

Guild updates RFT

THE Pharmacy Guild has issued a revised Request for Tender for one of the projects being funded under the Fourth Agreement.

The 'Improving Medication Compliance' RFT now gives a reference to the Guild's new MedsIndex measurement system, and the R&D steering committee has also advised that potential respondents that projects focusing on cardiovascular healthcare aren't likely to be funded, to prevent possible duplication with other projects.

The new closing date for the RFT is now 19 May 08.

DES TGA advice

THE TGA has issued further advice for women exposed to diethylstilboestrol (DES), a synthetic oestrogen used between 1940 and the early 1970s to prevent miscarriage.

Exposure in the womb to DES has been shown to be associated with a higher risk of cancer, with women aged over 40 who were exposed advised to have an annual mammogram.

PSA lectures

PSA Qld has changed the date for its 'Dental Topics in Pharmacy' lecture to 06 May, and it will be held at the General Practice Cairns Boardroom, covering dental first aid; oral mucosa injuries and infections; preventative medicine; and paediatric issues.

On the same day, a lecture on weight loss and obesity management will be held at the Uni of Queensland, Brisbane.

Speakers Nicola Moore and Neil Holt will explain the benefits and pitfalls of ketosis, thermogenesis and VLCDs; both functions are free of charge for PSA members.

Coming heparin shortage?

FIVE batches of the Sanofi-Aventis drug, Clexane (enoxaparin) were recalled last night by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

The blood-thinning medication has caused a contamination scare in the US, where it has been linked to several deaths.

"To date, in Australia, there have been no reports of adverse events of the type reported in the US associated with heparin products," TGA said in a statement.

"Nevertheless, the TGA has decided to quarantine the affected batches of Clexane so no patients are put at undue risk at this time."

The US Food and Drug Administration investigated hundreds of cases of adverse reactions to heparin use, including 81 deaths which involved related symptoms, but no causal link has been found.

Mixed results for prostate cancer

COCHRANE researchers have found both good and bad results in their examination of the effect of certain drugs on prostate cancer.

Compared to placebo, 5-alpha-reductase-inhibitors (5-ARIs) can reduce a man's chance of being diagnosed with prostate cancer from around 5-9% to around 4-6% (during up to seven years of treatment).

But when cancer was detected, it was more likely to be of a more dangerous, high-grade cancer.

This may be because the drug alters the way tumour cells grow, researchers suggested.

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Flu shot for ageing ambassador

AUSTRALIA'S first Ambassador for Ageing, Noeline Brown, will today undertake one of her first official duties by having an influenza injection.

Ms Brown, 69, will be accompanied by the Minister for Ageing, Justine Elliot and Minister for Infrastructure Anthony Albanese on a visit to the Petersham Medical Surgery.

New generics code

HEALTH minister Nicola Roxon has expressed support for industry-wide standards on drug company hospitality.

The current voluntary code doesn't apply to generics makers who aren't members of Medicines Australia, which has expressed concern about the Sigma Mediterranean cruise last Oct attended by 300 pharmacists.

CBA targets health

THE Commonwealth Bank has launched a new specialist division aiming at the health care industry, including pharmacists.

The Healthcare Banking division "is a team of dedicated Healthcare specialists, who share in-depth understanding of the industry and its unique requirements," the bank said.

Services available will include complete, integrated banking and financial solutions ranging from asset finance, the bank's MediClear payment solution, specialised insurance and merger/acquisitions finance.

The Healthcare Banking teams of specially trained staffers have been set up in Vic and NSW at this stage, with plans for further expansion.

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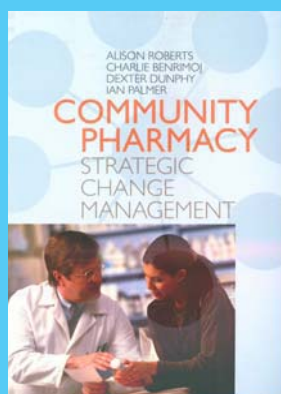
Community Pharmacy: Strategic Change Management has hit the book shelves!

The book, which covers the essential trends and issues in successful pharmacy management for today and the future has been written by S.I. (Charlie) Benrimoj, Professor of Pharmacy Practice at the University of Sydney; Alison Roberts, a research fellow in the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney; Dexter Dunphy, Distinguished Professor and Ian Palmer, Associate Dean (Research) and Professor of Management at the Faculty of Business, University of Technology, Sydney.

The book will help community pharmacists and pharmacy owners adapt to an increasingly competitive retail environment by providing industry-specific tools for change.

Key features include authentic pharmacy case studies, development by world leading authorities utilising the latest research and balanced coverage with theoretical insights and practical focus.

The book is highly suitable for pharmacy students, providing the knowledge and skills for best practice in community pharmacy - [click here to view a list of bookstores stocking the publication.](#)



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Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy! Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Flower power

This display box will capture any customer's eye. Maddigan Body Care's Earth Garden range includes a vegetable soap, a floral-scented Hand and Body Lotion, and a Fragranced Room Spray to quickly spritz around the house before guests arrive.

RRP: \$7.95

Stockist: Maddigan Body Care

Tel: 1300 650 981



Scented packaging

Alien Eau Luminescente, from Thierry Mugler's Alien Universe, harnesses the powers of the orange topaz stone. A special feature is the open olfactive zone positioned in the centre of the box which invites you to smell the fragrance's blend of mandarin and tiare flowers directly on the packaging.

RRP: \$95.00

Stockist: Trimex

Tel: (02) 9315 9483

Beauty sleep

Elizabeth Arden's new Prevage Anti-Aging Night Cream infuses the skin and enhances its natural repair process. Time-released idebenone, mega complex-A and a blend of high-performance moisturisers work while you sleep.

RRP: \$200 (50ml)

Stockist: Elizabeth Arden

Tel: 1800 015 300



Swiss skincare

Declaré Age Control Derma Lift Crème, for normal to dry skin, provides anti-wrinkle care in a rich formula to regenerate the skin's own support structure and 'cushion out' from the inside resulting in a visibly younger, smoother appearance.

RRP: \$69.95

Stockist: Frostbland

Tel: (02) 8709 8800



Fish oil for 50+

Efalex Active 50+ is the first fish oil supplement specifically developed for people aged over 50 to maintain healthy brain function and performance. It contains ingredients known for their beneficial role in maintaining working memory and brain performance, such as fish oils, phosphatidylserine, ginkgo biloba, vitamin B12 and folic acid.

RRP: \$59.95

Stockist: Planet Health.

Tel: 1800 001 055



DISPENSARY CORNER

DESIGNER condoms are coming down under!

Manix Condoms are set to penetrate the Australian market for the first time in July.

The hot new brand is claimed to feature the "most innovative technology and slick design" on the international market.

Packaged in an easy-open disc, each condom is guaranteed to unroll the right way every time.

AND speaking of condoms...

A South African adventure nut has bungee jumped 30m using a bungee cord made from condoms.

Carl Dionisio said the condom jump was the first of its kind, and came after a year of preparation including using more than 18500 condoms to make the cord.

Dionisio performed the feat at The Wave House, a Durban family entertainment venue.

FOLLOWING hard on the heels of last weeks story about an overweight cat, here's a tale about how a fat hedgehog lost almost a quarter of his own body weight following a hard diet.

The animal weighed 2.2kg when Wildlife Aid Centre staff in England found him in a volunteer's garden.

He'd put on the fat eating bird food, but is now on a strict diet of cat food once a day without any bread snacks.

He now weighs in at 1.7kg.



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