair damage for moisturised hair that's softer and shinier. Pantene Pro-V 3 Minute Miracle Repair & Protect Conditioner helps repair three months of damage in three minutes.



**Stockist:** 1800 028 280  
**RRP:** \$6.99  
**Website:** [www.pantene.com.au](http://www.pantene.com.au)

### Day Dreamer 10-Piece Brush Set

Designer Brands (DB) brings this outstanding new brush set - a complete set of 10 fresh white makeup brushes with a soft pink gradient. With soft synthetic fibres that are perfect for both powder and liquid formulas, The DB Day Dreamer 10-Piece



Brush Set is a unique range of beautiful looking brushes, an essential addition to any makeup kit. Each brush is individually labelled for easy identification and use. Store and carry using the included matching brush roll with its cute quilted pattern.

**Stockist:** 03 8544 8000  
**RRP:** \$29.99  
**Website:** [www.dbcosmetics.com.au](http://www.dbcosmetics.com.au)

### Milkman Beard Candy Beard Balm

Beards can make you look manly, more attractive and feel as though you've achieved something even if you haven't done anything that day. So if you have a beard, you'd be a fool not to embrace the styling, conditioning & fragancing capabilities of Milkman's Beard Candy beard balm. Its light natural hold helps control the shape of your beard while the rich botanicals coat and protect the beard hair making it feel soft and healthy - suited for medium to large beards. This beard balm has such a profile that the company was asked to use it to help promote the release of Vikings Season 4 Part 2 on DVD & Blu-ray.



**Stockist:** email [ben@milkmanaustralia.com](mailto:ben@milkmanaustralia.com)  
**RRP:** \$34.00  
**Website:** [www.milkmanaustralia.com](http://www.milkmanaustralia.com)

### 101 Ointment Multi-Balm Peach

Lanolips 101 Ointment Multi-Balm in Peach is a nourishing formula that features the classic Lanolips 101 formula with added vitamin E and 100% natural peach extract. While providing that vital nourishment, the unique Lanolips 101 formula in this multi-balm ointment will hydrate and restore natural suppleness and integrity to dried skin. The product can be used on chapped lips, extremely dry skin patches and cuticles, and on small cuts and bites. This 101 formula is also available in neutral, Coconutter, Apple, Pear and Strawberry flavours, providing options for every possible taste without losing the moisturising power of 101.



**Stockist:** 02 8709 8800  
**RRP:** \$14.95  
**Website:** [www.lanolips.com/au](http://www.lanolips.com/au)