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**Today's issue of PD**  
 Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Pharmabroker Sales.

## GAIA complied fully

**GAIA** Skin Naturals was fined \$37,800 by the ACCC for labelling issues on three of its products (PD 21 Jun) but has issued a statement declaring it believes it is compliant and does not acknowledge any wrongdoing.



The company said that since the issuing of the infringement it has "worked collaboratively with the ACCC to understand their view."

"Whilst we do not believe that we have misled consumers, we have taken on board their feedback and will be making changes to our labelling to address their concerns."

"Our consumers are of paramount importance to us and in order to be even more transparent we will be updating our labelling to further clarify the ingredients in our products."

The company statement said it believed the issuing of the infringement notices by the ACCC was "ahead of the law".

"Further, the decision to issue the three infringement notices was a negotiated outcome that was made together with us," GAIA said.

"Our decision to accept and pay the three infringement notices was done in the interest of resolving the matter in a commercial and collaborative manner."

"Importantly, GAIA's payment of the infringement notices is not an acknowledgment by us of any wrongdoing."

"We firmly believe that we have complied with the current Australian Consumer Law as well as Australian cosmetic standards and guidelines."

Confusion for different industries exists in that "organic products in the market may contain synthetic chemicals and there is not currently a standard for the inclusion of organic ingredients in Australia".

## API acquires Clearskincare

**LISTED** vertically-integrated supplier of pharmaceuticals Australian Pharmaceutical Industries (API) has announced via the ASX that it has entered binding agreements to acquire the assets of Clearskincare Clinics for \$127.4 million, to be paid in instalments over a three-year period (PD Breaking News today).



business by Sep 2021. Clearskincare Clinics is a major supplier of non-invasive aesthetic services such as laser hair removal, skin treatments and cosmetic injectables, with 42 clinics in Australia and two in New Zealand as well as an exclusive skincare product range.

The company will initially acquire a 50.1% controlling interest in the clinic business to be concluded by 31 Jul 2018, followed by the full acquisition of the remainder of the

API said that with its strong operational capabilities in network growth, retail marketing and consumer goods development, the acquisition will accelerate Clearskincare Clinics' already strong earnings position, making the arrangement "highly compelling and complementary".

## SHPA reaches 5,000

**THE** Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has announced it has surpassed 5,000 members in recent months, claiming the title: 'Australia's fastest growing pharmacy organisation'.

The Society has made a special video profiling Rotational Pharmacist at Flinders Medical Centre, Rita Skipper, commemorating her journey to membership, culminating in her being the 5,000th pharmacist to join - **CLICK HERE** for the video.

Skipper, who begins in a new role as Clinical Pharmacist at HPS Pharmacies next week, says she is looking forward to driving her career forward through her SHPA membership.

The research and education aspects of pharmacy drew her back from community pharmacy work, she said.

SHPA chief executive Kristin Michaels says the milestone comes in another big year for SHPA, which is preparing to release new strategic directions and a new vision document.

"After our members voted overwhelmingly for a modernised constitution last year, and we welcomed three new expert Board Directors in May, we are ready to build on our comprehensive suite of programs and initiatives, and draw more pharmacists and technicians into our nationwide advocacy to drive the broader profession forward," Michaels said.

## Qld gains Advantage

**ADVANTAGE** Pharmacy Group has announced a joint venture partnership with Arana Pharmaceuticals, expanding warehousing and distribution facilities for its more than 200 independent pharmacies across Australia and 38 member pharmacies throughout Queensland.

Advantage Group ceo Stephen Kastrinakis said, "We are proud to be a group that is 100% pharmacist owned and is there to support a large number of independent pharmacies, in the same way that Arana has done over its 32 years history."

The two companies say they are aiming for a "seamless transition over the coming weeks".

Arana ceo Rodney Garozzo will continue to be involved in the joint venture and commented, "Our dedicated Arana staff, many of whom have given over 20 years of service, will continue in a business as usual capacity through this exciting time."

## Phcy cannabis vote

**MORE** than 50% of respondents to the UK Royal Pharmaceutical Society survey strongly agreed that cannabis should be legalised for medicinal use, and a further 30% slightly agreed, the official organ of the society, *the Pharmaceutical Journal* reports.

Almost 1,700 pharmacists responded to the survey with only 5.7% disagreeing and 5.2% remaining undecided.

**CLICK HERE** for more.

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THE Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Publications Team has posted a summary of price disclosure price reductions for the 2018 Oct Cycle (Fifth Remove Originator cycle) on the Price Disclosure (SPD) web page. See details at [pbs.gov.au](http://pbs.gov.au).



