

Two pages today

PHARMACY DAILY today includes a full page of news and a flyer promoting the Pharmacy Women's Congress being held in Melbourne from 29-31 Aug.

Naked Glow winner

THANKS to everyone who entered last week's Naked Glow competition.

Congratulations to Luisa Cardamone Brown of The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (VIC), who was the first PD reader on Fri to tell us that the essence in *The Lift* is rosewater.

Luisa will be sent *The Lift* daytime moisture treatment, courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Death risk increased

PEOPLE who suffer from sleep apnea have an increased risk of dying prematurely, according to recent Australian research.

The study, conducted by the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, found obstructive sleep apnea was associated with 33 per cent mortality over 14 years, compared to 7.7 per cent mortality in unaffected people.

Dr Nathaniel Marshall said because sleep apnea was strongly associated with obesity and its related diseases, it was difficult to produce clear evidence the increased risk was a result of OSA.

"That evidence is now available and shows that moderate to severe sleep apnea is associated with about five times the risk of dying," he said.


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New drugs subsidised

THE Federal Government has announced a range of new drugs it will subsidise through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

The August listings on the PBS include drugs for the treatment of lung cancer, leukaemia, Crohn's disease, type-2 diabetes, epilepsy and four rare cancerous diseases.

The newly listed drugs include:

- Erlotinib as hydrochloride (Tarceva) will treat patients with nonsmall cell lung cancer.
- Fludarabine phosphate (Fludara) will help patients with advanced or progressive B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukaemia.

Vitamin shock

HEAVY use of vitamin B6 has triggered "electric shocks" in the feet and legs of two women, prompting the Therapeutic Goods Administration to consider increasing the warnings on packets to include these new risks.

The TGA's adverse drug reactions bulletin reported a 39-year-old female taking 50mg was probably exceeding the recommended upper daily dosage (50mg) as she was also taking a multivitamin containing vitamin B6.

Another woman, aged 69, developed giddiness and a wide-based gait after taking 600mg daily dose for four years.

The TGA said people might be inadvertently overdosing by doubling up a single B6 vitamin product with multivitamins.

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- Nilotinib (Tasigna) capsules, for the treatment of chronic or accelerated phase Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukaemia.
- Adalimumab (Humira), to treat the symptoms of moderate to severe Crohn disease.
- Sitagliptin (Januvia) is a new oral medicine that assists in improving glycaemic control in patients with type-2 diabetes mellitus as an adjunct to diet and exercise, and must be taken with metformin or a sulfonylurea.
- Levetiracetam (Keppra), in liquid form, for the treatment of partial epileptic seizures.
- An extension to the listing of imatinib (Glivec®) tablets will permit the treatment of patients with four types of rare, potentially cancerous diseases including dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans, hypereosinophilic syndrome/chronic eosinophilic leukaemia, myelodysplastic syndromes/myeloproliferative diseases and aggressive systemic mastocytosis.

Nasal spray warning

DESMOPRESSIN, a nasal spray to stop bed-wetting, has caused seizures in 17 people including seven children.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has received 68 reports of adverse reactions linked to the drug, usually in people using the nasal spray.



DISPENSARY CORNER

PERHAPS casinos should start supplying deodorant.

A US man has taken a claim to the US Casino Control Commission after he was kicked out of an Atlantic City gambling establishment because he smelt too bad after 17 hours sitting at a poker machine.

Michael Wax, who weighs 200kg, says he knows he stank and understands why other patrons complained about his body odour, but claims the Borgata Casino & Spa shouldn't have pointed out the stench in front of other gamblers.

A BRITISH survey has found that foot spas are the world's most useless gadget.

Consumer publication Which? asked consumers which technological items had most changed their life, with top rated items including mobile phones, laptops and MP3 players.

The least useful gadget was the foot spa, only just behind bread makers and home popcorn machines.

ARTHRITIS doesn't appear to be a problem for 73-year-old British pensioner Eric Smith.

He's just spent 537 hours over six months putting together the world's biggest jigsaw puzzle.

The puzzle, with 24,000 pieces, measures 4m x 2m, and apparently features a delightful picture of dolphins and boats.

Completing the puzzle required rearrangement of furniture, and in the final stages the giant puzzle had to be moved into Smith's garage.

WIN A COPY OF 'THE OTHER WOMEN'S MOVEMENT'

EACH day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving you the chance to win a copy of Dr Michael Levitt's book 'The Other Women's Movement'.

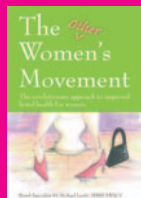
The book is a must read for women who suffer with problems associated with sluggish bowels and disordered rectal evacuation.

Bowel specialist Dr Michael Levitt explodes the myths of good health and shows by example how to overcome problems that can affect women's life and health.

To enter, email your answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

When an individual becomes troubled by the fact that their bowel actions are not frequent enough or are too difficult to expel, this is referred to as

The prize will be awarded to the first correct response.
Hint! Visit Dr Levitt's websites - www.michaellevitt.com.au and www.colocappharma.com



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Just some of our speakers.....

Dr Sally Cockburn (aka Dr Feelgood)
MC and Speaker

Hon. Maxine Morand
Victorian Minister for Women's Affairs and
Children and Early Childhood Development

Jennifer Jefferies, 7 Steps to Sanity
Icebreaker Networking – A How to Guide

Gillian Franklin, Heat Group
The Heat Group Story

Kim Sadler, Saccasan Bailey
Take Control of Your Business – The Power of Numbers



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