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Guild Update

This week's update from the Guild

Award guide

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has released the *Plain English Guide to the Pharmacy Industry Award 2010* exclusively for the benefit of members.

The guide is a simple to use and easy to understand explanation of the content and application of the Pharmacy Industry Award 2010.

The guide was developed by the Guild to help members understand the PIA, as well as the terms and conditions of employment provided by the National Employment Standards (NES).

The guide provides:

- best practice tips to comply with the award;
- calculations and examples of the complex transitional arrangements; and
- identification of further sources of information.

The guide also includes a clause by clause breakdown of the modern award information, information about the NES, and contact details for Workplace Relations Advisors in each State and Territory.

The guide was officially launched at the Pharmacy Women's Congress in Hobart on Saturday, and can now be purchased by members through the Guild website at guild.org.au.

Access to valuable resources, such as the *Plain English Guide to the Pharmacy Industry Award 2010*, is just one of the many benefits of membership with the Guild. For further information about membership, contact your local State/Territory Branch (visit www.guild.org.au and click "Contact Us" in the drop-down menu under "About the Guild" on the left of the screen for phone numbers).



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

J&J recalls contact lenses

JOHNSON & Johnson has issued a recall notice for several batches of its 1 Day Acuvue contact lenses, some of which have been sold in Australia as well as Japan, Europe and several Asian markets.

The company said it had received a limited number of complaints from customers in Japan who said they had experienced an "unusual stinging or pain" when inserting the Acuvue TruEye brand lenses.

J&J estimated about 100,000 boxes of lenses manufactured in Ireland were affected by the failure of a piece of equipment which rinses the lenses during manufacture.

Affected countries also include Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, South Korea, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the UK.

A statement issued by J&J said it hadn't received reports of customers with damaged vision.

"The risk of long-term health consequences is very unlikely," said a J&J Vision Care spokesman.

Affected lot numbers (first six digits) include 492237, 492238, 492239, 492248, 292292, 292249, 492250, 492251, 492266, 492286, 492287, 492288, 492289, 492290, 492268, 492240, 492241, 492242, 492282, 492283, 492279, 492280, 492281, 492252, 492253, 492254, 492244, 492245, 492256 and 492247 of the 1 Day Acuvue TruEye product.

It's the ninth time in a year that J&J has issued recalls of non-prescription medicines.

Ownership seminar

THE NSW PSA and Medici Capital will hold a seminar on Pharmacy Ownership on Wed 08 Sep at the Urban Hotel in St Leonards, NSW from 7pm.

Carrying 2 Group 1 credit points the seminar will cover a range of topics on buying a pharmacy - info juliannealexander@psansw.org.au.

PAC motivation

THE upcoming PSA Pharmacy Australia Congress in Melbourne will feature a stream on new developments in the field of Motivational Interviewing, which has been used in many health care settings ranging from addiction through to assisting with medication adherence.

The session will be presented by PSA Practice Support Field Officer Vanessa Lontons, who established CreatingMe, described as "an innovative and solution-focused practice, supporting individuals and businesses in the areas of health and wellness education, leadership and business development".

Lontons is also an independent consultant pharmacist based in Melbourne and is also a tutor for both the Monash and PSA Intern Training Programs, as well as being a member of the PSA's Early Career Pharmacists Committee.

PAC will take place 28-31 October - www.pac10.com.au.

Blackmores, voted Australia's most trusted vitamins & supplements brand in 2010

Pharmacy masterchefs



PHARMACY automation specialist Willach Australia hosted a special culinary event at Adelaide venue Utopia at Waterfall Gully last Thursday under the theme of 'A recipe for success'.

The cooking night kicked off the 2010 South Australian Pharmacy Community Forum, and included a presentation by accountant Bruce Annabel who highlighted a range of "innovative business opportunities for Australian pharmacies".

Guests also enjoyed a hands-on

cooking demonstration from award winning chef Justin Markos, with Willach Australia md Mark Warburton saying "The night was a great chance for us to thank some of our customers for their ongoing support as we continue to strongly expand our operations in Australia".

Pictured above are some of the attendees in the kitchen, from left: Neale Burton, Renuka Jamnadas, Afrodite Tsintiniotis and Brownwyn Perry of National Pharmacies.

More info www.willach.com.au.



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Diabetes update

NPS has published independent reviews of Januvia (sitagliptin) and Galvus (vildagliptin) in the latest edition of its *Medicine Update* newsletter.

The articles outline who the medicines are suitable for, how they work and the ways in which they differ from other medications for type 2 diabetes, as well as possible side effects and drug interactions.

Acting NPS ceo Karen Kaye said anyone who is considering one of the new medicines should read the *Medicine Update* before having a discussion with their doctor.

