

can be challenging, and over the past year we've all had to adapt to a new normal.

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1. Stough C, et al., Psychopharmacology (Berl) 2001;156(4):481-484. Funded by a Research Grant from Keenmind Pty. Ltd. 2. Stough C, et al., Phytother Res 2008;22(12):1629-634. 3. Benson S, et al., Phytother Res 2014;28(4):551-559. Funded by Soho Flordis International (SFI). 4. Downey LA, et al., Phytother Res 2013;27(9):1407-1413. Funded by Soho Flordis International (SFI).



Wed 24th March 2021



### Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, plus a cover page from Flordis, and a full page from Flo.

## Finding focus

**FLORDIS** integrative medicine is taking KeenMind across Australia in a new 'Calm mind, focused brain' campaign.

KeenMind will be promoted nationally in 667 office towers and Qantas domestic airports throughout Mar 21.

See the **front page** for the health professional version of the campaign.



# Out of the fire and into the floods

**FLOODS** across NSW are disrupting pharmacy services, with staff and stores being impacted by the once in 100-years event.

Storms over the last week have seen pharmacies cut off from supply lines and employees for the second time in 15 months, with areas scorched by bushfires little more than a year ago now inundated.

Capital Chemist Braidwood coowner, Bente Hart, told **Pharmacy Daily** that she has been flooded at home since Sat, unable to get to the store, which had been among the first affected by the NSW bushfires in Nov 2019 (**PD** 09 Dec 2019).

Hart who also works at the local hospital and aged care facility in the Southern Tablelands, said the floods had forced her to reschedule a Home Medicines Review (HMR) with one patient, while she had also had to cancel a Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) training session she had been due to host in Goulburn last night.

"Having lived out here for years

you get used to these things," she said.

"[But] we've seen flooding like this before."

With the weather clearing across the state today, and flood water levels receding significantly overnight, Hart said she was optimistic that she will be able to return to work at the hospital tomorrow.

However, Hart noted that a nearby bridge was still inundated, and would need to be cleared and assessed for damage.

**MEANWHILE,** pharmacy owner, John Chahoud, whose TerryWhite Chemmart pharmacy is located in South West Rocks, on the NSW Mid-North Coast has been cut-off from surrounding towns by the floods.

A spokesperson from TerryWhite told *Pharmacy Daily* that Chahoud had been working closely with local police and SES crews to maintain medicines supplies to patients in the area.

"His pharmacy is on call and has

Ex

opened at various hours of the night to supply crucial medications at their request," the spokesperson said

Chahoud has also been working with authorities to get dose administration aids, which were packed offsite in Port Macquarie, to the area, while as the town's sole pharmacist he has been asked to visit elderly patients who have been isolated from their carers due to the floods.



Moisturises and Softens Lips







Always read the label. Follow the directions for use. Vitamin and mineral supplements should not replace a balanced diet. Do not exceed the stated dose except on medical advice. If you have had a baby with a neural tube defect/spina bifida, seek specific medical advice.



Wed 24th March 2021

#### Pharmacy staff terrorised in gun attack

**RAPID** bursts of gunshots punctuated the sounds of music playing over the PA system at King Soopers supermarket and pharmacy in Boulder, Colorado, as staff hid from an active shooter on Mon.

Pharmacy technician, Maggie Montoya, told Colorado Public Radio News that she had been preparing COVID-19 vaccines when the first shots of an hourlong seige, which claimed the lives of at least 10 people, rang out in the store.

Montoya and a pharmacist colleague fled to a small room where the vaccines had been administered, locking themselves behind a metal door, while staff working in the in-store cafe hid behind cardboard signs.

"I was just imagining the person hopping [over] the counter and coming in the room," she said.

The 25-year-old told the news outlet that she called the emergency services as soon as the door had been secured before contacting her parents.

"I told them what was happening, [I] told them I loved them and that I needed to go, but I'd text them," she said.

"It was an initial rush [of gunfire], and then the store got really quiet.

"I honestly thought everybody

"I didn't hear anybody running." Montoya said she heard the shooter, named as 21-year-old Ahmad Al Aliwi Alissa, walking through the pharmacy section of the store, as police officers demanded he surrender.

The shooter was escorted out of the supermarket at 3.30pm local time, after a SWAT team swept the store, freeing terrorised staff.

## TGA issues *Artemisia* recall update

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has updated its recall notice for a number of medicines containing Artemisia annua and Artemisa absinthium, due to unacceptable risk in pregnancy (PD 09 Mar).

The recall now includes several batches of 10 product lines from eight brands.

"The TGA investigation identified Artemisia annua and Artemisia absinthium as being 'high risk' as these species contain higher levels of artemisinin," the TGA said.

"Sponsors of medicines containing Artemisia annua and Artemisia absinthium were required to provide information to the TGA to enable an assessment of the risk of these products.

"Subsequently, the TGA identified that the [recalled] products may expose consumers to unsafe levels of these ingredients during pregnancy when used as directed.

