



## MyHospitals online

THE government's new MyHospitals website has gone live today, purporting to allow consumers to easily compare and contrast the performance of hospitals around the country.

Initially the site offers "nationally consistent, locally relevant information" on public hospitals and about 150 private hospitals.

See [www.myhospitals.gov.au](http://www.myhospitals.gov.au).

## FIP nominations

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) is soliciting nominations for its 2011 Awards in Recognition of Excellence, with categories including FIP Honorary Member, FIP Fellow, FIP Distinguished Practice Award, and FIP Lifetime Achievement Award.

For more information see [www.fip.org](http://www.fip.org).



# 2011

MARCH WEEKEND

Continuing education  
focusing on the heart  
and mind

20+  
Group 2 CPD  
Credits  
available

## Annual Therapeutic Update

Friday 25 – Sunday 27  
March 2011  
Novotel Sydney Manly  
Pacific, NSW

For more information visit  
[www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

PSA3086

## Board looks at prescribing

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has reiterated that it is "open to exploring possibilities" which would see pharmacists endorsed to prescribe scheduled medicines.

A communique released yesterday following the Board's latest meeting confirms that the Board has requested its Policies, Codes and Guidelines Committee "to develop a framework to guide professional groups and members of the profession in pursuing a proposal for endorsement entitlement under the National Law".

Prescribing endorsement must be approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council, which includes the approval of a registration standard relevant to the endorsement.

The Board said it would consult widely on any proposed registration standard before seeking the Ministerial Council's approval.

The meeting also resolved that provisional registrants should be granted a full year's registration from the time their application is approved, rather than expiring on

30 Nov each year as for general registration.

The Board also discussed access to pharmacy data by third parties, and urged pharmacists to "exercise extreme caution" in considering requests for information from pharmaceutical company representatives.

"Pharmacists must not allow unrestricted access to dispensing systems by third parties," the communique said.

The board has also extended the exemption period for international students to comply with English language standards to 31 Mar 2011 for interns transitioning into the national system.

## Sigma memorandum

SIGMA Pharmaceuticals today published the 152-page Explanatory Memorandum for the sale of its Pharmaceuticals Division to Aspen Pharmacare.

Shareholders will vote on the deal at an extraordinary general meeting to be held 14 Jan 2011 at the Victorian Arts Centre in Melbourne.

## WIN AN AROMABABY PURE HAIR CLEANSE



Every day this week, *Pharmacy Daily* is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a Pure Hair Cleanse from **Aromababy**.

Aromababy's Pure Hair Cleanse has been soothing Babies' scalps for more than fifteen years now. As the first sulphate-free baby shampoo enriched with natural oils, this mild shampoo-substitute is also suitable for older children and for those with dry scalps. The uplifting aroma of natural geranium and orange ensure this product doubles as a great shower gel for adults too. Now available Nationally at Priceline.

For your chance to win this great product, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the daily question below:

**Is Aromababy's Pure Hair Cleanse suitable for older children as well as for babies?**

Email your answer to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Hint: Visit: [www.aromababy.com](http://www.aromababy.com)

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: Maria Gianfelici from Pharmabroker Sales.

## CPD Calendar

**WELCOME** to *Pharmacy Daily's* Continuing Professional Development Calendar, featuring upcoming events and opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**20-29 Jan 2011:** Pharmacy Study Tour, Mammoth Mountain California and Las Vegas - [www.medic.com.au/events](http://www.medic.com.au/events).

**01 Feb:** PSA Monthly Lecture, Sexual Health and Contraception, PSA Office Suite, Greenhill Road Unley - [sa.branch@psa.org.au](mailto:sa.branch@psa.org.au).

**06 Mar 2011:** Drug Interaction Seminar, The Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne, 0418 772 877.

**01-10 May 2011:** The PSA's 2011 Offshore Conference in Venice, Italy and Salzburg - [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au).



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**MAKING** light work out of Christmas Day may be bad for your blood pressure, according to UK group Consensus Action on Salt and Health (CASH).

The organisation surveyed 600 ready-made items from a British supermarket, and found that large amounts of salt are being hidden in many foodstuffs meant to make life easier.

If pre-prepared foods were used to make a "typical Sunday lunch" of roast meat, vegetables and condiments, they found that diners might eat almost 10 grams of salt, or about twice the maximum daily adult allowance.

One of the saltiest products were a peppered beef joint with mustard stuffing, while a smidgin of Morrison's English Mustard contained as much salt as a packet of crisps, and a Tesco mashed potato product was off the scale for NaCl.

CASH said that using fresh foods and vegetables was a much better way to avoid unhealthy salt.