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Today's issue of PD
Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Pharmacy 4 Less.

Hunt to open APP2018

FEDERAL Minister for Health Greg Hunt will deliver the opening keynote address at APP2018.

APP chairman Kos Sclavos said that the opening plenary will now run from 8.30am – 10.30am with a refreshed format to provide a dynamic introduction to the conference.

APP2018 runs 03 to 06 May at the Gold Coast with more than 450 display stands - appconference.com.

BD Dose Innovations deal

BECTON, Dickinson and Company (BD) has announced the acquisition of the sales and support operations for Rowa Technologies in Australia and New Zealand.

The move follows the voluntary administration of Dose Innovations (PD 23 Jan 2018) which was “not able to continue trading in its own right,” according to external administrator Cor Cordis.

Dose Innovations was the Australian and NZ distributor of the Rowa Automated Dispensary system, and had installed more than 100 pharmacy robots across the country.

BD acquired Rowa globally in 2015 through the takeover of Carefusion, which had itself bought the dispensary automation specialist in 2011.

After Dose Innovations was placed into administration, BD stepped in locally with a licensing agreement for the administrators with the aim of minimising disruption for affected customers (PD 25 Jan).

Now the sales and service operations have been formally taken over by BD, with BD Rowa Technologies vice president Dirk Wingenter saying the deal means “BD can more quickly build scale and depth in medication dispensing solutions for community pharmacies, pharmacy banner groups, hospital pharmacies and pharmaceutical wholesalers.

“We look forward to enhancing the pharmacy experience and innovations in medication wholesale across Australia and New Zealand,” he added.

Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Meds errors cost £99m

MORE than 230 million annual medication errors occur in UK's National Health Service (NHS) costing the taxpayer upward of £98.5 million (>A\$175m), according to new research from the Universities of Sheffield and York, commissioned by the NHS.

The project aimed to quantify the number of medication errors in the NHS in England and the costs of those errors to the NHS as well as health losses.

Avoidable adverse drug reactions (ADRs) directly cause 712 deaths per year, but ADRs could be a contributory factor to between 1,700 and 22,303 deaths a year, authors postulated, which means the costs associated with medication errors could be “much higher” than the stated £98.5m.

University of York Professor of Health Economics Mark Sculpher, said, “Although these error rates may look high, there is no evidence suggesting they differ markedly from those in other high-income countries”.

CLICK HERE to access the study.

PSA honours pharmacy leaders

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) South Australia and Northern Territory branches honoured four leading pharmacists at a ceremony in Adelaide last month, with Dr Janet Sluggett named as the Pharmacist of the Year.



L to R: Dr Janet Sluggett; Robyn Johns SA/NT President; Dr Jacinta Johnson and Dorsa Maher.

Sluggett has distinguished herself as a researcher within an aged care organisation and is an accredited pharmacist and a professional services pharmacist with CPIE Pharmacy Services.

The 2018 Early Career Pharmacist Development Award was won by Dr Jacinta Johnson, from the University of South Australia.

She was recognised for her leadership and mentorship through the SA/NT Early Career Pharmacist

Working Group.

Dorsa Maher won the PSA SA Gold Medal having completed her internship at the Flinders Medical Centre - she has an interest in the quality use of medicines, research and education and received the medal from Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom.

At the event Colin Jones was also recognised as a Life Member.

TWC raises \$1.2m for ovarian cancer

TERRYWHITE

Chemmart's total fundraising support for Ovarian Cancer Australia (OCA) is expected to hit \$1,225,550 in this, their 12th year of association, following a month of fundraising activities throughout Feb.

The disease has the lowest survival rate of any women's cancer with only 44% of women diagnosed surviving five years post-diagnosis.

TerryWhite Chemmart ceo Anthony White said the community pharmacy network was proud to be a long time supporter of the organisation, with many pharmacies taking part in fundraising activities such as walks, and Morning and Afternoon Teals.

“By working with Ovarian Cancer Australia, we are able to play our part in taking action for Australians affected by ovarian cancer – not only by raising vital funds, but also



by helping to raise awareness of this disease,” White said.

TWC also supported through attendance at OCA's annual Teal Ribbon Luncheon in Melbourne on 01 Feb, and Afternoon Teal events in TWC's Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide offices on Teal Ribbon Day, Wed 28th Feb.