See nps.org.au/medicineupdate.

New AusPARs

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has released new Australian Public Assessment Reports (AusPARs) detailing the approval process for brimonidine tartrate (Allergan's Alphagan P, Enidin P) and Plerixafor (Genzyme Australasia's Mozobil).

They're all now online at www.tga.gov.au.

MA HPV scholarship

A \$15,000 post-Honours vaccine research scholarship sponsored by peak pharmaceutical manufacturer group Medicines Australia has been awarded to University of NSW medical student Dr Holly Seale.

She will use the funds to help research knowledge of HPV and attitudes towards HPV immunisation among young people with poor immune systems and their carers.

MA members which make vaccines include Wyeth, sanofi-aventis, Abbott, Baxter, Novartis, CSL and GlaxoSmithKline.

Pharmacy Daily Pharmacy Job of the Day!

Jobs4Careers is Australia's leading source for pharmacy jobs ... click here to find out more and see the Pharmacy Daily Job of the Day ...

jobs4careers.com.au

APESMA pharmacy report

THE Association of Professional Engineers, Scientists and Managers Australia has published a special report on the remuneration of community and hospital pharmacists across Australia.

The document summarises the findings of a survey conducted during April and May this year, with participants including APESMA Pharmacists' Division members, SHPA members and a sample from State Pharmacists registers.

Out of 8000 surveys sent out, approximately 1500 completed questionnaires were returned, with the results summarised state by state and covering a range of issues such as qualification levels, gender, experience, hours of work and hourly rates.

The report showed that on average the base hourly rate for Community Pharmacists has risen 1.8% in the last year to \$38.20 - which APESMA says is less than the average increases in other technical and science professional groups, as well as being lower than CPI.

Other interesting statistics collated include whether pharmacists are paid for working

through meal breaks, levels of superannuation, and penalty rates for weekends and public holidays.

The report has been released to members of the Pharmacists Division of APESMA, which also said that members have been calling to clarify the provisions of the new Pharmacy Industry Award.

Guild MoU delay

THE Pharmacy Guild says that because the government hasn't passed the legislation required to pass the Medicines Australia Memorandum of Understanding, the implementation should be delayed from the planned 01 October start date.

Guild President Kos Sclavos has today been reported saying that 01 March 2011 would be a better start date, because of the uncertainty surrounding the election and the legislation needing to pass both houses of parliament.

Medicines Australia is pushing hard for the MoU to be passed as soon as possible, but the Guild says pharmacists need more time to adjust to a "new trading environment" under the reforms.



DISPENSARY CORNER

THE obesity crisis is hitting the aviation industry, with a group of flight attendants at Turkish Airlines grounded last week because they weigh too much.

The carrier says the 28 staff have been given six months to slim down or face reassignment, according to a report in Istanbul's *Haber Turk* newspaper.

The airline issued a statement saying "weight and height are important factors at all airlines.

"These criteria are important both in terms of appearance and the ability to move about," the airline said.

GOOD news for chocoholics - women who eat dark chocolate once or twice a week could be lowering their risk of heart failure.

But you can't overdo it - the Boston study reported in the *Journal of the American Heart Association* found that there was no benefit from those who ate chocolate every day.

One to two 19-30g servings of dark chocolate per week led to a 32% decrease in heart failure risk.

This fell to 26% when between one and three servings per month were eaten, the *BBC* said, while those who ate chocolate every day had no reduced risk at all.

GROUNDBREAKING research in Switzerland has found that children who squint are less likely to be invited to birthday parties.

Scientists showed more than 100 children aged between three and 12 pictures of twins - one with a squint and one without - and asked who they would prefer to celebrate their birthday with.

In an overwhelming vote for clear-sightedness, older children repeatedly chose the twin without an optical disorder.

Children aged under six made no distinction between the twins, but those aged six to twelve hardly ever picked a squinty buddy.

The researchers suggested that all children undergo corrective surgery before the age of six before "negative social implications may arise".

WIN AN EXPRESS KIT



Every day this week, *Pharmacy Daily* is giving readers the chance to win a Designer Brands Express Kit courtesy of Total Beauty Network.

Designer Brands are delighted to launch the LIMITED EDITION Cosmetic Kits for 2010. Just in

time for Christmas shopping, last year the demand was so high stock ran out within a month!

Don't miss out, great quality cosmetics is what Designer Brands is all about taking all the ingredients, colour and quality from design label cosmetics and make them available at a more affordable price.

What product is featured in all Express Kits?

Email your answer to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

The first correct entry received will win!

Hint: Visit: www.tbn.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: Siobhan Edwards from University of Sydney.