Welcome to PD's weekly comment feature. This week's contribution is from **Sonja Bella**, Director, Australian College of Weight Management.



### Implementing an in-house weight management program

THIS week, I thought I would share with you a couple of tips on how to get started with an in-house weight loss program.

Firstly, you have to decide whether you would like to upskill one of your existing team members, such as a Pharmacy Assistant with the Certificate IV in Weight Management, or if you would prefer to employ (or contract) a qualified Weight Management Practitioner. If you have a cubicle available for one-on-one consultations, or a room that would fit 6-10 people for a group clinic, you could also consider renting out this space on an hourly, daily or weekly basis with a condition that the weight loss products sold in your pharmacy are used as part of the weight management programs developed.

Space is usually the biggest consideration, so if your pharmacy doesn't have a room, or private area, that can accommodate a group clinic of 6-10 people, then one-on-one consultations are the easiest place to start. Find a quiet part of the pharmacy and install a partitioned cubicle with a desk and a set of scales (this is not an expensive exercise to do) and you are ready to start promoting your in-house weight management program.

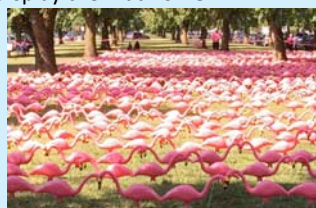
## Dispensary Corner

**FLAMING** new Guinness World Record - the town of Buffalo, New York, has said it is tickled pink after being awarded the new world record for having the longest line of garden flamingos.

No, they are only plastic - otherwise imagine the clean-up! Exactly 1,500 plastic pink flamingos adorned a city park in Buffalo, set up to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Buffalo's Olmsted Parks system.

The previous record for the pink plastic lawn ornaments was held by Pledge the Pink of Callawassie Island, South Carolina, which lined up 1,058 flamingos in 2016.

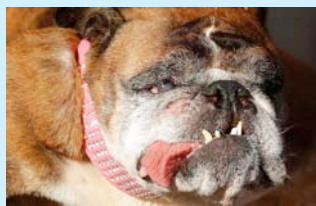
Buffalo residents were invited to adopt the lawn ornaments and display them at home.



**NINE-YEAR-OLD** English bulldog Zsa Zsa was named the winner of the 2018 World's Ugliest Dog contest in San Francisco.

Zsa Zsa won the title last Sat in a competition where dogs with hairless bodies and lolling tongues flaunt their flawed features.

The dogs walk down a red carpet and are evaluated by a panel of judges -the winner takes home US\$1500 (AU\$2171).



## Phcy held at syringe-point

**PHARMACY** staff at Blooms The Chemist Belmont Central, Belmont, NSW, were robbed by a man brandishing a blood-filled syringe on Sat 16 Jun around 3.45pm.

The man entered the store and confronted two staff members, a customer and a pharmacist, before stealing medication and leaving the store.

Staff members sounded the distress alarm and ushered the customer safely off the premises.

Shortly after the event, police arrested a 38-year-old man after he was allegedly found hiding in the yard of a nearby home in May Street, Belmont.

They allegedly seized the medication nearby on Church Street.

All staff members at Blooms The Chemist Belmont Central have been offered counselling services, regardless of whether they were directly involved in the incident or not.



The pharmacy issued a statement saying, "Belmont is a close-knit community and the safety of staff and local customers is paramount for Blooms The Chemist Belmont Central".

Blooms said it is cooperating with the police in this investigation and anyone with information is encouraged to contact Belmont Police Station on (02) 4922 8899.

## New diabetic formula

**PHARMACY-ONLY** IsoWhey Diabetic Formula nutritional support has been newly formulated, the manufacture has announced.

The improved popular Diabetic Formula is a high protein, low GI formula to support glucose metabolism, the company says.

It is ideal for people who cannot obtain complete nutrition from diet alone and also contains vitamin D, chromium, zinc and other important micronutrients.

## WIN WITH LITTLE BODIES

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Little Bodies are giving away a Little Bodies soft toy and a \$30 Coles/Myer gift card.

From the makers of Dermal Therapy, comes Little Bodies, a clinically tested, steroid free children's eczema management range. From personal experience, we understand the challenges that children with eczema face on a day to day basis. We know that keeping a child's skin healthy and managing flare-ups requires more than just an eczema cream, it requires a regimen of care. Visit [www.littlebodies.com.au](http://www.littlebodies.com.au) to find out more.

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

What age bracket is Little Bodies range aimed at?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.





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