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Today's issue of PD
 Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news and our Weekly Events Calendar.

Wotnot goes Strategic

FOLLOWING 12 months of continual growth in the pharmacy sector, skincare company Wotnot Naturals has partnered with pharmacy brokers, Strategic National Group to meet the growing demand from Australian mums for "skincare that is 100% wot's good and 0% wot's not".

Wotnot will be represented by Strategic National Group in the field from 01 Aug, and the product range is now available through Sigma, Symbion, API and CH2.

To find out who your Strategic National Group representative is, call 1300 767 065.

Pharmacy meningococcal vax

TASMANIAN Health Minister Michael Ferguson yesterday announced the extension of the state's free vaccination program against meningococcal disease, with pharmacists among the health professionals who will administer the immunisations.

Ferguson said the program would cover people aged between six weeks and 20 years, with the move following five recently confirmed cases of the disease in the Hobart area, including one death.

All Tasmanians born after 01 Aug 1997 are eligible, with this cohort having been identified as the group at greatest risk of contracting and spreading the disease.

Pharmacists will be permitted to administer the meningococcal vaccine to children aged ten and over, with the jabs to cover strains A, C, W and Y.

Pharmacy stakeholders have hailed the move, which sees pharmacists' scope of practice extended from the previous Tas restriction to only administer flu vaccines and brings the state more in line with some other jurisdictions.

Pharmacy Guild Tasmanian Branch President, Madeleine Bowerman, said the meningococcal expansion was "a safe, and sensible use of the medicine expertise and high accessibility of community pharmacies across the state."

PSA National President Shane Jackson said "this is a welcome response by the Tasmanian Government to a major public health need."

"This is another step forward in reducing the impact of vaccine-preventable disease in Australia."

Opdivo indication

BRISTOL-MYERS Squibb today announced that patients with recurrent or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck will have access to Opdivo (nivolumab) via the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) from 01 Aug.

The monotherapy authority required streamlined PBS listing represents the first time patients with recurrent or metastatic head and neck cancer will have PBS reimbursed access to an immunology therapy.

This will provide healthcare professionals and patients with a new and affordable treatment option for this hard-to-treat cancer that often requires a multifaceted approach of surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and supportive care, BMS said.

Approved PI is at tga.gov.au.

Penalty rate anger

UNION group Professional Pharmacists Australia has called for a reversal of last year's cuts to penalty rates, highlighting the outcome of a Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry released this week which found that 12 months after the controversial changes there has been no evidence of an increase in pharmacy opening hours nor in employment opportunities for pharmacists.

Gastroenteritis CPD

GUILD Learning and Development has partnered with Care Pharmaceuticals to launch an online course titled 'Managing mild to moderate dehydration due to acute gastroenteritis'.

Pharmacists can play an important role in managing vomiting and diarrhoea and reducing any potential dehydration, Guild Learning says.

This course is intended to provide pharmacists with guidance in managing mild to moderate dehydration and recognising when referral is appropriate.

To enrol in this CPD accredited course go to myCPD.org.au or ring 03 9810 9930.

No rose for iNova Pharmaceuticals

INOVA Pharmaceuticals has severed ties with Channel Ten's *The Bachelor* after a mix-up in a media release implied the blockbuster reality show was being sponsored by the company's prescription-only Duromine product (**PD Wed**).

iNova had been planning to run branded content advertisements during the show around its "Can Science Take The Weight Off" campaign, but says it didn't intend to tie the messages to Duromine.

"Our disease state awareness campaign focussed on promoting a healthy lifestyle and the responsible role that medically-managed weight loss can play," an iNova spokesperson told online

marketing website *Mumbrella*.

Unfortunately Channel Ten's press statement announcing the sponsors of the show included a direct reference to the medication, rather than to iNova as a sponsor.

The TV network has now retracted its previous statement, but iNova has cancelled any involvement with the program in order to "avoid any misunderstanding".

Other pharmacy-related sponsors include Aspen S-26 and Blistex, with a Channel Ten spokesman stressing the "family-friendly and brand-safe credentials" of the show.

The sixth season of the show features Australian rugby player Nick "Honey Badger" Cummins.