"As these products do not warn consumers against their use during pregnancy, they are being recalled.

"The TGA is also in the process of imposing conditions on all listed medicines containing Artemisia annua and Artemisia absinthium requiring warnings against use during pregnancy."

**CLICK HERE** for more.



# CWH hit with \$53k fine

**ONLINE** pharmacy retailer, CW IP Pty Ltd, which traded as the Chemist Warehouse (CWH) and My Chemist, has been issued with four infringement notices totalling \$53,280, over alleged unlawful advertising of Fatblaster Clinical

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) cancelled the complementary medicine's listing on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) on 20 Dec 2019

However, the TGA alleged that the company was advertising Fatblaster Clinical capsules on four pages of its CWH and My Chemist websites in Dec 2020, in breach of advertising rules.

"Therapeutic goods cancelled from the ARTG cannot be advertised to Australian consumers.

"Advertisements promoting the use or supply of cancelled therapeutic goods (including complementary medicines such as vitamins and herbal products) breach the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989," the TGA said.

"CW IP was one of 15 online retailers issued with cease and desist notices regarding the alleged unlawful advertising of the product."



Melbourne-based Epharmacy Group Pty Ltd, trading as ePharmacy, was also issued two infringement notices totalling \$26,640, over ads for Fatblaster Clinical capsules, which appeared on two pages of the online retailer's website.

"Advertisers are responsible for ensuring their therapeutic goods advertising is compliant with the Act," the TGA said.

"The regulatory scheme is critical to the safety of Australian consumers and the TGA investigates suspected unlawful activity in relation to therapeutic goods.

"The TGA reminds online advertisers that sanctions and penalties can apply if they advertise therapeutic goods in a way that does not comply with Australia's advertising laws.

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## Dispensary Corner

WITH extended hours of "screen time" increasingly seen as a health risk, a US company is offering \$2,400 to a volunteer who is able to swear off their devices for a full 24 hours.

The day-long Digital Detox Challenge looks to garner significant publicity for its promoter, Reviews.org, which will select a lucky challenger from among those who apply.

"We're looking for someone who is definitely into tech but willing to challenge themselves," the company said.

"If this seems too easy, you're probably not the one who needs the detox, so you should refer your phone-addicted friends and family instead."

Prospective participants can apply online by completing a series of questions, with the overall winner set to win the official title of "2021 Digital Detox Challenger".

It's not just smartphones the winner must disconnect from all personal technology including TV, gaming consoles, computers, smartwatches and even robot vacuums.

However "we're not monsters - you can still use a microwave to heat up a TV dinner," the company noted.

The challenger will receive a safe in which to store all their technology for 24 hours, and a US\$200 gift card to compile a tech-less survival kit, with suggested inclusions of a typewriter, board games, pen and paper and "an abacus to replace your phone's calculator". Sign me up at reviews.org!

# Owen, Seeto step up for Qld Guild

FORMER Australasian College of Pharmacy President, Chris Owen, has been named as Pharmacy Guild of Australia Queensland Branch Acting President, following Trent Twomey's appointment as National President.

The Sunshine State's recently elected Alternative National Councillor, Amanda Seeto, has been appointed as Acting Branch Vice President, and will also serve as an Acting National Councillor.

Announcing the reshuffle within the Queensland Branch's leadership, National President, Twomey, said he had worked closely with Owen and Seeto in recent years and he was confident "they will both pour everything they have into these new roles, just as they have done in the past".

"I have every confidence that they will continue to focus on our members, supporting them to work to their full scope of practice, and working to embed community pharmacy as a key element in Queensland's primary health infrastructure," Twomey said.

"Owen sits on the National Council Board and has held the position of Vice President of the



Queensland Branch of the Guild since 2017.

"In 2020 he was awarded the Queensland Branch's President's Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to community pharmacy and is also the immediate Past President of the Australasian College of Pharmacy.

"Amanda Seeto is a strong and passionate leader and who has been working as a community pharmacist since 1998.

"She is a managing partner and Practice Support Pharmacist

with the Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse Group and enjoys mentoring young pharmacists.

"Amanda has served two terms on the Queensland Branch Committee and has successfully advocated for community pharmacy's role in a patientcentric health system."

Twomey noted that the Australian Electoral Commission will conduct a by-election to fill the Branch Presidency in the coming months, with Owen and Seeto continuing in their acting roles until the conclusion of that process.

# CSL ahead of COVAX schedule

CSL has released 830,000 Australian-made doses of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine ahead of initial scheduling.

The company reported that a further 2.5 million doses of the vaccine are in cold storage undergoing the final stages of testing, approval and release, and will be dispatched soon.

# Win with Jacaru

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Jacaru are giving away a Jacaru 1863 Classic White Hat worth RRP \$34.99

The Jacaru 1863 Classic White Hat is a unisex style that is perfect for the Polo, the Races or anywhere else you want to look even more stylish. For more information, click **HERE**.

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Q: Name One Feature of the Jacaru Classic White Unisex Hat?

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