

## Fighting for independent pharmacy since 2002.

PHARMACY ALLIANCE GROUP  
Freedom to choose

### PD Carmex winner

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Janine Hando from Lachlan Health Service, who was the lucky winner of last Friday's Carmex competition.

For more chances to win, see page two of today's issue.

### More pharma shots

**THE** US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has revealed that that 20% of all Americans receive their influenza immunisations from their local pharmacist.

At present 50 US States allow pharmacists to administer flu vaccinations, with a majority of jurisdictions also allowing a selection of other vaccines to be administered via pharmacies.

### \$6m for Hendra

**THE** Federal Government has announced \$6m in funding to help the fight against the Hendra virus.

## TGA pregnancy database

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration has launched a new online database giving guidance for health professionals involved with medicines and pregnant women.

The database replaces the previous 'Prescribing medicines in Pregnancy' booklet which was last published in 1999.

Users can search the database by generic name and by classification using a drop-down list, with links to explanations and safety statements.

More than 1200 individual entries are on offer, including all new medicines and any changes of pregnancy category for existing medicines.

The innovation was revealed in the latest Medicines Safety Update issued today, which also highlights recent developments in adverse reactions, including reports of thrombocytopenia in people taking quinine to treat muscle cramps.

### Sino Symposium

**A NUMBER** of University of Sydney faculties and research Institutes, including The Faculty of Medicine and the School of Nursing, are involved in this year's USYD Sino Australian Symposium.

Taking place later this week (04-05 Aug), the Symposium is themed 'Chronic Disease Research: From Policy to Bench and Back Again'.

Topics covered during the day will include obesity, diabetes, medical education and blood pressure and vascular disease.

To register, or for more details, email [fiona.thien@sydney.edu.au](mailto:fiona.thien@sydney.edu.au).

## Jobs cut at Merck

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**PHARMACEUTICAL** giant, Merck & Co has announced plans to cut 12,000 - 13,000 jobs by 2015 in a bid to save around \$1.5b per annum.

The cuts are to come on the back of 12,465 job losses last year.

The news comes in tandem with its Q2 results which revealed \$2.02b in company earnings, or 65 cents per share which was in line with expectations.

The second quarter also saw the company's revenue up 7% year on year, to \$12.15 billion, a result which was higher than forecast.

Health professionals are reminded that quinine is not approved for the treatment of nocturnal cramps because of its low efficacy and risk of thrombocytopenia.

The update also details published case reports suggesting that stress cardiomyopathy may be an adverse effect of venlafaxine.

There's also an article on in utero antipsychotic exposure and neonatal extrapyramidal and withdrawal adverse effects.

## MS research gets a hand from the discounters



**DISCOUNT** Drug Stores (DDS) came out in Brisbane in force last week, to support and participate in the Brissie to the Bay Bike Ride.

A team of 18 riders representing DDS took on the 50km challenge, raising \$850 for multiple sclerosis.

Speaking in the wake of the epic ride Casey Clark, DDS Professional Services Manager said: "We're planning on going back for more in 2012, with an even bigger team".

"Some of us are already in

training and looking out for more cycling charity events to get involved in."

Pictured above in full riding regalia is the DDS team, including John Clark (DDS Director) and wife Sharyn, Casey Clark (DDS Professional Services Manager) and Brad Alder (DDS Business Development Manager) as well as long-term DDS suppliers Beaudesert Times' Mark Hodgson and Rob Brown.



### PBS-APPROVAL NUMBER FOR SALE

- Located in landmark Shopping Centre on Sydney's North Shore
- Offers close 12 Aug 2011

Contact: Sean Roffey

PBS-Pharmacy Brokers  
0408 882 111

[pbs@healthbusinesssales.com.au](mailto:pbs@healthbusinesssales.com.au)



## Annual Medicines Update

This program is being delivered in short course and full day format:

### Short Course – Sydney CBD

- 15 June – Diabetes and Cardiovascular
- 22 June – Respiratory and Mental Health
- 23 June – Pain and Neurology

### Full Day Program – Parramatta CBD

18 August 2011



[www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

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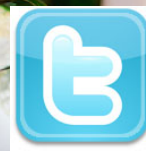
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### Weekly Comment

Welcome to *Pharmacy Daily's* weekly comment feature.

This week's contributor is **Clint Dowdell**, skincare and beauty expert at **HiLife Health and Beauty**.

### A Sensitive Issue

Sometimes you just want to shout out to people "stop being so sensitive!"

In this case I'm referring to their skin.

Or at least what they believe about their skin.

Increasingly, people across Australia are coming to the conclusion that they have sensitive skin.

But when we look closer, are 72% of women really sensitive, or do we all just need a little more TLC?

