

Guild Update

This week's update
from the Guild

Which amount
would you prefer?
\$3500 or \$900?

It's a big difference -
\$3,500 compared to \$900.

This is what you could
be paid if you complete
the registration process to
participate in Phase 2 of
the Dose Administration
Aids (DAA) and Patient
Medication Profile (PMP)
programs.

The amount depends on
whether you have
registered and submitted
your data in time.

31 July 2009 is the
crucial date.

Earlybird registration
and data payments
(before 31 July 2009):

- \$2,250 (+ GST) for DAA
and
 - \$1,250 (+ GST) for PMP.
- Total: \$3,500 (+GST)

Late registration and data
payments (after 31 July
2009):

- \$500 (+ GST) for DAA,
and
 - \$400 (+ GST) for PMP.
- Total \$900 (+ GST).

So register and submit
your data at

www.health.gov.au/daapmp
by **31 July 2009** and don't
miss out!



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

Pharmacy endorses report

PEAK pharmacy bodies have welcomed the release of the *Healthier Future for All Australians* report from the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission (**PD** yesterday), with both the PSA and the Guild saying the proposals paved the way for a bigger role for the profession in the health system.

Guild President Kos Slavos told **PD** he was also pleased at the high priority given to e-prescribing in the report, saying this was an endorsement of the extensive work undertaken by the Guild in this area.

"We can't always be waiting for governments to come up with answers," he said, with the Guild-endorsed eRx Exchange already a viable framework to greatly improve efficiency and provide data to help develop better health policy.

Slavos said the report also showed a stark contrast between high levels of service provided in pharmacy in contrast to other parts of the health system.

"We often take it for granted that anyone across Australia can access medications at any pharmacy," he said, adding that the document hadn't found any structural problems with the PBS or within community pharmacy - in contrast to proposals to improve hospital and GP waiting periods.

He said pharmacists were ready

Pharmspace finishing

THE Pharmspace virtual pharmacy expo wraps up this Fri 31 Jul, so you only have four more days to visit the online trade show.

Attendees who call in at the *Pharmacy Daily* 'booth' can enter to win a delicious Darrell Lea chocolate hamper, so don't miss out - www.pharmspace.com.au.

to take on an expanded role in the health system, with 1400 new graduates each year meaning there would be significant extra capacity.

"Many of the report's findings support the Guild's strong view that the linkages to community pharmacy can be enhanced to help our health system cope with chronic disease and an ageing population.

"As the name suggests, community pharmacies are part of the community, and they stand ready to play a bigger role in delivering successful healthcare results."

The PSA also strongly endorsed the preventive health focus of the report, with Vice-President Shane Jackson saying the Pharmacy Self Care program was a model for the successful implementation of preventive health programs.

"The infrastructure is already in place and PSA welcomes the opportunity to consult with the Government to ensure its preventive health focus is efficient and effective," he said.

Jackson also stressed that pharmacists were pivotal to the development of multidisciplinary health care teams emphasised by the report "because of their skills and the fact they are the most accessible health-care professionals."

US trans fat attack

MARGARINE maker Unilever has announced that it will remove all partially hydrogenated oils, also known as artificial trans fats, from its margarine brands in the USA.

Trans fats have received lots of negative publicity because of their high contribution to heart disease.

Affected brands include 'I Can't Believe It's Not Butter' and 'Shedd's Spread Country Crock'.

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Three pages today

TODAY'S Pharmacy Daily has two pages packed with news as well as a full page from API, promoting its Pharmacy Best Buys program.

The monthly promotion is offering a Sep major prize of a Holden Cruze valued at over \$24,000 along with five state-based consolation prizes of Tom Tom GPS units, to help attract customers to your pharmacy.

See page 3 for more details.

Relenza stock plan

GLAXOSMITHKLINE has confirmed that it's developing a proposal that will "facilitate holding stock of Relenza in the pharmacy, whilst minimising financial impact on pharmacists."

Yesterday the Guild and GSK released a joint letter confirming that there are adequate stocks of Relenza Rotadisk (zanamivir for inhalation) at wholesalers.

"It is important...that patients presenting to you with a Relenza prescription receive their medication in a timely manner," the letter said, with influenza treatment with Relenza most effective if it occurs within 48 hours of onset of symptoms.

GSK representatives will be visiting pharmacies to distribute instruction sheets and demonstrate use of the Relenza Diskhaler.

The company said the new Relenza stocking proposal would be finalised in the coming days, with the package then becoming available via wholesalers.

Relenza Rotadisk is an antiviral treatment for influenza which is not currently listed on the PBS.

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Pharmacy Women's Congress

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This weekend getaway could change your life
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Register now at www.pharmacywomenscongress.com.au

For more information contact Kim Thorne on 07 3831 3788
or email womenscongress2009@guild.org.au



The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia

QCPP refreshers

THE Quality Care Pharmacy Program has confirmed that from 01 Apr 2010 pharmacy staff must be able to demonstrate that they have completed three hours of *Pharmacy Medicines* and *Pharmacist Only Medicines* training each year.

The ongoing training requirement is being introduced under QCPP Standard 2 as a supplement to the already mandated 'Support the Sale of Pharmacy Medicines and Pharmacist Only Medicines' course SIRPPKS001A.

