

## Christmas Team Photo Competition

Share your holiday spirit with your best Christmas team photo.

Enter to win an iPad.



## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news.

# Boost pharmacist ratios in EDs: SHPA

**INCREASING** the number of pharmacists working in emergency departments (EDs) could cut costs and improve patient outcomes, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) believes.

In a paper published in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*, SHPA Emergency Medicine Leadership Committee past Chair, Susan Welch, has called on hospitals to boost pharmacist staffing levels to one for every 10 patients in emergency settings.

"The provision of emergency medicine pharmacist services improves healthcare outcomes through timely and accurate best possible medication history documentation; liaison between emergency and other departments on medicine-related issues such as stock shortages or substitutions; early involvement of the pharmacist in decision making

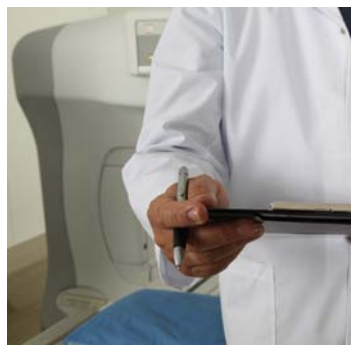
and administration of time-critical medications and reductions in the total cost of care," she said.

"Where there is the delivery of emergency services, or where patients are admitted to short stay acute medical assessment units for less than 48 hours, we recommend one full time equivalent pharmacist for clinical pharmacy services, per day, for every 10 patients at risk of medication related problems."

Welch noted that pharmacists could improve antimicrobial stewardship, support acute pain management and provide medication management plans to ensure continuity of care.

SHPA CEO, Kristin Michaels, said there was compelling evidence to support the recruitment of emergency medicine pharmacist in hospital settings.

"The addition of a clinical pharmacist within an emergency



department has been proven to reduce the number of medicines omissions and dosing delays, and a systematic literature review from 2009-16 demonstrated the role of the emergency pharmacist led to a diverse range of positive patient outcomes," she said.

"2016 research showed 40% of Australian hospitals do not have a dedicated emergency medicine pharmacy service."

## ADHA appoints interim CEO

**AUSTRALIA** Digital Health Agency (ADHA) Chief Operating Officer, Bettina McMahon, has been appointed interim CEO, following the resignation of Tim Kelsey (*PD* 10 Dec).

McMahon will assume the position on 17 Feb, with National Health Information Officer, Ronan O'Connor acting as CEO in the interim.

McMahon has been with the ADHA for a decade.

A formal recruitment process for a permanent CEO will commence in the new year.

## ACCC flags iNova/Juno deal concerns

**THE** Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has raised concerns that iNova Pharmaceuticals proposed acquisition of Juno PC could restrict competition in the prescription weight-loss medication category.

iNova currently holds close to 70% of sales of weight-loss medications through its prescription and over-the-counter products, and currently holds the only Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved phentermine-based products in the Australian market.

Juno PC has developed a new patent-protected phentermine-based medication, and iNova's proposed acquisition would eliminate the potential for competition between the brands, ACCC Commissioner, Stephen Ridgeway said.

"We are concerned that the proposed acquisition would remove the opportunity for Juno PC's new product to enter the market as a strong competitor to iNova," he said.



"Buying out a potential future competitor can raise competition concerns in the same way that buying an existing competitor can.

"We consider that in the absence of the proposed acquisition, it is likely another pharmaceutical company would acquire Juno PC or partner with it, and compete with iNova, the proposed acquisition removes that potential competition."

The ACCC has invited stakeholders to make submissions on the proposed acquisition by 07 Feb, with a final decision scheduled to be made by 09 Apr.

# Sunburn? DermAid!

For temporary relief of minor skin irritation, itching, rashes<sup>1</sup> and sunburn



- ✓ Suitable for use on children aged 2 and above\*
- ✓ Free from colour, fragrance and alcohol
- ✓ Contains a moisturiser to help soothe dry skin
- ✓ Dissolved hydrocortisone to work fast

\*Consult a doctor before use on children under 2 years of age.

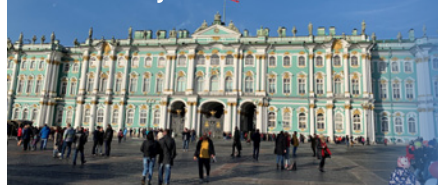
ego the science of healthy skin



<sup>1</sup> Due to corticosteroid responsive skin conditions

DermAid 1.0% w/w: **ASK YOUR PHARMACIST – THEY MUST DECIDE IF THIS PRODUCT IS RIGHT FOR YOU.** Always read the label. Follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly talk to your health professional.

