

# Pharmacy DAILY

Monday 17 Jan 2011

PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU

## Friday's comp winners

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Philip Savage from Apotex and Justin Rolls from Ascent Pharmaceuticals, who were the lucky winners of last Friday's KeySun PD competition.

See below for details of this week's Pharmacy Alliance comp.

## DaTscan approval

**THE** US Food and Drug Administration has approved a new formulation for Cumberland Pharmaceuticals' Acetadote Injection (acetylcysteine) for the treatment of acetaminophen poisoning.

The new formula, which will replace the currently marketed product, does not contain ethylene diamine tetracetic acid or any stabilisation and chelating agents, and is also free of preservatives.

**MEANWHILE** the FDA has also approved GE Healthcare's DaTscan (Ioflupane I 123 Injection), for the detection of dopamine transporters in the brains of adult patients with suspected Parkinsonian syndromes. See [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov).

## Gov responds to dementia

**AROUND** 600,000 Australians will suffer from dementia by 2030, according to recent Health Department projections.

This figure represents a hike of over 50% on the current dementia figures which show 250,000 Aussies are presently living with dementia.

"Dementia is not a normal part of the ageing process that should simply be accepted; it's a condition that can be managed," said the Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Mark Butler.

## Sanofi still supplying

**SANOFI-AVENTIS** has allayed industry fears by reporting that its sites in Brisbane: Virginia and Banjo, have escaped flood damage.

As such, the company is still able to supply stock to its customers nationwide.

In addition, the company has also enlisted a volunteer group of staff to visit its Queensland customers in need of assistance, to help with the clean up.

# APP2011

17-20 March  
Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre, Queensland

"Community Pharmacy: Innovation in Healthcare"



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**  
[www.appconference.com](http://www.appconference.com)

## API suffers damage

**AUSTRALIAN** Pharmaceutical Industries' Queensland distribution centre in Ipswich will take around six months to re-open, due to repairs needed for damage it sustained during the Qld floods.

At present the company has said it will continue to supply its Queensland customers with their orders via its Sydney and Melbourne distribution centres.

## Acetaminophen limit

**THE** FDA is urging drug manufacturers of combination drugs which contain acetaminophen to limit the amount of the ingredient to no more than 325mgs per tablet/capsule.

It is hoped the move will minimise the potential risk of liver damage to users of pain and fever drugs.

The FDA has also declared manufacturers must update product labels to reflect acetaminophen's potential to cause severe liver damage.

## A'kin's new team

**AUSTRALIAN** natural skin and hair care manufacturer, The Purist Company, has announced the appointment of its sales leadership team, in a move which will enable the company to implement its own sales capability.

Manufacturer of both the A'kin and Al'chemy product ranges, the Purist Company's new sales team includes Jodi Lesch, National Sales Manager; Kate Gibbons, National Account Manager; Danielle Tickner, National Account Manager and Christine Irons, National Field Manager.

As a result of the projections, the Government has, this month, launched a 'Know the Signs' campaign, aimed at both healthcare professionals and the general public.

The campaign is designed to raise the awareness of the early signs of dementia, and the importance of early treatment, and also aims to dispel some of the myths about the condition.

Over the next few weeks health professionals will be receiving a Know the Signs campaign pack, which will include dementia information leaflets and pamphlets.

The materials can also be accessed via the web, [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

**MEANWHILE** the Health Department has also announced funding for eight new dementia research projects to be managed through the National Health and Medical Research Council, whilst round four of the Dementia Community Support Grants Program has also opened.

The Grants offer funding of up to \$50,000 for projects of up to 12 months in duration (applications close at 2pm on 10 February).

See [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) for details.

## PSA Emergency supply

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has published an Emergency Supply Record Form on its website, to be used for the emergency supply of all medicines, including first aid and incidentals.

**MEANWHILE** the PSA has also posted website advice for approved pharmacists supplying medicines in areas affected by the Qld flood emergency- see [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au).



