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JMPC next week

THE Health Department and Medicines Australia will jointly host the third annual Joint Medicines Policy conference in Canberra on 30-31 Aug- www.jmpc3.com.au.

ACMS interim decisions

THE TGA's Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling is asking for further submissions on proposed scheduling changes for loperamide, nicotine, orphenadrine and paracetamol combinations and cough and cold preparations.

Today the interim decisions and their reasons for decisions by the Delegate of the Secretary to the Department of Health and Ageing relating to the June 2011 ACMS meeting have been published on the TGA website.

The committee has recommended exempting loperamide in divided preparations for oral use containing not more than 2mg of loperamide in packs of 8 dosage units or less, with the change to be implemented by 01 May 2012 at the earliest.

The current S4 exemption for nicotine in preparations for human therapeutic use is recommended to be extended to all oral mucosal use, which harmonises nicotine with New Zealand scheduling, with an implementation date of 01 Jan 2012.

The committee also recommended

that the current scheduling of orphenadrine remain S4, including when combined with paracetamol.

And following an extensive review, the committee has recommended that for cough and cold preparations the scheduling of carbapentane, guaiphenesin, ipecacuanha, phenylephrine and senega remain unchanged.

Blood pressure change

NEW guidelines on the monitoring of blood pressure have been immediately adopted by Britain's National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), after the publication of a study on ambulatory hypertension testing in the *Lancet* journal.

A team from Birmingham University compared the cost-effectiveness of different blood pressure monitoring regimes in determining treatments.

Taking measurements on a repeated basis over a 24 hour period was found to be a much better indicator of potential cardiovascular problems than one-off readings during a visit to the doctor or pharmacy.

Ambulatory measurements are typically taken half hourly during the day and hourly at night, with the report finding that the method was significantly more cost effective in both men and women of all ages.

A spokesman for NICE said the change would affect the treatment of millions of people in the UK, and was "a step-change that is likely to be replicated across the world".

One week for PSA NITP

PHARMACY students moving into the workforce have one more week to enrol in the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's National Intern Training Program, with applications closing on 31 August.

The PSA NITP combines interactive workshops and workplace-based activities, with PSA saying it's "not just an extension of university, but a specially developed program with a focus on the workplace and the full and practical utilisation of pharmacists' skills and knowledge in practice".

Enrolments for the PSA 2012 intern program will open on 01 November - psa.org.au/intern.

R&D Tax Credit passed

THE Australian pharmaceutical research community has welcomed the news that the Senate has passed legislation enabling the Research & Development Tax Credit.

The Tax Credit will replace the former R&D Tax Concession, with the change estimated to reduce the cost of conducting eligible R&D activities in Australia by up to 10%.

Lobby group AusBiotech said the move would make Australia a much more competitive location for biomedical and pharmaceutical R&D and clinical trials.

"This is a momentous day for innovation in Australia and the most significant positive news that the industry has had for a number of years," said the ceo of lobby group AusBiotech, Dr Anna Lavelle.

The program will also provide quarterly payments from 2014.

WIN AN AUSTRALIS COSMETIC PACK



Pharmacy Daily has teamed up with Australis this week and is giving Paparazzi Perfect High Definition packs to five lucky readers.

Each pack includes Blush in Poser, Foundation in Natural Beige, Eyeshadow in Snap Attack, Tinted Moisturiser in Med-Dark and Paparazzi Perfect Keyring Camera.

For your chance to win this exciting prize pack, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

What are the two main ingredients in the Paparazzi Perfect Eyeshadows?

Hint: Visit www.australiscosmetics.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner: Felicia Woong from Pikes Pharmacy Burwood, NSW.

New ISP owner

US-LISTED manufacturer Ashland Inc has completed its acquisition of pharmaceutical firm International Specialty Products, including its office in Silverwater, NSW.

ISP will be integrated into the Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients commercial unit, more than doubling the size of the business which will henceforth be called Ashland Specialty Ingredients.

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Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy!

Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au.



Do your patients know what's going on down there?