Knowing how to counsel them towards the right products means better sales and a happier customer.

Many people often confuse 'reactive skin' for sensitive.

Reactive skin is when you use a product and there is an instant redness.

This causes a false self-diagnosis of sensitivity.

In most cases, reactive skin calms down within a few minutes without any real irritation occurring.

New products like SensiTone from MD Visage include active ingredients like Retinaldehyde (the precursor to Retinol) that take effective action without causing irritation.

Products like this can deliver the anti-aging result that customers previously thought they were too sensitive to attain.

However, if with past products the skin has become itchy or irritated, then this is a true sensitive skin and must be treated as such.

Sensitivity can be caused by allergies, so the natural solution is...well, natural!

Nude by Nature has really dominated the natural market category with its award winning mineral cosmetics, and with products like Nude Oil from the new skincare collection, Nude by Nature has proven that natural can be just as effective.

So with sensitive customers, don't be left red faced!

## Another APESMA attack

**PHARMACIST** union group APESMA has today issued another call on the Pharmacy Guild to stamp out "illegal underpayments of pharmacists across the country," saying it's uncovered 80 examples of pharmacists not being paid the annual leave loading which is stipulated in the pharmacist award.

"According to the award pharmacists who are on annual leave must be paid an additional 17.5 percent loading on top of their normal wages," said APESMA senior industrial officer Jacki Baulch.

Baulch said the findings were further evidence of what she called the "widespread underpayment of Australian pharmacists".

The award allows employers and employees to enter into individual flexibility agreements which allow them to roll leave loading and other benefits into their regular salaries.

However the 80 survey respondents cited today who said they hadn't received leave loading also stated they had not entered

into this type of agreement.

APESMA continued to urge pharmacists and interns to join the group and "speak out for better working conditions in the industry."

Baulch reiterated APESMA's threat to pursue legal action against pharmacy owners who were "illegally paying less than they should".

### Chronic illness push

**THE PSA** has today highlighted the growing proportion of elderly Australians, saying the role of pharmacists in helping to contain the cost of chronic illness has "never been more important".

According to Treasury projections health spending on people older than 65 is expected to increase sevenfold by 2050.

"The skills of pharmacists must be fully incorporated into the collaborative care model so that the pressure of chronic illnesses can be managed," said PSA president Grant Kardachi.

## WIN ARTHRO-AID PAIN EASE CREAM & SPRAY



This week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving away Arthro-Aid Pain Ease Cream and Spray to five lucky readers, courtesy of **Keysun**.

Arthro-Aid, the leader in Arthritis Pain Relief introduces New Arthro-Aid Pain Ease Cream and Spray. Arthro-Aid Pain Ease provides temporary relief therapy for arthritic pain, muscular aches, back pain and rheumatism.

Australian made and formulated, Arthro-Aid Pain Ease contains 100% natural active ingredients for the temporary relief of pain. Arthro-Aid is giving away a Pain

Ease Spray plus Pain Ease Cream – the use of both products will provide best possible temporary relief from aches and pains.

To win your very own Arthro-Aid Pain Ease Cream and Spray simply send in the correct answer to the question below to:

[comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Arthro-Aid PAIN EASE contains 100% what?**

First two correct entries received will win  
Hint! Visit [www.keysun.com.au](http://www.keysun.com.au)

## DISPENSARY CORNER

**NO** temperatures here...

European brown bears in Helsinki Zoo, Finland, are currently being treated to a modern snack to keep them cool in the heat of the Northern summer.

The snack is made from five litres of water, frozen with chopped nuts, fruits and juices.

Both bears and visitors are then kept entertained for hours as the popsicles are slowly licked away.

"It's not only polar bears who like to be close to ice," said one zoo keeper.

"These treats are a great way to stop them getting too hot and bring their core temperature down," the keeper added.

**JUST** like mum.

An orphaned zebra at a Chinese zoo has refused to eat unless his keeper wears a black and white striped t-shirt.

The trend started when the baby zebra caught sight of his keeper wearing the striped shirt, and got very excited.

Since then the zebra won't take his bottle without his striped keeper companion.

**PERHAPS** some ginseng would have focused his mind?

A driver in Poland has ended up out of his depth after a supposed short-cut led him straight into a large body of water.

Wojciech Lapinski was driving his 86 year old mother to a family function, when sick of traffic he ignored warnings and took a shortcut into a flooded tunnel.

To add insult to injury, the flooding was caused by a busted sewage pipe, and landed Lapinski, his mother and his Toyota in three-feet of muddy coloured and stinky water.

"It did put a bit of a dampener on the day," Lapinski's mother told rescuers.

