

## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a full page from Willach.

## Lorna Jane fined

**SPORTSWEAR** brand, Lorna Jane, has been handed three infringement notices totalling \$39,960 by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, for "unlawful advertising" of "anti-virus activewear" (PD 16 Jul).

Department of Health Deputy Secretary, Professor John Skerritt, warned such advertising "could have detrimental consequences for the Australian community" leading to a false sense of security about hygiene.

## CWH DAA error

**WEBSTERCARE** has sought to clarify a report initially published in the *Courier Mail*, regarding incorrectly packed medication aids at a Chemist Warehouse (CWH) store (PD 15 Jun).

The packs were erroneously described as Webster-paks.

# Australia vax 'wooden spoon' holder

**AUSTRALIA** holds the wooden spoon when it comes to delivering immunisations through pharmacies, and something needs to change, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Queensland Branch President, Trent Twomey believes.

Speaking at a sitting of the Queensland Parliamentary Health, Communities, Disability Services and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Twomey urged the State Government to authorise pharmacists to provide funded vaccines through the National Immunisation Program (NIP).

"Where we currently sit today Queensland has the largest scope of practice in terms of pharmacist-led vaccinations in the Commonwealth," he said.

"Alas there is a lot more that needs to be done to ensure Queenslanders have the greatest level of access to vaccinations, and that includes through their local community pharmacy.

"Whilst we may be leading the Australian Commonwealth, we're in fact the holders of the wooden spoon in the OECD.

"Being able to provide it is something that you can do under the pharmacist vaccination drug



therapy protocol, but whether or not a person can afford to get it is another measure of access.

"Cost is a barrier to access, and that is access to the Commonwealth Government's NIP.

"Currently Western Australia, Victoria, the ACT and Tasmania, all the residents of those states and territories have access to the Commonwealth-funded vaccinations through their local community pharmacy, however, Queenslanders do not.

"This is something that is completely within the remit and control of the Queensland Department of Health.

"It is something they could do

with a simple swipe of a pen."

During the committee hearing, Twomey said under the current drug therapy protocol governing pharmacist vaccination in the state, pharmacists should have the same scope of practice to administer vaccines as GPs or nurses.

He also took aim at representatives of the medical profession for their "self-serving" criticism of the Queensland pharmacist prescribing trial, which was dubbed "bargain-basement healthcare".

Twomey urged the committee to focus on patient-centric care and to support increased access to immunisations through pharmacy.

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## Dispensary Corner

**AFTER** months of COVID-19-induced lockdown, it appears optimistic British males are stocking up on erectile dysfunction medications as restrictions ease, to minimise disappointment.

Online pharmacy, Pharmica, reported a 70% rise in Viagra sales across the country, following the 13 Jun decision to implement measures designed to slow the spread of the virus.

Under the British "support bubble" legislation those who live alone or single parents will be allowed to visit one other household and stay the night if they so desire.

Yorkshiremen appear to be the most excited about getting the opportunity to have a "sleep-over" with sales of all erectile dysfunction medications surging by 222% in Leeds over the last month, Pharmica reports.

While quality use of medicines may come into question with such a spike in sales, Pharmica Superintendent Pharmacist, Carolina Gonclaves, said the online pharmacy was helping its customers "live happier, more fulfilled lives, and that's a nice thing for us to be able to do".



## Unease over injections

**MANY** new, recent and experienced pharmacists do not feel confident about administering injectable medicines, the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Chief Officer Health Practitioner Compliance, Licenses and Permits Medicines and Poisons Regulation, Stefan Tulloch, says.

Responding to comments made by Pharmacy Guild of Australia National Vice President, Trent Twomey, at a Queensland parliamentary hearing calling for pharmacists in the state to be authorised to administer injectable medications (*PD* 20 Jul), Tulloch noted Victorian legislation allows pharmacists to deliver injections in emergencies when approved by the prescriber.

"However, pharmacists must practice within their competency," he said.

"Most new, recent and experienced pharmacy graduates I have spoken with have advised that they do not feel confident administering medicines by injection



and have advised that they were not taught these practical skills during their undergraduate training.

"An exception are pharmacists who have completed an immuniser training course and developed competency administering vaccines.

"The immuniser course does not provide practical training or assessment for intravenous administration of medicines.

"I am not aware of any undergraduate or postgraduate pharmacy courses that provide practical training and competency assessment covering the main parenteral routes of administration, eg IM, SQ, IV routes."

## Win with John Plunkett's

Everyday this week *Pharmacy Daily* & John Plunkett's are giving away a prize pack including: 1 x John Plunkett's Superfade Accelerator Serum 20ml and 1 x Plunkett's Aloe Vera Facial Mask valued at **\$29.98**.

Specifically created for those who have mild pigmentation concerns, Superfade Accelerator Serum is formulated with pigmentation reducing technology, containing a powerful blend of BHA, AHAs and Ferulic Acid Cytovectors. Superfade Accelerator Serum exfoliates surface discolouration and lightens sun damaged skin. Overnight improvement from day 1 and clinical results after 28 days of daily usage.

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Q: How quickly are results seen?

To win, be the first person to send the correct answer to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

## Guild Update

### COVID-19 support line for older people

**THE** Federal Government has established an Older Persons COVID-19 Support Line for senior Australians, their families and carers to call if they are feeling lonely, distressed or confused, or need to talk to someone about caring for a vulnerable person during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The support line has been set up in recognition that older people are vulnerable to COVID-19 but are likely to be less connected to the internet.

Older Australians, their families, friends and carers can FREECALL 1800 171 866 (8.30am – 6pm Australian Eastern Standard Time weekdays) if they:

- would like to talk with someone about the COVID-19 restrictions and its impact on them
- feel lonely or worry about a loved one
- care for someone and need some information or someone to talk to
- need help or advice about changing the aged care services they are receiving
- need help to access new care services or essential supplies such as shopping
- have concern about themselves, a friend or family member living with Dementia
- would like to arrange a one-off or regular wellbeing check for themselves, or someone else.





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