

No adverse events from Clexane

SANOFI-AVENTIS has pointed out that the withdrawal of Clexane (enoxaparin) by the TGA (PD yesterday) is purely precautionary, with no connection to deaths linked to other heparin products in the US.

"None of the events are involving Clexane," a Sanofi spokesperson told PD yesterday.

A US probe has linked contamination originating in China to the incidents.

Two pages today

TODAY'S *Pharmacy Daily* includes a full page ad for the upcoming Healthcare in Pharmacy Conference, 23-25 May at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

The next issue will be published Mon 28 Apr, due to the Anzac Day public holiday tomorrow.



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RGH Pharmacy

Due to popular demand the RGH Pharmacy Anticoagulation Handbook is now available to the pharmacy industry across Australia.

The handbook gives patients important information about warfarin treatment and has a chart to record INR results.

Repatriation General Hospital is making it available for purchase for \$2.80 per booklet, reduced to \$2.40 for PSA and SHPA members.

More information



Pharmacy Alliance rep card

SUPPLIERS wanting to visit one of the 123 Pharmacy Alliance stores across Australia will now need a special card, which has been introduced as a new "uniform and efficient way of dealing with suppliers."

The company described the move as an Australian first and a supply chain revolution.

When a rep enters a store they're asked to present their credit-card sized 'Friends of Pharmacy Alliance' card which is scanned at the point of sale.

"This allows both stores and suppliers to have full visibility of contracts, making communications simpler, smoother and easier, for all," said Pharmacy Alliance marketing mgr Matt Archdall.

He said stores are instructed

Fresh ADHD fears

A US study has found 19 children who were receiving treatment for ADHD died suddenly between 1999 and 2004, raising fresh fears over the stimulant drugs prescribed for the disorder.

According to the US Food and Drug Administration, apart from the 19 children who died, another 26 had cardiovascular events such as strokes, cardiac arrests and heart palpitations.

The American Heart Association has recommended that children should first undergo cardiac evaluation before taking the drugs.

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not to place orders with non-endorsed suppliers, so anyone wanting to have a card should contact Pharmacy Alliance head office to register.

"As all supplier contracts are negotiated and managed through Head Office, this is one less thing stores have to worry about, allowing them to concentrate on their customers," he said.

More information on the program on 1800 084 995.

Turkish delight

HAMILTON Laboratories, a family-owned pharmaceutical company in Adelaide, has signed an opening order of \$100,000 to supply products to Turkey.

The deal has been signed with Turkish distributor Lotis Pharma, which has purchased Hamilton sunscreens, skin treatments, ear, nose and throat products and Stingose.

Hamilton Labs joint managing director Michael Blake said Turkish consumption of pharmaceuticals totals more than A\$3b a year.

The company is currently exporting to more than 25 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

Adelaide hold-up

POLICE are investigating the armed robbery of an Adelaide pharmacy which was held up just before 8pm last night.

Two men with a knife and iron bar threatened staff at the Hampstead Gardens pharmacy, and they escaped with cash in a stolen car which was later found burnt out nearby.

3-in-1 osteoporosis treatment

ACTONEL Combi D will be listed next month on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

The 3-in-1 combination treatment for osteoporosis is the first and only single-pack product to include an anti-osteoporosis agent (once-a-week Actonel [risedronate, 35mg]) with the recommended daily doses of calcium and vitamin D (1000mg of elemental calcium and 880IU of cholecalciferol).

The calendar pack is designed to ensure patients receive adequate calcium and vitamin D.



DISPENSARY CORNER

A NEW concept in footwear is being said to have major health benefits for childrens' rapidly growing feet.

So-called 'Inchworm shoes' have an adjustment button which allows them to extend by one full shoe size.

The US manufacturer says they can actually grow "with your child's feet," meaning cramped toes are a thing of the past.

The company said they're also ideal for the many kids who have one foot bigger than the other.

FAST food outlet Burger King in the UK has announced plans to serve up the world's most expensive cheeseburger.

It's probably still full of fat and cholesterol, but will be marketed as a gourmet treat, made with the finest Japanese Kobe beef and topped with expensive fois gras pate and a rare blue cheese.

The London *Sun* said selected branches will have it available for £85 (about A\$200) from next month, with marketing experts saying the stunt will promote a "gap in perception" between Burger King and McDonalds.

McDonald's cheeseburgers cost just 99 pence.

TRADITIONAL medicine is causing a major panic in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa where police have arrested 13 "sorcerers" accused of using black magic to steal or shrink men's penises.

Rumours of penis theft began circulating last week, with talk-back radio shows fuelling what's become mass hysteria.

Victims claim the witch-doctors just touched them to make their genitals shrink or disappear, and then demanded cash in return for a cure.

The police chief in the capital, Kinshasa, said "I'm tempted to say it's one huge joke."

"But when you try to tell the victims that their penises are still there, they tell you that it's become tiny or that they've become impotent."

"To that I tell them, 'How do you know if you haven't gone home and tried it?'" he said.

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