

HEALTHED WEBCASTS



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FREE WEBCAST TOMORROW! TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 2019

Zone	Time
NSW, VIC, TAS, ACT, QLD	7:00 – 8:30pm
SA, NT	6:30 – 8:00pm
WA*	7:00 – 8:30pm

*Special delayed session for WA viewers



**ACCREDITED FOR PHARMACISTS
3 CREDITS (GROUP 2)**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE FREE WEBCAST

Breast Implants and Complications – Practical Advice for Health Professionals



Prof Rodney Cooter
Plastic Surgeon; President, International Confederation of Plastic Surgery Societies

Accreditation Number: A1908HED1*

With the current concerns about Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphomas occurring around textured implants, and a social media-driven entity known as Breast Implant Illness, breast implants have been the subject of major controversy. This presentation aims to provide practical advice about breast implants – including their risks and complications – and will also explain the origin of the controversies, and the registry efforts undertaken to generate better data about these high-risk implantable devices.

*This activity has been accredited for 1.5 hrs of Group 1 CPD (or 1.5 CPD credits) suitable for inclusion in an individual pharmacist's CPD plan which can be converted to 1.5 hrs of Group 2 CPD (or 3 CPD credits) upon successful completion of relevant assessment activities. All Australian pharmacists can convert their group one credits to group two credits by completing the assessment component of this activity on the Australian College of Pharmacy (ACP) website: <http://www.acp.edu.au>. The assessment will be accessible via the ACP website once registered as a complimentary member (non-member) for free.

Sleep Disturbances in Menopause – Practical Advice



Dr Linda Schachter
Sleep and Respiratory Specialist; Medical Director, Sleep Services Australia

Accreditation Number: A1908HED1*

This presentation will tackle the prevalence, causes and management of sleep disturbance over the menopause transition. Practical approaches to managing this condition will be discussed including the role of pharmacological and behavioral treatment strategies.

Vitamin D in Pregnancy – Supplement or Not?



Prof Aris Sifarikas
Paediatric Endocrinologist, Bone and Mineral Medicine, Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes, Perth Children's Hospital

Accreditation Number: A1908HED1*

Nutritional rickets is a preventable disorder that is associated with significant childhood morbidity and mortality. Primary health care physicians are in a unique position to lead in the prevention of nutritional rickets. Vitamin D, nutritional rickets, treatment and prevention will be highlighted in this presentation.



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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news plus a front cover wrap from Healthed.

Healthed CPD

PHARMACISTS can earn three Group 2 CPD tomorrow, by taking part in a free 90-minute webinar.

Experts will provide sessions on women's health covering, sleep disturbances in menopause, vitamin D in pregnancy, and breast implants and complications.

The Healthed sessions will take place from 7pm-8.30pm in NSW, Victoria, Tasmania, ACT and Queensland; from 6.30pm-8pm in South Australia and the Northern Territory; and a specially delayed 7pm-8.30pm showing for Western Australian pharmacists.

See the **cover wrap** for more details and to register.

Community pharmacy attacks continue

COMMUNITY pharmacists are being accused of price gouging, with a fresh report from *News Corp* claiming dispensing fees "paid to chemists to stick a label on drugs" were significantly increasing the cost of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines.

The article, published on Fri, noted pharmacists pay \$2.95 for atorvastatin, however general patients pay \$20.43 for the medicine on the PBS, after pharmacists receive fees for dispensing, administration and handling, recording the medicine on the patient's safety net record and a \$4.53 charge for general patients.

A spokesperson for the Pharmacy Guild of Australia described the article as "disappointing" adding the description of pharmacists' practice was inaccurate.

"This is an unfair misrepresentation of the skill, expertise, knowledge, training and responsibilities

of professional pharmacists as health professionals," the Guild spokesperson said.

"The statin atorvastatin referred to in the story is one of the medicines which has come down in price very significantly over the past 10 years.