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Nowra, NSW (Job# 200015724)
 In a new large medical centre, 1½ hours south of Wollongong.
- **Pharmacist** - Melbourne Northern Suburbs (Job# 200015973)
 34-38 hour week - flexible roster - \$38.50/hr
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central QLD (Job# 200015857)
 Unique location; engaged employer; join a happy team!

Have you arranged a Locum for your next break? call us to sort it!



Dispensary Corner

HOW hard would it be to recruit marijuana smokers for a study that provides free hits?

Not so hard apparently - the California legislature is funding a UC San Diego study to determine how cannabis affects driving performance.

Around 180 people will smoke varying amounts of marijuana or placebo and then participate in a series of driving simulations and cognitive tests.

"We are not only looking at how impaired a driver is at different levels of smoking, but also how long that impairment lasts," says Tom Marcotte, co-director of the UCSD's Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research, which is conducting the study.

The research will inform clearer guidelines for police officers.



ALSO in the USA, there's an environmental crisis in the state of Arizona where a number of poisonous toads have been stolen from a conservation area.

The Sonoran desert toads are a protected species, but have been abducted in their droves recently.

Video of the toad thieves has been turned over to local law enforcement authorities, seeking charges of violating the area's posted hours and vandalism.

The miscreants are believed to be planning to lick the amphibians which are understood to have hallucinogenic effects.

Unsafe meds use

MORE than half of Australians consuming prescription medications could be following practices against their doctor's instructions, according to new findings from the Australian Patients Association.

The consumer perception survey of Australian Patients Association members found even those who considered themselves to be proficient at managing their medicines still engaged in unsafe practices.

The poll of 155 consumers found 78% of respondents were taking two or more medications, with the most common reasons being to manage chronic disease (42%) or to control pain (18%).

Half of those surveyed admitted to not completing their prescription as directed, while 38% failed to check expiry dates.

Some 85% said they were easily able to source reliable information on taking their medication and 81% had recently completed a review of their medicines with a general practitioner or pharmacist in the last six months.

See more at patients.org.au.

TWC pain masterclass forum

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) is running a series of professional development sessions across the country to precede the launch of the "TerryWhite Chemmart Know your Pain Program", developed in consultation with pain management expert, pharmacist Joyce McSwan.

TWC ceo Anthony White said the July Masterclass Forums were important to enhance the knowledge and practice of pharmacists in providing customers with effective pain relief solutions, particularly since changes to patient access for medicines containing codeine were introduced in Feb this year.

"With 4.8 million people suffering from pain in Australia, pharmacists play an increasingly important role within the community to deliver a holistic approach to patient health



care," White said.

Pictured above from left are WA pharmacy owners Craig Clarke and Aaron Van Vliet with TWC business development manager Alison McGuinness and TWC professional practice manager Chris Campbell.



Events Calendar

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* events calendar, opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

27 - 29 Jul: PSA18; The Hyatt Regency Sydney; register now: go to www.psa18.com

9 - 10 Aug: Pharmacy WA Forum 2018 Conference and Trade Exhibition at Crown Perth. Register at eventandconfco.eventsair.com.

12 - 15 Aug: Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business Conference 2018; Mt Buller, Victoria; register your interest here: www.medici.com.au

7 - 8 Sep: Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel Sydney; register at: www.pharmacy-connect.com.au

16 - 19 Oct: Pharmacy Alliance Members' Forum; Hamilton Island; register now: www.pamembersforum.com.au

25 - 27 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; Sea World Resort, Gold Coast; for details see: www.pharmacyassistants.com

Safety update

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has released its latest Medicines Safety Update, with details on home-use self-test ovulation kits and a safety review of intragastric balloon systems.

View at tga.gov.au.

Win with HANDSOME

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Handsome are giving away a **Handsome Men's Skincare Shower Pack** valued at \$29.95. This bespoke HANDSOME Shower Pack contains the popular 2-in-1 Shampoo and Body Wash. Presented in a smart custom gift box, it makes a perfect gift for any handsome man. The package contains:

- a cleverly formulated 2-in-1 shampoo that gently cleans and also lightly conditions, leaving hair soft and silky.
- a body wash that is a uniquely Australian blend of invigorating botanicals in a handy pump pack.

Visit: ha.ndso.me

To win, be the first from VIC or TAS to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au



What does Handsome 2-in-1 shampoo do?

Congratulations to all of this weeks winners!