



J&J recall extended

JOHNSON & Johnson in the US has expanded the list of OTC items it's recalling due to a "mouldy smell" (PD Mon, yesterday) to now include caplet and geltab products sold in the Americas, the United Arab Emirates and Fiji.

Batches of paracetamol (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Motrin), Benadryl Roloids, Simply Sleep and St Joseph's aspirin are affected, with the US Food and Drug Administration saying about 70 people had been sickened by the odour, with symptoms including nausea, stomach pain, vomiting and diarrhoea.

J&J said the smell is caused by small amounts of a chemical used to treat wooden pallets, with the problem traced to a packaging facility in Puerto Rico.

Qld registration kit

THE Pharmacists Board of Queensland has developed a new information kit for registrants, to help them commencing practice in Queensland.

The kit is now available under the Policies and Publications section of www.pharmacyboard.qld.gov.au.

API welcomes Agreement

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries chairman Peter Robinson said yesterday he was pleased that the in-principle agreement between the Pharmacy Guild and the government on the broad terms of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement (PD 24 Dec) will see "the key structural elements of the community pharmacy model remain intact."

Speaking yesterday at the API Annual General Meeting, Robinson said that while the new agreement is "not without its commercial challenges both for pharmacists and wholesalers...Nevertheless we are confident the new agreement will maintain the viability of the community pharmacy sector in Australia."

API ceo Stephen Roche echoed these sentiments, telling the meeting that from the company's

New products feature

OUR regular Wednesday Health, Beauty and New Products feature will return next week - any suppliers wishing to promote new products should email details to info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

perspective "the fact that the CSO structure remains in place and that the current level of funding is supported is an important foundation for us."

During the meeting Roche also confirmed continuing good performance of API's Priceline brand, with 30 new stores opened during the year and the company expecting to be close to achieving its goal of operating 400 Priceline stores by the end of 2010 or early in 2011.

He confirmed that API's Pharmacy Division continued to perform well, with the Soul Pattinson and Pharmacist Advice brands having "outperformed the market in the core pharmacy categories" and the group's retail services offer strengthened with the addition of the new 'Premium' business-to-business brand for independent pharmacists.

Roche also said that API's 'Revitalise' supply chain consolidation program is being implemented according to plan, with the first Distribution Centre, in Melbourne operating from a Retail perspective, and the recent handover of the Brisbane facility which will be distributing Pharmaceutical products from Feb.

He also said that despite reports of economic recovery, API's Dec sales were still below expectations.

Hospital script errors

A STUDY carried out by the University of London School of Pharmacy has found that doctors in five London hospitals made mistakes in 13.2% of prescriptions written for children.

Further mistakes were made by nurses who had to administer the drugs, particularly when this involved mixing a solution for injection.

The study also found that most of the errors were picked up by pharmacists when they cross-checked the prescriptions.

The researchers, who observed 11 paediatric wards to collect the data, said many errors were due to inappropriate dosages for children, and recommended that pharmacists should make up the solutions, giving nurses more time with patients.



DISPENSARY CORNER

DARLING... I lost my wedding ring whilst jumping a fence- but don't worry, my finger's still with it.

Former Brisbane Broncos lock and the current English rugby league coach for the Castleford Tigers, Terry Matterson, was completely unaware that he had lost his wedding ring - along with his ring finger - when jumping over a fence to retrieve a wayward football during a training session with his team.

He obviously wasn't paying attention, saying he carried on for a while - until he noticed the gushing blood and empty space where his finger used to be.

Upon the stark realisation Terry was rushed to hospital where his finger was successfully re-attached.

"Like myself, the players were in shock at the time but I am very proud of the way they reacted," he said.

NOTE to self: don't practice hypnosis in front of the mirror.

A twenty-seven year old stage circus performer, Helmut Kichmeier, was recently found by his wife staring at the mirror in a self-induced hypnotic trance after beginning to practice some newly learned hypnotic tricks.

Helmut had been in the process of learning methods to help him swallow swords for his act, and had been under the tutelage of renowned hypnotherapist Dr Ray Roberts when the incident occurred.

According to the reports, Helmut had put himself into a standing trance in front of the mirror at around 10am and was not found by his wife until 3pm.

"I tried to ask him what was wrong but he didn't answer and it was then I looked at the sofa behind him and saw a book named Hypnosis Medicine of the Mind," said Helmut's wife.

"It was opened on page 45 and a chapter named hypnotic anaesthesia and I realised there was something wrong."

She rang a fellow hypnotist who had been helping train her hubby, who managed to snap him out of the trance over the phone.

WIN AN AUSTRALIS FOUNDATION



Australis has teamed up with *Pharmacy Daily* this week, giving readers the chance to win an Australis Mineral Purity Powder Foundation.

Valued at \$17.95, the pure mineral powder formula allows you to create buildable even coverage that lasts all day.

The lightweight powder looks and feels like you are wearing no make-up. It contains no talc, parabens or

fragrance ensuring that your skin is free from any irritations. It includes an inbuilt kabuki and mirror.

For a chance to win your very own Australis Mineral Purity Powder Foundation, simply send through the correct answer to the following question below:

How should you apply Australis Mineral Purity ?

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

The first correct entry received will win!

Hint: Visit the Australis website: www.australiscosmetics.com.au.

CONGRATULATIONS to Denise Potiphar of Symbion Pharmacy Services who was the fastest reader yesterday to tell us Australis Mineral Purity leaves you with a *natural* finish.