"Concession cardholders and pensioners, to whom about 70% of PBS scripts are dispensed, pay no more than \$6.50 for PBS prescriptions.

"After they reach the safety net, concession cardholders and pensioners pay zero per script."

MEANWHILE, Australian Healthcare Alliance Chair, Jennifer Doggett, hit out at the Community Pharmacy Agreement (CPA), during a discussion on *ABC Radio Nightlife*, describing it as a "non-transparent" way of funding pharmacy-based health services.

"Decisions about where that funding goes should be based on consumer and community interests, not based on what's best



for pharmacists," she said.

Guild Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, rejected suggestions the GCPA was not transparent.

"The whole agreement is in a publicly available document, searchable via Google, and fully itemised," he said on Twitter.

"It's an \$18.9 billion agreement, of which \$15.5 billion are direct PBS subsidies for patients."

New FREE online CPD for all Australian Pharmacists

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Jenny Bergin, General Manager of the Australian College of Pharmacy.

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AMA goes "Wakefield"

CLAIMS by Australian Medical Association (AMA) President, Dr Tony Bartone, that pharmacists administered old vaccine stock to patients ahead of this years influenza season, are a "Wakefield statement", according to Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Interim CEO, Dr Shane Jackson.

Jackson warned the AMA chief's comments could have a long-lasting and negative impact on future flu vaccination uptake.

"This is a Wakefield statement by the AMA President," he said on Twitter, referring to controversial British researcher Andrew Wakefield whose erroneous claims about MMR vaccinations have impacted global immunisation rates.

"[It] only seems to undermine vaccination efforts by all health professionals," Jackson said.

PSA National President, Dr Chris Freeman, called on Bartone to retract his claims that pharmacists had used expired vaccines.



"Pharmacists take seriously their essential role in providing safe and appropriate medicines," he said.

"All pharmacist immunisers are trained to the same standard as other immunisers in Australia, and pharmacists have stringent quality controls that prevent the use of expired or superseded stock, including influenza vaccines.

"In 2018, more than one million Australians safely received their flu vaccinations from a pharmacist.

"Vaccination against preventable diseases is one of the most effective and safe health interventions available to Australians," he added.

Medlab optimistic as revenues rise

ASX-LISTED medical and life sciences company, Medlab, has reported a 46% increase in revenues for the 2019 financial year, to \$8.1 million.

In its annual report the company noted the roll out of its self-branded nutraceutical range to pharmacy banner groups in the Jun quarter had generated revenues in excess of \$3 million.

Medlab CEO, Dr Sean Hall, added the company "now has access to approximately 4,500 pharmacies (up from approximately 500) and the company is projecting a continued increase in revenue



over the short to mid-term".

Medlab also reported significant progress in its medical cannabis range, with a stage two trial of NanaBis at Royal North Shore Hospital close to completion, while its NanaCBD product is due to come online next month, the company said.

Pharmacist injured in armed robbery

A **SOUTH** Australian pharmacist has been treated for minor injuries after being hit on the head with a printer during an armed robbery.

The bandit initially threatened Amir Hanna with a knife while demanding cash and prescription medicines, during an evening raid on the Meylin St, Port Macdonnell store, before "striking him on the head with a printer", SA Police reported.

A 28-year-old man from Mount Gambier, was apprehended shortly after the 22 Aug robbery, when police stopped a Mazda



sedan on Glenelg Road.

The cash and prescription medications allegedly stolen from the pharmacy were also discovered in the car.

The man was charged with aggravated robbery.

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Boots EV fleet

BRITISH pharmacy group, Boots, is aiming to slash its carbon footprint by rolling out a fleet of electric vehicles to deliver prescriptions, in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.



Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is Dani Li,

Pharmacy and Marketing Manager, MedAdvisor.



