

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has one page of news plus a full page from HealthPoint.

TGA ticks Bavencio

MERCK and Pfizer have announced that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved registration of Bavencio (avelumab), the first immunotherapy to treat metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (mMCC), a rare but highly aggressive skin cancer associated with excessive sun exposure.

From a pharmacist point of view, the condition presents as 'fleshy' painless nodules and like melanoma, can metastasise to other organs.

Diagnosis of the condition can sometimes be a lengthy process and Australia has the highest rates in the world.



Dispensary Corner

MEDICAL experts have long suggested that dentures be regularly cleaned, however one 68-year-old man from NZ can probably skip the next few sessions after inadvertently washing his pair rather intensively in the Tasman Sea.

Eddie Royal had his false teeth slapped clean out of his mouth by a rogue wave while surfing the break on the Kapiti Coast.

Just when he thought he was going to be sucking on gummy bears for the rest of his life, a good samaritan returned his salty fangs after they were spotted washed up at low tide.

The reward for finding the missing choppers you ask?

Less sloppy thank you kisses.

Medlab cannabis all-clear

ASX-LISTED Medlab Clinical has received its license from the Victorian Government to sell or supply Schedule 8 or Schedule 9 Drugs in the form of cannabis and its derivatives, namely NanaBis (CBD:THC) and NanaBidual (CBD).

Because NanaBis is manufactured and distributed from Victoria, a licence was required to be provided from the State Government, but this licence also allowed Medlab to sell in other Australian states.

NanaBis is expected to be available in late Feb 2018 through the Special Access Scheme as announced last year (PD 24 Nov 17) and these licences are the next step in the commercialisation process of



NanaBis, ceo Sean Hall said.

"Continued support from the medical community, the various states and Federal Government for cannabis-based medicine was pleasing," Hall said.

"We are seeking to make our medicines distinctive, giving medical practitioners, Government and industry stakeholders, such as the Australian Medical Association (AMA), confidence in prescribing our products.

"This Licence to Sell, combined with the recently renewed import licence (allowing for significant increases in the amounts of cannabis allowed to be imported [PD 27 Oct 17]) gives Medlab a significant advantage in being able to assist the medical community in treating advanced cancer pain."

MEANWHILE the Therapeutic Goods Administration has updated its Special Access Scheme forms to reflect changes to the Therapeutic Goods Regulations in relation to medicinal cannabis - tga.gov.au.

Demential deal

THE Salvation Army's Aged Care Plus has acquired UK-based Dementia Care Matters, described as "a leading international dementia care culture change organisation".

Aged Care Plus ceo Sharon Callister said the acquisition was part of the group's commitment to 'Sustainable Growth and Best Care' and would improve outcomes for older people living with dementia in the UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia and the USA.

Aged Care Plus launched the 'Butterfly Household' model of care in two pilot centres in 2016, and will now roll the model out across its network in the coming years.

PPA satisfaction

PHARMACIST union group Professional Pharmacists Australia is offering two \$500 cash prizes as an incentive to participate in its annual member satisfaction survey - professionalpharmacists.com.au.

Ibuprofen & fertility

IBUPROFEN in high doses has been shown to temporarily alter the hormonal system of men, impacting important aspects of testicular function, including testosterone production, according to new research from the University of Copenhagen.

In the small study involving 31 men aged 18-35 years of age, long term high dose use of ibuprofen appeared to alter the ratio between levels of luteinizing hormone (LH) and testosterone.

This altered hormone ratio can lead to a condition called "compensated hypogonadism" - low levels of testosterone which affect men's reproductive health.

The Australian Self-Medication Industry noted that the study investigated men taking the maximum recommended dose, but for much longer than recommended, with the research making "no conclusion suggesting that similar effects would take place at more commonly used doses and use over a few days".

CLICK HERE for the research.

WIN WITH BENZAC

This week Pharmacy Daily and Benzac are giving away a prize pack each day including Benzac Daily Facial Foam Cleanser, Manicare Compact Mirror and Benzac Excess Oil Control Moisturiser.

Benzac Daily Facial Foam Cleanser is specially designed for acne prone skin, removes impurities and helps unblock pores without drying the skin. The newest addition to the Benzac range, Benzac Excess Oil Control Moisturiser is a clinically proven moisturiser with active ingredients specially designed for acne prone skin. Excess Oil Control is non-comedogenic and also acts as a primer with a mattifying effect, prepping the skin for makeup.

To win, be the first from SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Does Benzac Excess Oil Control Moisturiser also act as a primer to prep the skin for makeup?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Leanne Gayle.



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