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## Guild ordered to pay Ramsay costs

**THE** Pharmacy Guild of Australia has been ordered to pay Ramsay Health Care's costs following the dismissal of its case against the Australian Securities Exchange-listed business was dismissed (*PD* 20 Aug).

The Supreme Court of NSW rejected the Guild's request for a reduction in the costs it should be required to pay, as the court had not ruled on two of three elements of the original case.

The Guild and its co-plaintiffs, the owners of Priceline Pharmacy Nowra, South Grafton and Coady's Pharmacy, claimed Ramsay had broken ownership laws, with the Court ruling it was inappropriate to hear the case because this was a criminal, not a civil matter, dismissing the case.

On Thu 17 Oct, the court issued orders relating to costs, noting that Ramsay did not seek any order beyond the usual order as to costs, however the Guild submitted

that "an appropriate order would be that they pay 50% of the defendant's costs on the agreed ordinary basis".

The Guild claimed that it was apparent from the reasons for judgment that the issues around standing and abuse of process would have been determined in its favour.

In its submission relating to costs, Ramsay said it would not be possible to say that the issues upon which it did not succeed were clearly definable or severable.

The court noted that there was no evidence for the 50% reduction.

Supreme Court of NSW Equity Division Chief Judge, Justice Julie Ward, noted that "the question of apportionment is very much a matter of discretion for the trial judge...mathematical precision is illusory and the exercise of the discretion will often depend upon matters of impression and evaluation".



"Therefore, had I concluded that apportionment of costs as between particular issues was warranted in the present case, there might be much to be said for an approach of the kind suggested here by the plaintiff," Justice Ward said.

"That said...I do not consider that such an order is warranted and accordingly I make the following order, which will now dispose of the proceedings order that the plaintiffs pay the defendants' costs of the proceedings on the ordinary basis."

## Today's issue of *PD*

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news plus a full page from Iberisig.

## AFT joins C+C

Pharmacy Click Collect

AFT Pharmaceuticals have now connected their product websites to the Pharmacy Click and Collect platform.

This means customers wanting Maxigesic, Cromo-Fresh, NovaTears, HYLO-Fresh, HYLO-Forte, Vita-POS and Optisoothe products can order and pay online for fast pick up in participating pharmacies.

Pharmacy Click and Collect is free to join for all Guild members and pharmacies receive the full revenue from sales.

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## 2nd GMP Forum

THE TGA, in conjunction with the RACI, ARCS, PDA and ISPE, invites interested parties to attend the second annual Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Forum, GMP2, 21 Nov. See details at [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au).



## Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is



**Aaron Dentamaro**, Financial Controller, Razor Group.

### Manage your workforce with ease

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## Dispensary Corner

**WITH** Halloween around the corner US-base trade website, *PharmacyTimes*, has turned to Google's Frightgeist to work out what pharmacists should be dressing up as.

Horror author, Stephen King's Pennywise the Clown, from the novel turned movie, *IT*, was the top trending costume, with the website suggesting dressing up as the evil clown would offer community pharmacists a great opportunity to work on their sale techniques.

Google's number two ranked Halloween character was a witch, with the trade site calling it "the perfect costume for a hardworking pharmacist, mixing up potions behind the counter".

While the 31 Oct event has seldom been associated with good taste and class, the suggestion that pharmacists working in long-term care facilities should invest in a dinosaur costume seems a little inappropriate.

Rated number 10 on the Frightgeist, *PharmacyTimes* recommended pharmacy owners could go to Halloween parties dresses as unicorns, because "it takes some magical skills to run a pharmacy".



## NICE pharmacy standards

**COMMUNITY** pharmacies have a significant role to play in tackling health inequalities, referring patients, signposting and more, pharmacy organisations have said in response to a National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) consultation.

In a joint response to NICE's quality 'standard for the role of community pharmacies in promoting health and wellbeing,' the UK Company Chemists' Association (CCA) and the Association of Independent Multiple Pharmacies (AIM) identified five areas in which community pharmacy could improve care.

Specifically, the pharmacy groups identified addressing health inequalities, referrals and signposting, behavioural support, supporting efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and supporting people with mental health needs.

In terms of combatting AMR, the CCA and AIM said that community pharmacists could support patients to take their antibiotics properly and educate the public about the problem.

Pharmacists could also engage



with prescribers to ensure that antibiotic prescribing is appropriate, they suggested.

When it comes to supporting people with mental health needs, the organisations highlighted the role of pharmacies in supporting adherence, which remains a special need for patients with mental health.

Another national body, the National Pharmacy Association (NPA), also responded to the consultation, adding that social care was another area where community pharmacies could add value.

"Community pharmacists and their teams can identify those patients who require social care. Currently, there is an absence of formalised and non-formalised pathways into the system," the NPA argued.

Access the NICE project documents at [nice.org.uk](http://nice.org.uk).



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