

GP prescribing fail

THE Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted a complaint against Dr A N Hussain



Ahmed before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal, for inappropriately prescribing drugs of addiction to seven patients.

While working as a GP at the Campbelltown Medical and Dental Centre, Ahmed was alleged to have prescribed Schedule 4D and S8 drugs without proper assessment, in improper doses, without adhering to legislative requirements and to inappropriate patients.

The Tribunal found Ahmed guilty of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct, placing conditions on his practice of medicine including mentoring, random audits and education - caselaw.nsw.gov.au.

More sartan drama

AUTHORITIES in the UK have ordered the withdrawal of more irbesartan-containing products from British pharmacies, as part of ongoing investigations by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.

The latest recall affects three batches of Irbesartan 150mg and 300mg tablets which reached the UK market, supplied by Macleods Pharma UK, after testing revealed possible N nitrosodiethylamine (NDEA) contamination.

Suppliers affected in previous UK recalls include Mylan, Actavis, Dexcel and Teva.

Pharmacists under-utilised

THE pharmacist is still an “under-used and highly accessible part of the healthcare system” according to a new *Health View* report released this month by the National Australia Bank.

The report, prepared by NAB’s Perth-based Senior Health Banking Manager - Pharmacy, Michael Gregory, notes the ongoing change in the sector, with many pharmacies moving towards a “health hub model”.

However “not every pharmacy will want to follow this path,” Gregory said, urging all pharmacists to clarify the role they want their pharmacy to play in the future.

Key trends highlighted for Australian pharmacy in 2019 include more opportunities, with pharmacies having the potential to play a much more significant role in primary healthcare.

Gregory cited regulations enabling many pharmacists to deliver a wider range of vaccinations, along with the possibility of playing a more active role in other aspects of prevention such as screening for certain diseases, risk assessments and point-of-care testing.

“As long as the pharmacy sector can demonstrate that it’s delivering evidence-based patient outcomes, I’d expect the government to continue increasing funding for these kinds of services,” he said.

The NAB also expects to see more collaboration with other primary healthcare providers, with the My Health Record system facilitating the monitoring of medications prescribed by multiple providers.

Other services such as text or

email reminders are also a trend, while data will continue to play an increasingly important role in the business of running a pharmacy, the NAB report says, allowing owners to make more informed decisions and react quickly to things like slow-moving stock.

Gregory also said some pharmacies were already well on the way to providing the kind of community health hub outlined by the Pharmacy Guild in its *Community Pharmacy 2025* report.

That is, one that “builds on a core expertise in medicines and facilitates the provision of an array of essential, cost-effective health products and services to an empowered and informed patient and consumer,” he said.

This week’s Pharmacy Guild *Forefront* highlights the NAB report, noting that Gregory and many of his interstate colleagues at the bank would again be attending APP this year, as they have annually since the bank began participating in the pharmacy sector 12 years ago.

EpiPen back in stock

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration advises health professionals and consumers that the short supply of EpiPen 300 mcg adrenaline auto-injectors has finally been resolved.



The sponsor, Alphapharm Pty Ltd (trading as Mylan Australia), has confirmed that there is sufficient supply of EpiPen 300 mcg adrenaline auto-injectors to meet current patient needs in Australia.

PBS education guides

THE Department of Human Services has released new updates to its PBS Education Guides, as part of an annual review.

New versions are available covering *Continued Dispensing Initiative - PBS requirements*, *Efficient funding of chemotherapy and Participating public hospitals - writing PBS and RPBS prescriptions*.

The resources are available at humanservices.gov.au.

2018 PHARMACY MARKET REPORT AVAILABLE NOW!

Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - NSW South Coast (Job# 200030750)
Fantastic opportunity for a new Reg or exp'd; customer focused pharmacy.
- **Pharmacist Manager** - QLD Central Coast (Job# 200031153)
Funky location with palm trees and a professional care pharmacy to oversee.
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - North East of VIC (Job# 200031888)
Advance your skill set whilst working in a rural customer focused pharmacy!

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

JOIN THE FLU FIGHTERS

IN 2018, FRIENDLIES PHARMACY PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING WEST AUSTRALIANS BEAT THE FLU.



35% of all pharmacy flu vaccinations*



With only 6% pharmacy share



Average of 850 people immunised against influenza per pharmacy



14 pharmacies immunised over 1,000 people against influenza

FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES NOW AVAILABLE

Play your part in shaping the role of community pharmacies across WA by joining our growing and well-respected pharmacy brand.

Get in touch for a no-obligation chat.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



*Based off Pharmacy Guild estimates of all pharmacy provided immunisations.

