

Wednesday 13 Jun 2018

Govt confirms CSO review

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news, our regular Health & Beauty feature plus a full page from Pharmacy 4 Less.

RB joins Pharmacy **Click & Collect**

RECKITT Benckiser (RB) is the latest addition to the Pharmacy Guild's Click and Collect platform, with seven RB brands to be available via the site including Nurofen, Veet, Durex, Strepsils, Dettol, Gaviscon and Scholl.

The omnichannel platform allows consumers to order items for pickup at their local pharmacy, with more than 1,075 outlets nationally now participating in the initiative.

Pharmacy Click & Collect gm Aaron D'Souza said the addition of the leading consumer brands means "pharmacies are well placed to serve digital customers with serious impact".

Guild members can activate their free membership of the portal at pharmacyclickandcollect.com.au.

WA NIP pharmacy vax

THE WA branch of the Pharmacy Guild says it's been advised that community pharmacies in the state will be provided with additional quadrivalent vaccine on the National Immunisation Program for use with patients aged 65 plus.

Acting branch president Andrew Ngeow said including community pharmacies in the NIP had been an "overwhelming public health success" with huge awareness leading to vaccine supply issues.

THE Health Department has launched a formal consultation on the Community Service Obligation Funding Pool Obligations, seeking feedback from the industry on a range of issues including direct supply of some drugs as well as new payment arrangements for high cost medicines.

The review relates to service standards and compliance requirements that must be adhered to by CSO distributors, and "seeks to identify opportunities for the CSO Funding Pool to better support the objectives set out in the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement, the National Medicines Policy and broader Government priorities that seek to improve access to medicines".

A range of changes are under consideration, including removal of the requirement that each CSO distributor hold stock of at least one brand of every PBS medicine.

The department is also seeking to further clarify requirements that CSO distributors do not impose fees or trading terms that potentially circumvent CSO objectives, such as for delivery to rural areas, delivery within the Guaranteed Supply Period, supply of particular PBS medicines or ordering less than a specified minimum value/quantity. In relation to high cost medicines,

a trial commencing 01 Jul 2019 will see payments split, with the effective PBS price to be paid directly to the manufacturer by the Department of Human Services,



FREE

based on the published price. Pharmacies would remit the wholesaler mark-up to distributors.

This change would mean when these medicines are dispensed there would be two potential prices: the private price payable for a non-PBS dispense, or nil cost price to the wholesaler and pharmacy for a PBS dispense.

The review also canvasses options under exclusive supply arrangements, confirming the department is considering requiring that PBS medicines be only distributed via CSO arrangements, or requiring that PBS medicines distributed under direct arrangements be also made available via all pharmaceutical wholesalers.

The National Pharmaceutical Services Association welcomed the review, but noted "any reform needs to protect the original intent of the system, which is to ensure all Australians have affordable and equitable access to all PBS medicines, regardless of where they live".

NPSA chairman Mark Hooper said the organisation would submit that all PBS medicines be made available to CSO wholesalers, and that any new CSO entrants must be held to the same standards for delivering the National Medicines Policy.

He said monopoly arrangements between manufacturers and courier companies undermined the CSO's cross-subsidation model.

The consultation period runs until 29 Jun, with submissions lodged via CSOAdmin@health.gov.au.

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ELIZABETH de Somer has been appointed as the new ceo of Medicines Australia.

De Somer has been the organisation's interim ceo since the recent resignation of Milton Catelin from the role (PD 28 Mar 2018).



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References: 1. Ludwig M et al. Respir. Res 2013; 14:124. 2. Koenighofer M et al. Multidiscip. Respir. Med. 2014; 9:57. 3. Fazekas T et al. BMC Complement. Altern. Med. 2012; 12:147. *When used at the first signs of a cold. *From the nasal lining.

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Weight Loss



Wednesday 13 Jun 2018

2025 plan at Pharmacy Connect

KEY outcomes of the Pharmacy Guild's "Community Pharmacy 2025" (CP2025) project will be presented during the upcoming Pharmacy Connect conference taking place in Sydney this Sep.

Convenor Kos Sclavos said the session would lay down an action plan with a "realistic vision and roadmap" to allow pharmacies to take the steps necessary towards the identified pathways for the future of community pharmacy.

"This session will bring delegates up to speed on the likely direction of the sector and what it means for anyone in the industry, from pharmacy owners to pharmacists and industry representatives."