Refresher training can be done in-store or through accredited training programs, with all QCPP pharmacies to next month receive information on how to ensure they meet this new requirement.

Vic pharmacy ownership plan

THE Pharmacy Board of Victoria has issued a new consultation paper regarding continued controls on who may own and operate pharmacies in that state after the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme becomes effective on 01 July 2010.

The document proposes the establishment of the 'Victorian Pharmacy Authority' - an independent statutory authority which would control who may own and operate pharmacies and pharmacy departments, as well as establishing standards for inspection.

The authority would operate under a "self-funding model with the costs borne by pharmacy

owners," and would work closely with the new Pharmacy Board of Australia regarding national standards for the approval of premises and departments.

Each state and territory will have to work out a model for regulation of pharmacy ownership and premises, with the new national registration scheme abolishing pharmacy boards in their current form, but not covering the licensing of pharmacy premises and pharmacy ownership restrictions which "will continue to be the responsibility of the States and Territories."

Other possibilities mooted include expanding the role of health departments to carry out the licensing and ownership roles.

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria said its proposal "provides stability with minimal disruption."

Latest in Ireland

THE Irish health department has announced that about 70 pharmacists have chosen to withdraw earlier notices advising they would cease dispensing prescriptions under the state's drug schemes from 01 Aug.

The Health Services Executive has been waging a war of attrition against pharmacists, mandating price cuts which the Irish Pharmacy Union says will send many out of business.

Up until last Fri 762 pharmacists had given notice they would terminate their contracts, and the HSE will today publish a list of 852 community pharmacies which will continue to dispense the subsidised medications, the *Irish Times* said.

"If your usual pharmacy is not included on this list, you should identify the next most convenient pharmacy," said HSE chief pharmacist Kate Mulvenna.

"Given the even spread of participating pharmacies across the country, nobody should be too far from a pharmacy that will be open for State drugs scheme business."

She added that although there may be some inconvenience, "people should be reassured by the fact that up to a few years ago, and for more than 30 years before that, the country was well served by around 1100 pharmacies."



DISPENSARY CORNER

A SWISS chocolate maker has developed a new type of confectionery which can be eaten as part of a weight loss regime.

Chocolatier Barry Callebaut claims to have discovered a new secret ingredient which means his chocolate has just 10% of the calories of a normal bar.

It also doesn't melt as easily as everyday chocolate, with the ingredient named 'Vulcano' because it can withstand heat up to 55°C.

"It's nice and chocolatey with a strong aroma. It does melt in the mouth, but it is the enzymes in saliva rather than the heat that causes it to dissolve," he said.

AND while we're on the subject of diet foods, it's probably a good idea to tell your clients to steer clear of iced coffee if they're trying to shed kilos.

A UK survey of the cool treats has found that some iced coffees contain about the same number of kilojoules as a hot dinner.

The worst offender was the largest version of Starbuck's Dark Berry Mocha Frappuccino, which had about 2350kJ - a quarter of a woman's daily energy allowance.

And skim milk versions weren't much different, with Caffè Nero's skim Double Chocolate Frappe still containing about 1900kJ.

The World Cancer Research Fund, which released the figures, said it was highlighting the energy content of the beverages because after not smoking, maintaining a healthy weight "is the most important thing you can do to prevent cancer."

AN 80-YEAR-OLD sparked a medical emergency on the Victorian skifields yesterday when he broke his leg.

The not-so-frail octogenarian came a cropper on the snow - after attempting a 2m jump on a black diamond ski run.

The man was flown to Melbourne, with paramedic Steve Grove saying: "When I asked him about still skiing at 80, he said: 'Life is too short.'"

WIN A REGISTRATION TO PHARMACY WOMEN'S CONGRESS

Debbie Hurwitz, a 4th year pharmacy student at La Trobe University, Bendigo sent in the following entry in this week's competition offering a place at the upcoming Pharmacy Women's Congress:

"As a female pharmacy student, attending the Pharmacy Women's Congress would be an amazing opportunity to learn about skills to benefit my future career."

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and The Pharmacy Guild of Australia are giving subscribers the chance to win a full conference registration at the 2009 Pharmacy Women's Congress, valued at \$495.

The congress will be held from 14-16 August at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa, Gold Coast.

The event will bring together female pharmacists from around Australia to discuss the future of pharmacy, and will focus on personal and professional development based around the Congress' theme, 'Gaining Knowledge, Sharing Experiences, Building Futures'.

For your chance to win the full conference registration which includes entry to all sessions; morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas; a Welcome reception ticket; a Congress dinner ticket; a breakfast session ticket and a Congress satchel and handbook, simply send your answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Please also include details of where you work in pharmacy!

In 25 words or less, tell us why you would like to attend this year's Pharmacy Women's Congress.

Entries must be in by Friday and the lucky winner will be published in next Monday's *Pharmacy Daily* issue.



Pharmacy Women's Congress

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WIN a new car in September

There has never been a better time to join in on the huge success of Pharmacy Best Buys. The September major prize is a Holden Cruze valued at over \$24,000 with 5 state consolation prizes of Tom Tom GPS units (Valued at \$849 each). Attract new customers to your pharmacy and encourage your existing customers to spend more!

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