Dispensary Corner

BREXIT is looming, but it's not all bad news for Britons, some of whom have come up with lucrative ideas to make the most of the uncertainty.

Businessman James Blake has released a "Brexit Box" - a survival kit which he says allows worried people to "control what happens to you by taking control yourself".

The box, which retails for a whopping £295 (about A\$540) includes 60 portions of freeze-dried foods, 48 portions of dried mince and chicken, an emergency water filter and firelighter liquid.

Despite government assurances that there is no need to stockpile food for Brexit, Blake has sold hundreds of the kits, which have enough rations to last 30 days.

HERE'S a chemistry challenge: a case of beer has saved the life of a Vietnamese man who was at risk of dying from alcohol poisoning.

Van Nhat Nguyen, aged 48, had a massive amount of methanol in his system when he was hospitalised in Vietnam's Quang Tri province, according to local newspaper *Tuoi Tre*.

The methanol was being oxidised to formaldehyde, also producing formic acid which saw him become unconscious.

Doctors decided to pump three cans of beer into his body in an attempt to dilute the alcohol and slow down the metabolic process.

A hospital spokesman explained transfusing beer into his system kept the liver occupied while dialysis removed the methanol.

He was then prescribed a transfusion of one can of beer per hour, and after 15 cans he was in "recovery mode".

CWH smelling \$1b sweet

ALREADY controlling around 70% of the pharmacy fragrance market, Chemist Warehouse (CWH) has set its eyes on even greater targets with hopes of turning that sector of the market into a billion dollar business.

The huge pharmacy chain has launched a new model for fragrance called 'Ultra Beauty', its first site being at the Paramount Centre on Melbourne's Bourke Street, which debuted at the end of last year in time for Christmas.

CWH Chief Operating Officer Mario Tascone told *News Limited* that the Ultra Beauty 'store within a store' model would provide a new home for exclusive fragrance and beauty products.

He highlighted brands such as YSL, Lancome, Ralph Lauren, Armani and Paco Rabanne that have already come on board, with Coty set to join the party this year.

Ultra Beauty sites are designed to bring the ambience, look and feel of department store beauty settings, he said.

Tascone explained that at this stage the total fragrance market in Australia is sitting at around \$800

million, but he sees opportunities to grow this - especially in regional centres where department stores have closed their doors.

While the CWH style is "at odds" with this type of entry, most major regional centre stores have a large footprint and can easily incorporate the model in their space, he said.

Tascone said the organisation was "rapt to have L'Oreal Luxe's portfolio of brands on board as part of Ultra Beauty line-up."

"The Chemist Warehouse group has over two million customers shopping in store every week across Australia and now, with Ultra Beauty ready to roll out, we are well positioned to help grow this category to the billion-dollar mark."

SARMS slugged

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has ordered the withdrawal of advertising by a company called Evolution Supplements, following a Dec complaint about the products which contain Schedule 4 substances including Selective Androgen Receptor Modulators.

Win with Plunkett's



Does Plunkett's Aloe Vera contain any fragrance?

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away an Aloe Vera prize pack valued at over \$60 each including Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera gel 240ml, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera gel 75g, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera Spray 125ml, Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera Moisturiser 200ml and one Plunkett's Pure Aloe Vera facial mask.

Aloe Barbadensis 'Natures medicine plant' is renowned for its soothing, cooling and hydrating properties. Plunkett's Aloe Vera is fragrance and colour free and contains pure certified organic Aloe Vera extracted from Aloe Barbadensis Leaf - rich in vitamins, minerals, amino acids and antioxidants to restore dry and damaged skin all year round.

Visit: www.Plunketts.com.au

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

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jayshree Parmar.

Sunburn text alerts

THE University of Queensland is investigating the possible impact of using mobile phone text messages as a means of preventing people from getting sunburn, with 500 people being recruited to join the Sun Text Project.

Participants will receive multiple text messages over five months, varying in frequency and style.

Anyone interested can visit suntext.com.au and go into a draw to win one of 10 \$200 vouchers.

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.

02 - 03 Feb: SHPA Extension Seminar in Clinical Medication Management, Adelaide; for more info see: www.shpa.org.au

07 - 10 Mar: APP 2019; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; early bird registration now open: www.appconference.com

22 - 24 Mar: NSW/ACT Annual Therapeutic Update 2019; Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley; early bird registrations now open: www.psa.org.au/atu

27 Apr: Diabetes Expo 2019; Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre; register here: www.diabetes-expo.org.au

04 - 05 May: Pharmeducation Clinical Update Seminar; Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach, Sydney; for details visit: www.pharmeducation.com.au