

### ASX announcements

**LISTED** biotechnology company CSL has announced the appointment of Dr Paul McKenzie as Chief Operating Officer to take up the role 03 Jun.

CSL CEO and MD, Paul Perreault, making the announcement said, "Paul has a demonstrated track record of success in leading operational excellence and he brings significant leadership capabilities that will continue to drive CSL's sustainable growth".

McKenzie has held senior roles in Biogen, J&J, BMS and Merck.

**MEANWHILE** complementary medicines giant Blackmores has advised that its Managing Director Australia and New Zealand, David Fenlon, has resigned to move back to Melbourne where he will take up a CEO role with a company not competing in the same category.

Fenlon has worked with Blackmores since 2013, commuting from Melbourne for the first three years before moving to Sydney.

## PSA receives CPA support

**NO MATTER** who wins tomorrow's Federal Election, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) will have "a seat at the table" when negotiations for the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) commence.

The PSA had sought firm pre-election commitments that the three main political groups, Coalition, Labor and the Greens would confirm the society would be a signatory of the agreement, due to be finalised in the middle of 2020.

Federal Health Minister, Greg Hunt, had announced the Coalition's support for having the PSA sign the agreement at the launch of Pharmacists in 2023, earlier this year, while Green's leader, Senator Richard Di Natale, also voiced his support for the proposal.

"The lack of transparency in the current community pharmacy

agreement is very concerning," Di Natale said.

"I have been advocating for greater transparency and reform of how the agreement is negotiated for many years now.

"The inclusion of the PSA as a signatory to the agreement is a welcome step."

A letter of support to the PSA from the ALP was more ambiguous in its commitment to the society saying, "the next CPA will need to consider the role of pharmacists and community pharmacies in the primary health care reform".

"Labor agrees that pharmacists should work to their full scope of practice, without fragmenting care or duplicating services," the party said.

"A Shorten Labor Government will honour the 6CPA and lead early and inclusive negotiations, giving PSA a seat at the table toward the next agreement."

### Last chance to book



**THERE** is still an opportunity available for the **Pharmacy Daily Winter Spotlight** feature for 21 May which has room for one more product to be featured.

This is your chance to cast the spotlight on products suited for winter, with space for a product image, product description and a call to action.

Contact Mel on 1300 799 220 or [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au).

### Pharmacy vax role

**QUEENSLAND** hospitals and emergency departments could be relieved of some pressure if community pharmacists had more access to influenza vaccination, Queensland Guild Branch President, Professor Trent Twomey, has said.

Twomey called on the Queensland Government to allow those most at risk of developing influenza to receive a vaccination by a suitably qualified community pharmacist.

"People are dying and pharmacies can help. I call on the Queensland Government to lower the age that pharmacists can vaccinate to allow adolescents to receive vaccinations at their local pharmacy; and allow the National Immunisation Program (NIP) stock to be available in community pharmacy as it is in Victoria, ACT and Western Australia," Twomey said.

"Community pharmacy is ideally placed to increase "community immunity".

### PATY nominations closing soon

**THERE** are just seven days left to send in nominations for the 2019 Pharmacy Guild of Australia/Maxigesic Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award (PATY).

Now in its 13th year, the Pharmacy Assistant of the Year Award winner will be announced at the Pharmacy Assistant National Conference on 12 Oct in Brisbane.

The national winner's prizes will include a \$5,000 cash prize and a Guild Training course.

To nominate, **CLICK HERE**.

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\*New from Ego Pharmaceuticals.

References: 1. Australian Medicines Handbook (online). Dermatological drugs. Tables. Comparison of potency and uses of topical corticosteroids [Internet]. 2018 [cited 2018 July 25]. 2. Dermatology Expert Group. Therapeutic Guidelines: Dermatology, version 4. Dermatitis: Atopic dermatitis. Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd [Internet]. 2018 [cited 2018 July 25]. 3. Kloxema Cream Approved Product Information, 12 September 2017.

Before recommending please review full Product Information [here](#).



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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist Manager** - Northern Suburb of Melbourne (Job# 200032291)  
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- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central Coast, NSW (Job# 200032441)  
Small fun team of 9; Fast paced environment; Delivers superior service.
- **Pharmacist Manager** - North Brisbane, QLD (Job# 200032496)  
Face of the pharmacy; small team; for all exp levels; \$42-\$45/hr + bonus.