VagiClear Duo is the newest product in Key Pharmaceuticals' Vagi range for vaginal symptoms. A recent survey found that more than 46% of women have misdiagnosed themselves with thrush and bought the wrong product. Vaginal pH can be detected with the use of VagiTest to determine the best method to combat the symptoms. VagiClear Duo is recommended for normal vaginal pH and contains

a single dose oral capsule as well as an antifungal cream for the relief of external symptoms.

RRP: \$9.90 (VagiTest); \$24.95 (VagiCare), \$24.95 (VagiClear)

Stockist: 1800 653 373

Listen carefully for this great new idea

Clean out your ears! There is a new product on the market, with the launch timed to coincide with National Hearing Week. BioRevive's **CleanEars** is an effective ear wax removal spray suitable for infants, children and adults. It dissolves wax and provides irrigation to flush it from the ear canal gradually over several hours or days. The product comes in a 30ml bottle, is easy to use, takes seconds and there is no need to tilt your head or lie down.

RRP: \$14.95

Stockist: 1300 790 978



White to bronze in one Pure session

Pure Tan's **Dark Instant Tanning Lotion** is ultimate pick up for the Spring/Summer Season. Perfect for tanned and olive skin people wanting that deeper glow, the new and improved formula includes the best ingredients and is enriched with moisturisers to leave skin feeling soft and supple, never greasy. The product also offers an application and shower turn around of one hour. The Pure Tan Pro Reusable Self Tan Applicator Mitt offers the best method of applying the best tan.

RRP: \$29.95 (Dark Instant Tanning Lotion) \$11.95 (Puretan Pro Tanning Mitt)

Stockist: puretan.com.au

Drink your way to back to youth

This is a lot nicer than relying on beer goggles! **Simply Radiant** has been formulated with a range of carefully selected delicious exotic superfruits and ingredients such as lutein and vitamin C because of their beneficial effects on the skin. This skin health and anti-oxidant formula is the complete once-a-day solution that may help skin hydration and support elasticity, decrease the premature aging effects of sun damage and free radicals, maintain healthy skin, and provide nutritional support for healthy collagen production.

RRP: \$49.95 (14 sachets)

Stockist: simply-radiant.com.au



Banana Boat keeps the rays at bay

Summer is fast approaching and so is the rays of the sun. New from Banana Boat are these **Mineral Protect**

SPF 30+ products for Sensitive and Kids skin. The natural sunscreens are free from harsh chemicals, artificial colours, preservatives and other additives, containing naturally sourced zinc that goes on clear to create natural physical blockers from the sun's rays, providing broad spectrum UVA/UVB protection without white residue. It is also low irritant, fragrance free, nano friendly and offers four hours water resistance.

RRP: \$15.75 (120g)

Stockist: 1800 810 310



Prevention agency ceo

MENTAL Health and Ageing minister Mark Butler yesterday announced that Louise Sylvan would be the inaugural chief executive officer of the Australian National Preventive Health Agency.

Sylvan was previously a Productivity Commissioner, with Butler saying she is "well known for her work in enhancing consumer rights in a range of areas such as health, food safety and financial services as well as in competition and consumer policy".

She's been appointed to the role for a period of five years.



DISPENSARY CORNER

AN INTRIGUING incident involving bull semen caused major traffic disruption on an interstate highway near Nashville in the US yesterday.

The sticky situation ensued after a Greyhound bus lost its load of frozen semen, which was destined for a breeder in Texas.

Emergency services were called to mop things up, and fortunately found that none of the canisters had actually broken - although some were emitting a "foul smell".

Highway workers took the incident in their stride, saying "it was no different to us than if a mattress fell off a truck".

A MAN has fortunately escaped serious injury after attempting to stop his runaway vehicle "Flintstones-style" using his feet.

The pickup truck apparently had faulty brakes, but after they failed the man continued to drive, slowing as required by "sticking his feet outside" to stop it, according to a police report.

Some witnesses claimed the truck reached speeds of up to 70km/h and although the man was able to stop it a couple of times he ended up hitting at least four other cars.

"This guy's no rocket scientist," said a police spokesman.

"He said he was going to fix the brakes when he got home".