Pictured at the Melbourne Support Office Teal Ribbon Event on the weekend are, from left: Shane Lipton, TWC; Janelle Jorgensen OCA; Prof David Bowtell; Albrey Walmsley, OCA; and Duncan Phillips, TWC.

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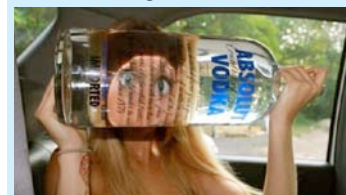
Dispensary Corner

THE next time you need to convince someone that binge drinking is bad for their health, let them know about the misadventure experienced by this poor chap.

A man from New Jersey was having a big night out on the town in New Jersey before drunkenly ordering an Uber home, however, when he awoke from his long slumber in the backseat he quickly realised he was interstate.

Turns out the man had accidentally ordered an Uber to his home town in West Virginia, setting him back a handsome sum of \$1,635 (one way).

Perhaps even more shocking than the misadventure itself was the fact the man gave his driver a five-star rating. Weird.



MOST medical professions would agree that if people had a greater understanding of the human body it would aid in the pursuit of disease prevention, so how about erecting a giant monument dedicated to the human anatomy in a really busy thoroughfare?

That's what just happened in West Hollywood, but perhaps not for the reasons you'd assume.

A giant, neon uterus has been installed on the Sunset Strip, depicting the female sex organ with oversized fibreglass boxing gloves in place of ovaries.

The art installation is dedicated to female empowerment.

Bid to ramp up vax rate

THE Federal Government has commenced a new campaign to target parents with the message that they need to vaccinate their children.

Areas of low vaccination rates in one, two and five year olds will be "micro targeted" in every state and territory under the second phase of the 'Get the Facts about Immunisation' campaign.

Although immunisation rates in Australia are already high, with over 93% of five-year-old children fully vaccinated, there are areas where the immunisation rate is too low, putting thousands of vulnerable people at risk.

It is these areas of low coverage which pose risks to the community, especially to people who can't be vaccinated, like newborns and those with medical reasons, the Health Department warning says.



Minister Greg Hunt said, "The science is in and the medical experts' advice is absolute – vaccinations save lives and protect

lives and they are an essential part of a healthy society.

"I have no time for the false and reckless claims made around vaccination by some in our community and I will continue to call out their dangerous claims with the scientific facts."

The campaign aims to help parents access evidence-based information to support their decision making about childhood vaccinations.

The second phase of the \$5.5m education campaign will run for six weeks through online video, social media and online search, as well as on screens in health clinics and GP surgeries.

More at campaigns.health.gov.au.

Opioid prescriber fail

THE NSW Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) has brought Dr Arthur Macaro Echano before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal and he was found guilty of prescribing S4D and S8 drugs for 12 patients with a history of drug abuse - Echano's registration was cancelled and he is to pay costs.

Guild Update

Rural pharmacy videos

RURAL and remote pharmacies are being given the opportunity to show their colleagues just why they love where they work.

As part of the I Love Rural Pharmacy ([#iloveruralpharmacy](https://twitter.com/iloveruralpharmacy)) theme of the Rural Pharmacy Forum at APP2018, rural and remote pharmacists and their staff are invited to submit a 30-45 second video about their work and experiences in their unique pharmacies. And the added theme this year is "Come Work With Me" ([#comeworkwithme](https://twitter.com/comeworkwithme)), which gives scope for contestants to highlight to the audience why they should consider working in rural and remote pharmacy.

This year's added theme of 'Come Work With Me' highlights the challenges of recruiting and retaining an effective workforce for rural and remote pharmacies.

The winners will be announced at the Rural Pharmacy Forum session at APP2018 on Thursday 3 May 2018.

Best Video will be judged prior to APP2018, and the People's Choice winner will be judged by the audience at the Rural Pharmacy Forum session.

Win with Hope's Relief

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Hope's Relief are giving away a prize pack including Hope's Relief Premium Eczema Cream 60g, Hope's Relief Body Wash with Cocoa Butter, Shea and Goats Milk 250ml, Hope's Relief Moisturising Lotion 145g and Hope's Relief Bamboo Tote Bag valued at \$55.



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

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