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## Dispensary Corner

**PHARMACY** is an art form of sorts, and the dispensary is the stage on which pharmacists perform, so it is fitting that a British couple is opening a world first poetry pharmacy.

The Shropshire-based duo, Deborah Alma and her husband James Sheard, have bought an Edwardian pharmacy, and are currently running a Kickstarter ([kickstarter.com](http://kickstarter.com)) funding campaign to get their performance centre up and running before the end of 2019.

The move into pharmacy has been a natural progression for Deborah, who is also known as The Emergency Poet, after picking up an ambulance to travel to festivals and schools around the UK delivering "poetic first-aid".

The *Lonely Planet* reported the pharmacy will be decked out in traditional style with a section for each 'emotional ailment', while those looking for the poetic version of a medication review, will be able to access a private consultation room.

"The Poetry Pharmacy is a way for me to park up the ambulance and bring the therapeutic effects of poetry under one roof, with an emphasis on well-being and inclusivity," Deborah said.

"I have believed for a long time that poetry can do so much to match or alter a mood, to help in so many ways with good mental health."

With 14 days left on the couple's fundraising campaign, they have raised more than £20,000, and are less than £8,000 short of their target.

It's a fallacy that no words rhyme with pharmacy.

## Guild backs Sigma storage

**PHARMACY** owners have not flagged any concerns with the Pharmacy Guild of Australia that pharmacy wholesaler, Sigma, has mishandled prescription medicines or pharmacist-only products, despite concerns reported by the ABC.

The national broadcaster reported that shareholders had raised questions about Sigma's handling and storage of medicines at the company's annual general meeting in Melbourne on Wed 15 May.

Workers had raised concerns that prescription products had allegedly been left exposed to temperatures of up to 40 degrees during the summer.

A spokesperson for the Pharmacy Guild of Australia said the distribution, storage and handling of medicines were subject to strict processes and controls that had to be adhered to.

"To date, the Guild has received no reports of concerns by member pharmacies in regards to the claims made in the ABC report," the spokesperson said.

However, the ABC reported

that workers for the wholesaler were concerned it had failed to store medications that require refrigeration properly, leaving them "on the open warehouse floor" at one of Sigma's distribution centres for several hours.

A Sigma spokesperson told the ABC the company "complies with the regulatory requirements for handling of stock including cold-chain medicines, which are delivered to us in cold-chain containers".

"Sigma and our distribution centre network have been subjected to over 20 audits over the past three years...and we have passed every audit," the spokesperson said.

However, National Union of Workers Victoria Assistant Secretary, Dario Mujkic, said the union wanted to put the company on notice.

"The union has heard complaints from several workers...that drugs have allegedly been left out in temperatures over 30 degrees for hours and stock that requires refrigeration," Mujkic said.

## Win with Nutri-Synergy

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away an NS prize pack valued at \$30.

Dry, rough cracked hands? NS Working Hands is an intensive repair treatment, it absorbs quickly so that hands get back to work fast. For dry, sensitive or problem hands, NS Protective Hand Cream and NS Cuticle and Nail Repair will soften, nourish and restore them back to their natural, healthy state. Visit: [www.NutriSynergy.com.au](http://www.NutriSynergy.com.au) for more.

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

Fill in the blanks: NS is Natural \_\_\_\_\_?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Samantha Higham.



## TGA vaccine update

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has posted an update of its vaccines page including a vaccines overview, descriptions, an explanation of how they are assessed and monitored, as well as sources for further information.

Visit [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) for details.



## 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).

- 05 - 13 Jun:** PSA Offshore Refresher Conference; Montreux, Switzerland and Lyon, France; registrations now open: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)
- 22 - 23 Jun:** SHPA Electronic Medication Management Conference; Novotel Manly Pacific, Manly, NSW; register here: [www.shpa.eventsair.com](http://www.shpa.eventsair.com)
- 28 - 30 Jun:** ConPharm 2019; Pullman on the Park Melbourne; early bird offer here: [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)
- 26 - 28 Jul:** PSA19; Hyatt Regency Sydney; early bird registrations now open: [www.psa19.com](http://www.psa19.com)
- 04 - 07 Aug:** Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business Conference 2019; Mt Buller, Victoria; register your interest here: [www.medici.com.au](http://www.medici.com.au)
- 05 - 07 Sep:** Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel, Sydney; for details and to register visit: [www.pharmacy-connect.com.au](http://www.pharmacy-connect.com.au)