Behind the screens at MedAdvisor (Part 1)

IT'S hard to describe what it's like at MedAdvisor HQ. Organised chaos is almost an understatement. For those who have visited, you would have sensed from the sticky notes stuck on every inch of wall, and brainstorming discussions around the coffee machine, that we do a lot of thinking (and not a lot of sleeping).

It started as a simple idea by MedAdvisor founder, Josh Swinnerton, to help his mum become more organised in managing and ordering her medications. With the help of a few friends in an office slightly bigger than a shoebox, they started bashing at their keyboards, writing the first lines of code that would ultimately become the backbone of MedAdvisor.

Six years (and thousands of coffees) later, this raw enthusiasm continues to drive the innovative spirit amongst our now 80+ team.

Although we are now a bigger team in a bigger office, we remain committed to our purpose of making medication more manageable. To achieve this, we know how important it is to listen to our network of pharmacies.

If you are interested in providing feedback as part of our pharmacist insights group, please email me at dani@medadvisor.com.au.

Over the next 4 weeks I will continue to share insights into what it's like, behind the screens at MedAdvisor. In the meantime, I invite you to connect with us through social media as we continue on this exciting journey together.

Dispensary Corner

NSW police have arrested a 34-year-old woman on suspicion of fraud after she attempted to take the idea of a repeat prescription to a new level.

When the woman confidently presented the script for OxyNorm at a pharmacy in the regional township of Parkes, sharp-eyed staff noticed it had previously been filled and alerted police.

Further enquiries revealed it was not even the second time the prescription had been presented to a dispensary, with the woman seemingly seeking to have the script filled at multiple other pharmacies, the Parkes *Champion-Post* reported.

SECURITY staff at London's Gatwick Airport are licking their wounds (and perhaps their fingers) after seizing 25 bags of suspicious white powder.

Initially billed as a "huge drugs bust," after testing the powder was ultimately found to be cake ingredients for a vegan bakery.

British Transport Police issued a tweet about the incident, saying the powder was "soon reunited with the owner who has promised officers and staff a slice of cake in return".

The traveller was transporting the ingredients for his employer, Purezza Vegan Pizzeria when he was stopped by officers.

The restaurant, which has stores in London and Brighton, tweeted "Thanks for going easy on us guys! A slab of cake all round is in order when you're next in Brighton".

CWH moral high ground: AMA

DISCOUNT pharmacy group, Chemist Warehouse, will "hold the moral authority" over the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), while the organisation continues to support the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the sale of "pseudo-science", according to Australian Medical Association (AMA) WA President, Dr Andrew Miller.

Commenting on a social media post by PSA Interim CEO, Dr Shane Jackson rejecting the AMA's push for GPs to be allowed to own pharmacies, Dr Miller hit out at the pharmacy ownership laws.

"Until you drop support for [the] Guild and for selling pseudo science you betray pharmacy grads and patients - the 90% [of] non-owners and Chemist Warehouse hold the moral authority," he said.

When challenged on the AMA's routine attacks on Chemist Warehouse's business model, Miller said, "I don't like their sales of nonsense... but in regard to calling out location and ownership rules it is ironic that Chemist Warehouse says nothing we disagree with".



Responding to Miller's tweets, PSA South Australia/Northern Territory Branch Vice President, Samuel Keitannpaa, questioned whether the two groups were genuinely aligned on pharmacy ownership.

"They [Chemist Warehouse] want deregulation of total number and ownership rules so they can use their loss-leading, high volume of sales focused strategy to force the closure of other stores and become a monopoly," he said.

"So their goals align with yours on this?"

Win with ULTRASENSITIVE

This week Pharmacy Daily and ecostore are giving readers the chance to win a prize pack of products from ecostore's ULTRASENSITIVE home and body range, valued at over \$50.

Convert your home to an asthma and allergy-aware space with ecostore's ULTRASENSITIVE home and body range, approved by Sensitive Choice for Australians with sensitivities. **CLICK HERE** for more.

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

What does the Sensitive Choice 'blue butterfly' logo help customers identify?

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