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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of pharmacy news, plus a full page from **G and M Cosmetics** and a fact sheet from **GS1**.

Native botanicals

G AND M Cosmetics' Australian Creams are formulated with a quality selection of native botanicals that can nourish and repair skin. The manufacturer stated that the range's active ingredients are quickly absorbed by the skin. See more on **page three**.

2D barcodes use

GS1 has a fact sheet for Nov which explains the advantages of choosing camera-based scanning technology in-store as it reads 2D barcodes that store a lot of useful data. See more on the **back page**.

FIP hears first-hand view

A **PARKES** pharmacist is shining a spotlight on the importance of community pharmacy and its role in regional and remote areas.

Lochie Pettiford, the owner and Pharmacist in Charge of Parkes Pharmacy, represented Life Pharmacy Group (LPG) at the 81st FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

More than 2,000 global leaders, from 90 countries, attended the FIP Congress in Brisbane which focused on pharmacy building a sustainable future for healthcare.

Pettiford has a special interest in pharmacy recruitment in regional and remote areas and said his participation in the FIP Congress highlights LPG's dedication to delivering the highest quality pharmaceutical care to the local communities.

"I spoke at the FIP World Congress regarding community pharmacy remuneration and it was a great opportunity to share with attendees from all over the world



how great community pharmacy is in Australia," Pettiford said.

"There can be a lot of negatives, and external noise, surrounding the pharmacy industry at times, so I feel it is very important to show students and early career pharmacists, that community pharmacy is a great career choice - particularly in a rural area.

"I enjoy the constant interaction with the community as a pharmacist," he remarked.

"It is rare to have a job where you can operate as a business while also genuinely helping people," Pettiford concluded. *JG*

BioCeuticals recall

FIT-BIOCEUTICALS Pty Ltd is recalling two batches of BioCeuticals Zinc Drops due to separation of the zinc from the liquid in the product resulting in an inconsistent dose being delivered, TGA has reported.

If pharmacy customers have purchased BioCeuticals Zinc Drops batch numbers 004766 or 004807, they are advised not to use it.

The TGA also added that customers can return the product to the place of purchase for a refund.

The product has been distributed nationally.



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Dispensary Corner

A MAN in South Korea was fatally crushed by an industrial robot that mistakenly identified him as a box of vegetables, resulting in severe head and chest injuries.

Police in the southern county of Goseong said the man died after being crushed on Tue evening after he was snatched and pressed against a conveyor belt by the malfunctioning machine's robotic arms, *Bulletin-Review* has reported.

The machine that caused the man's death was one of two pick-and-place robots used at the facility, which packages bell peppers and other vegetables exported to other Asian countries, police added.

Such machines are common in South Korea's agricultural communities, which are struggling with a declining and ageing workforce.

"It wasn't an advanced, artificial intelligence-powered robot, but a machine that simply picks up boxes and puts them on pallets," said Kang Jin-gi, head of the investigations dept at Gosong Police Station.

South Korea has had other accidents involving industrial robots in recent years.

Last year, a robot installed near a conveyor belt fatally crushed a worker at a milk factory in Pyeongtaek.

Police are assessing if Tue's accident was due to the robot's sensors designed to identify boxes, as security footage showed the man had moved near the robot with a box in his hands, triggering the response.

Implement ADHD report

THE Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) is now calling on the Federal Govt to implement the recommendations of the report into assessment and support services for people with Attention-Deficient/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The final report, which outlines 15 recommendations, included three that were supported by written submission and evidence provided by SHPA representatives Natalie Tasker (pictured) and Jerry Yik.

As the only pharmacy organisation to contribute to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee inquiry, SHPA stated it is keen to see the implementation of recommendations that include broadening PBS criteria for ADHD medicines access.

Further, ensuring that Australian patients receive timely assessment and support services through expanding the scope of practice for healthcare professionals.

And, expediting the development of uniform prescribing rules to ensure consistency between states and territories.

Tasker, a member of the SHPA Paediatrics and Neonatology Leadership Committee, said she



was especially proud to contribute to the proceedings and see hospital pharmacy recommendations accepted in the final report.

Tasker explained that it is often challenging for patients and families to navigate the use of stimulant therapy which is made "unnecessarily complex by different jurisdictional requirements," depending on the state or territory where the patient is receiving treatment and where their prescription is dispensed.

"As pharmacists, we have long advocated for national consistency in prescribing rules so we can spend more time doing clinically meaningful work and less time dealing with paperwork," she said. JG

Shelve the bill

THE Australian Medical Association stated that a proposed bill to legalise cannabis in Australia for recreational use must be shelved to avoid more people using the drug and suffering health conditions.

In a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee examining the Bill, the association says there are many risks posed by recreational cannabis.

President Steve Robson said any increase in cannabis use's negative health impacts could also lead to ill health for more people and further impact on the health system.

"We know from a recent systematic review that there was an increase in acute cannabis poisoning post-legalisation in the US, Canada, and Thailand.

The submission also stated that while cannabis use should not be legalised, the current approach to cannabis regulation could be improved.

"Cannabis use should be treated as a health issue, not a criminal issue," he added.

Wood as PC Chair

AFTER almost a decade at the Grattan Institute, and three and half years as its CEO, Danielle Wood has resigned only to start a new role as Chair of the Productivity Commission (PC) from today.

Wood continues to support Grattan as a donor as she believes in the "importance of an independent voice in policy debates," and will continue to raise funds **HERE**.

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System recommendations for Australian Pharmacy Camera-based scanners and standards capability

The use of '2D' barcodes has been increasing organically within healthcare for many years, with a significant focus on traceability and batch management driving this change. With the introduction of new regulations by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), an increased focus on product authentication and the greater focus on inventory management and supply chain due to shortages increased 2D barcodes are appearing on prescription and OTC products. Being sure that all systems in pharmacies can handle these

barcodes is a must, this means there is a need to look at scanning equipment and systems to ensure that can manage the barcodes and the data they hold.

Choosing camera-based scanning technology and ensuring that solutions or applications can read data from the 2D barcodes and can parse the data string following global data standards should now be included in the digital strategies across healthcare.

What's in the barcode?



(01) 0 9312345 531370
(17) 201231
(10) ABCDEF123456
(21) 10022337269ABCDEF

(01)09312345531370

(01) The Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) formerly the EAN. A 14-digit system capability is a must to be able to process this correctly

(17)201231

(17) The Expiry Date in a 6 digit machine readable format of YYMMDD. It can be presented within a system or for staff in a more human friendly field

(10)ABCDEF123456

(10) The Batch/Lot Number of up to 20 Alpha Numeric characters

(21)10022337269ABCDEF

(21) The Serial Number of up to 20 Alpha Numeric characters

The barcode is a GS1 DataMatrix. Its format and the data within it are all based on standards used globally

What do your technology solutions need?

All Inventory, Dispensing and Point of Sale systems need to be able to interpret the data from these barcodes. You can check your systems, report issues and source advice by [visiting here](#)

Need Advice?

E healthcareteam@gs1au.org T 1300 227 263

Do you have camera-based scanners?

Whilst traditionally we have had linear barcodes being used and these only needed linear scanners, these new barcodes need camera-based, imaging scanners. Though a camera or Charged Coupled Device (CCD) based scanner can still read a linear code for traditional barcodes unfortunately the reverse is not true, therefore with any upgrades to scanners, a change to camera-based scanners is recommended.