The plan gathers insights and feedback gathered at the Australian **Pharmacy Professional Conference** and Trade Exhibition in May.



The CP2025 plenary session will take place on Sat 08 Sep from 4.15pm during the conference at the Hilton Sydney.

Sclavos said the event had been designed to meet the need for an industry conference that allows pharmacists, business owners and the wider sector to stay abreast of changing regulations and new business opportunities.

The full program is available at pharmacyconnect.com.au.

Pharmacy survey call

THE Aged Care National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey (acNAPS) is urging pharmacists, nurses and infection control practitioners to participate in its annual scan of the antimicrobial medicines prescription environment in Australia.

The voluntary annual survey can be undertaken on any single day between 01 Jun and 31 Aug 2018. All Australian aged care homes and multi-purpose services are

eligible to participate, with previous acNAPS surveys identifying the following areas for improvement: • High rates of prescribing of

antimicrobials for unconfirmed infections

• Gaps in documentation of the indication for antimicrobials and a review and/or stop date

• Prolonged duration of

antimicrobial prescriptions • Very high rates of use of topical antimicrobials.

acNAPS is a collaborative project between the National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship (NCAS), the Guidance Group and Victorian Healthcare Associated Infection Surveillance System (VICNISS) Coordinating Centre.

Visit naps.org.au to participate.

Health Cloud launch

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Jelly Bean Ball bounces

THIS year's DANII Foundation Jelly Bean Ball raised more than \$300,000 to support people with type 1 diabetes, in an amazing show of support for the organisation which last year secured \$54 million in government funding for **Continuous Glucose Monitors** (CGM) for T1D patients aged under 21.

The star-studded event in Sydney featured a host of celebrities who were among 500 supporters led by DANII Foundation founders Donna and Brian Meads-Barlow, who are **pictured** above right.

The Foundation is now running a #NOMoreFear campaign which is "squarely focused on achieving CGM funding for Australians aged 21 years and over at the 2019 election campaign," so patients do not need to live in fear of never waking up due to deadly high or low blood sugar levels during the night.

Moneys raised at the event fund free trials of CGM and scholarships to the annual Jelly Bean T1D Educational Cruise.

Other guests included Sonja Brestovanska and Katerina Jarema (middle photo) who were part of the Medtronic contingent, while pharmacist Adele Tahan is pictured at right with some Gold Cross red Glucogel jelly beans.







WIN WITH GAIA

This week Pharmacy Daily and GAIA are giving away each day the travel packs pictured valued at \$37.90.

Something for Mum and bub! The small sizes make the most convenient travel companion - now you can take your

favourite GAIA products, wherever you go, in the re-usable zipped "wet pack". The kits are just perfect for giving to a new mum, taking to hospital and for travelling. CLICK HERE to find out more.

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

> Other than the baby range, name one other range GAIA have?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



SKIN+BO

COLLE

Pharmacy Daily Wednesday 13th June 2018

page 2



Wednesday 13 Jun 2018



IT'S Fathers Day this weekend in the USA, and that has spawned a bunch of great giftware ideas.

One of the best is a promotion by food manufacturer Kraft, which is honouring all those cheesy "dad jokes" by offering to create a lifesize bust of fathers using 100% Kraft cheddar.

An online auction will give the prize to the five top bidders, who can then submit pictures of their dads to be made into likenesses "by bona fide cheese artists, who just so happen to be at the top of their game in the high-stakes world of professional cheese sculpting".

The link isn't just about jokes, with the auction's description also noting that "at one point or other your dad has exhibited cheesy behaviour i.e. cheesy jokes/ cheesy shirts/cheesy music/any combination thereof.

"Your old man's cheesy greatness should be celebrated." the blurb adds, with all proceeds from the auction donated to a hunger relief charity group.

The top bid as **PD** went to press this morning was US\$830 - but unfortunately the eBay listing notes that the company does not ship the busts to Australia.



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- 'Aqua' range, that not only
- makes these tasks easier and
- safer but which also blend
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- toilet seat to make it smaller,
- more comfortable and reassuring
- for little ones. Made from sturdy plastic, it can be

- detached and easily cleaned.
- Stockist: 02 93864000
- RRP: \$14.95
- Website: www.dreambaby.com.au

Pharmacy

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Welcome to our weekly promoted feature with all the latest health,

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page 3







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