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### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news.

### Diabetes detection

**FAILURE** to implement a national type 2 diabetes early detection program could be costing the Australian health system more than \$700m annually, according to a warning from Diabetes Australia.

The organisation is urging primary health providers across the country to conduct more routine HbA1c tests, with the aim of diagnosing the estimated 500,000 Australians who may currently have "silent" undiagnosed type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes NSW & ACT ceo Sturt Eastwood said people could live with the condition for up to seven years before being diagnosed, during which time life-threatening health problems can develop.

### BioCeuticals expands women's range

**BIOCEUTICALS** has launched a "new and upgraded" Women's Range, which aims to provide natural support through all stages from adolescence to menopause.

Products include 'Women's Essentials' (comprehensive daily multivitamin and mineral formula), 'FemmeBalance' (combines herbal extracts with nutrients to support healthy menstrual regularity and provide relief from PMS symptoms), 'FemiPain' (for menstrual pain), and 'MenoPlus 8-PN' which has been recently upgraded with the addition of zizyphus and lavender oil for menopause symptoms.

## SHPA \$30k research grant

**THE** Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) this morning unveiled a new \$30,000 research grant which it says will provide "an unprecedented opportunity for Australian clinical pharmacists to improve patient safety in the use of high-risk medicines".

The 'Emerging Researcher Grant' will be formally announced by SHPA in partnership with Australasian hospital and specialty post-patient pharmaceutical firm Juno, and almost doubles the pool of funding available via the Society's National Translational Research Collaborative (NTRC).

SHPA ceo Kristin Michaels said the grant was perfect for emerging pharmacy researchers with previous proven experience, providing a 'next step' towards larger future research projects while at the same time funding

initiatives that directly improve patient safety in current practice.

The NTRC is a virtual hub connecting clinical pharmacy researchers to build capacity and inter-hospital partnerships.

It is now welcoming applications for the new funding until 5pm AEST on Sun 29 Jul, inviting researchers to submit a literature review and research gap identification.

"NTRC helps turn more pharmacists into pharmacy researchers, an advancement that furthers the workforce as a whole, ensuring the development and introduction of new and improved clinical services," Michaels said.

A full timeline along with application criteria and other information is now available at [shpa.org.au/ntrc](http://shpa.org.au/ntrc).

### THC Endoca pact

**ASX-LISTED** cannabis firm The Hydroponics Company (THC) has signed a new memorandum of cooperation with Endoca BV, one of Europe's leading suppliers of GMP certified medicinal cannabis.

The agreement aims to accelerate the development and production of cannabis-based products made in both Europe and Australia, & their supply to international markets.

Intellectual property including strains, as well as processing methods and formulations are covered by the pact.

Gold Coast-based THC also has partnerships with Israeli cannabis group BOL Pharma and Canada's Ascent Industries.

### Parkinson's Orbit

**INDIVIDUALS** living with Parkinson's disease in South Australia are being targeted as part of a new three-year \$90,000 study into the use of a gaming system called 'Orbit' as a cognitive training device to delay dementia onset.

The fun, standalone computer gaming system features a novel controller which patients can use without the need for grip strength or fine motor control.

The project is being undertaken by researchers from Flinders and Adelaide Universities in partnership with Parkinson's South Australia.

## PD TIPPING WINNERS



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**MICHAEL HEDLEFS**

from Annandale Chemmart

**DAVID GARLING**

from Allergan

**AFL AFL ROUND 16**

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from Ramsay Pharmacy Group

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## Dispensary Corner

**DOES** your pharmacy sell hats?

You should probably thank Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth, who has been hailed for "single-handedly" saving the British hat industry.

Hats make a lot more sense in the sunny Australian climate, but there's no doubt Liz will also have had an influence - particularly when it comes to racewear.

Milliner Philip Treacy paid tribute to Her Majesty, saying over her 65-year reign she has "kept hats alive in the imagination of people all over the world".

In a *BBC* interview he also slammed the wearing of fascinators, which he described as "a hair band with a floppy flower on it [which] any child can make".



**IN ANOTHER** example of the possible dangers of junk food, a US man is auctioning off a six-year-old cheeseburger & fries which he says are still in perfect condition despite being bought from McDonald's in 2012.

The meal has been sitting in his office since then, as part of an experiment to see how long it would take to go off.

Bidding has reached \$150, and he's been fielding questions about whether it could still be eaten.

"I would highly recommend not...this thing looks perfectly edible but it's been sitting in the dust for six years so don't, don't eat this thing!"

## Medtronic CGM alert

**MEDTRONIC** has warned of an issue which may affect people using the Guardian Connect continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) system.

A potential connectivity issue requires everyone using the platform to upgrade to version 3.2.2 of the Guardian Connect app as soon as possible.

The company said the identified issue relates to Apple iOS versions 11.3 and 11.4, which can sometimes prevent people from receiving a 'Lost Communication' alert when the app is closed by the iPhone's operating system in certain situations.

The iOS may close the app without alerting the user that it is no longer running or communicating with the Guardian Connect Transmitter - meaning alerts that could be associated with hypoglycaemic or hyperglycaemic events would not be received.

Medtronic has also advised that users periodically check that the app is still running, and be especially mindful when running several applications at once.

## Osteoporosis module

**THE** latest educational module from the Veterans' Medicines Advice and Therapeutic Education Services (Veterans' MATES) project covers osteoporosis.

The topic includes a Therapeutic Brief on stopping osteoporotic fractures, with osteoporosis and osteopenia occurring in more than two thirds of Australians aged 50 years and older.

There's also information on the latest research, including the "very modest" benefits of calcium supplements with or without vitamin D for fracture prevention for non-institutionalised people.

See [veteransmates.net.au](http://veteransmates.net.au).

## DDS tops satisfaction

**DISCOUNT** Drug Stores has come out in first position in the May Customer Satisfaction Awards rankings released recently by Roy Morgan Research.

Priceline Pharmacy was in second spot for the month, followed by My Chemist, Amcal and then Terry White Chemmart.

## Pharmacy Guild Update

### Beware of cyber attacks

**SMALL** business owners are being warned of the need to know how to detect and avoid potential cyber attacks.

According to the Council of Small Business Organisations of Australia (COSBOA) 20 per cent of small businesses in the country were affected by a cyber attack in 2016.

About 11 per cent of those surveyed were hit by ransomware with an average ransom paid being \$4,500.

However, 8 per cent of those who paid a ransom did not get their files back.

COSBOA has suggested a three-pillared approach to protecting small business: education and training, protection and inoculation, and cyber protection insurance.

COSBOA has a Cyber Security Awareness Test to enable small business owners and their staff to assess their knowledge of the subject.

Participation in the test is free to members of COSBOA associations, of which the Pharmacy Guild of Australia is one.

For more information, or if you've been affected by cyber attacks, contact COSBOA at 02 9431 8646 or head to [www.cosboa.org.au](http://www.cosboa.org.au).

## Win with John Plunkett

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and John Plunkett are giving away a John Plunkett Collagen Eye Lift 15g prize valued at over \$40 each.

The New John Plunkett Collagen Eye Lift is a day and night eye cream packed with peptides including Matrixyl 3000 and Eyeseryl to boost collagen by 100%, and hyaluronic acid to provide cushioning hydration, while rosehip oil softens and smoothes delicate skin around the eyes. It effectively targets three causes of ageing - fine lines and wrinkles, eye bags and puffiness and dark circles.

Visit: [www.JohnPlunkett.com.au](http://www.JohnPlunkett.com.au) for more.

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

What is one of the causes of ageing of the skin around the eyes?

*Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kathy Shaw from Charles Sturt University.*