EGO PHARMACEUTICALS PTY LTD, 21-31 Malcolm Road, Braeside 3195 Australia. 'Ego' and 'DermAid' are trademarks of Ego Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd. ©2019 Ego. [ask@egopharm.com](mailto:ask@egopharm.com) [www.egopharm.com](http://www.egopharm.com) Prepared December 2019



## Dispensary Corner

IN THE famous words of the musician Meat Loaf, "I'd do anything for love, but I won't do that", at least that should've been the thought pattern of a love-struck couple who recently waded through 30 tonnes of putrid rubbish to find their missing wedding rings.

Medical experts tend to be quite vocal about the importance of maintaining good personal hygiene, but it seems the message is yet to break through to the pair from Melbourne, who in their bid to recover the missing rings, recruited local trash workers at the Stonnington Waste Transfer Station to help with the search.

After hours of scouring through the grease and the grime, the rings were eventually located, just proving the popular musical expression coined by the J Geils Band, love truly does stink!



IT APPEARS the Guthrie Police Department in Oklahoma have found a novel way to get psyched about Christmas, accusing an elf of going on a drug-induced rampage.

On the department's Facebook page, they claim to have arrested a cheeky elf after he consumed "too much eggnog" and replaced water with "snowman urine" at a retirement village.

Bail is set at 300 candy canes.

## Gold Cross appoints GM

**PHARMACY** Guild of Australia subsidiary, Gold Cross, has named Shayne Bland as its incoming General Manager.

Bland will replace Trevor Clarkin who announced his retirement in Oct (**PD** 30 Oct) after more than two decades with the business.

Announcing the appointment, Guild National Vice President, Trent Twomey, forecast a bright future for Gold Cross under Bland's leadership.

"We are very pleased to have appointed Shayne Bland, I am very confident that he will provide a significant boost for Gold Cross and, with the help of the team, deliver some great benefits to the pharmacy community," he said.

Bland is currently Guild Insurance Head of Product and Underwriting, having been with the Guild-owned insurance business for more than seven years.

Prior to joining Guild Insurance, Bland held a number of roles at CGU Insurance.

In a statement the Guild said Bland's primary objectives would be to nurture the Gold Cross business to grow in value and profitability, while ensuring the delivery of high quality, value-add products and




services to Guild members.

"Gold Cross is a leader in the pharmacy sector and has played a critical role in supporting community pharmacy since its inception," Bland said.

"Since joining Guild Insurance, I have had the opportunity to work closely with some incredible pharmacists and I look forward to expanding the reach of Gold Cross and its support of community pharmacy into the future."

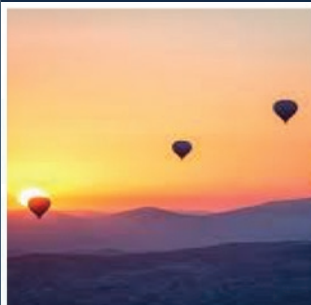
In addition to his role within the pharmacy sector, Bland is a co-founder and Non-Executive Director of Victorian craft brewery, Jetty Road Brewery.



**Raven's recruitment**

1800 429 829

info@ravensrecruitment.com.au  
www.ravensrecruitment.com.au



**Pharmacist in Charge**  
Canberra, ACT (Job# 200033937)

- Exciting diverse approach to care
- New pharmacy trends and delivery
- City location + great package + progression

Become a part of this new approach to healthcare within a group that is innovating the way community pharmacy delivers - join a fun likeminded team.

...see more info

## Sigma to roll out Scrypt HQ

**PHARMACY** wholesaler, Sigma Healthcare has signed a three-year agreement with Scrypt Ventures to licence its digital pharmacy platform, Scrypt HQ.

The agreement follows the successful completion of a pilot phase at 12 pharmacies across Australia.

As part of the agreement Scrypt HQ will be rolled out across Sigma's Amcal, Guardian and Discount Drug Stores franchise networks.

The platform has been designed to support pharmacist workflows.



## 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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**23 - 29 Jan:** NAPSA Congress; University of Newcastle; for more info visit: [www.napsa.org.au](http://www.napsa.org.au)

**6 - 8 Mar:** NSW/ACT Annual Therapeutic Update 2020; Crowne Plaza Terrigal; Save the date - registrations open 2 Dec: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**19 - 22 Mar:** APP 2020; Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre; Early bird registrations now open: [www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)