Pharmacy DAILY is giving Independent pharmacists the chance to WIN 1 of 10 Pharmacy Alliance Group memberships by answering this question:

How many different membership types do Pharmacy Alliance Group have?

Visit [www.pharmacyalliance.com.au](http://www.pharmacyalliance.com.au) now to enter!

**Pharmacy DAILY readers click here to enter**

With 414 member pharmacies, Pharmacy Alliance Group is Australia's largest independent pharmacy support network. We have 3 different membership types to suit the different business and lifestyle needs of all independent pharmacists Australia-wide.

**PAL ipog**  
More profit

**PAL Active**  
More profit. More time

**PAL Partner**  
More profit. More time. More support



PHARMACY ALLIANCE GROUP  
Freedom to choose

## Are you an accredited pharmacist?

MediFlags Medication Review Software is the complete software solution for accredited pharmacists.

**Try it for free!**

Get a no-obligation 30 day free trial now from our website

For more information or to try your 30 day free trial

visit [www.mediflags.com](http://www.mediflags.com)

or call 08 8303 6977.

**MediFlags**  
Medication Review Software  
Produced and Distributed by Australian Medicare Hardware

**AMH**  
Australian Medicare Hardware

Pharmacy DAILY Follow us on:

Just one click away from keeping up to date with all the breaking news as it comes to hand...



## Nagesic Forte launch

**NATURAL** pain and inflammation therapy, Nagesic Forte, will be available for over-the-counter sale in pharmacies from February this year.

The product's key ingredient (previously only available through natural health practitioners) is Cumerone- a component of the spice turmeric, which works to inhibit cartilage degeneration and provides symptomatic relief of pain and inflammation.

Nagesic Forte is designed to be taken once daily in its tablet form, and is said to take effect within two hours of consumption, and has no known interactions.

Primarily targeted to arthritis sufferers, the drug underwent clinical trials at Deakin University and was found to be as effective as ibuprofen and diclofenac, but without the side effects.

"The availability of Nagesic Forte over-the-counter will allow Pharmacists to offer a safe and effective treatment to the estimated 3.85 million Australians who are affected by this chronic and disabling condition," said Pharmacist and Medical Herbalist, Gerald Quigley.

Nagesic Forte can be used for both the temporary and long term relief of pain.

For distribution enquiries call BioRevive on 1300 799 978, or see [www.biorevive.com](http://www.biorevive.com).

## US Tylenol recall

**MCNEIL** Consumer Healthcare is voluntarily recalling selected lots of its Tylenol 8 Hour, Tylenol Arthritis Pain and Tylenol upper respiratory products, as well as Benadryl, Sudafed PE, and Sinutab products distributed in the US, Caribbean and Brazil.

The recall is a precautionary measure after a review of production records found instances of insufficient equipment cleaning procedures.

## Qld pharmacy clean up

**COMMUNITY** pharmacies across Queensland may suffer financial strain even if they were not directly affected by the flood waters, according to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

According to the Guild, the loss of tourism, as a direct response to the flooding, will not only hamper the rebound of pharmacies in the 89 towns and cities which suffered severe flooding, but will also have dampening flow-on effects for pharmacies across the state.

"Community pharmacy is a business that relies on cash flow working efficiently," said Guild President, Kos Sclavos.

"Even though a pharmacy may not have been directly affected by the flood waters, businesses will be

ceilings have had to be stripped bare where flooding was above the ceiling height.

"The re-build will take some time," he added.

**MEANWHILE** Sclavos also called on pharmaceutical manufacturers to provide "direct assistance" to flood affected community pharmacies in order to help businesses remain viable and to help staff retain their jobs.

Sclavos confirmed that the Guild is currently in talks with the major pharmaceutical manufacturers, and also with Medicines Australia, the Generic Medicines Industry Association, and ASMI, regarding "direct assistance" possibilities including extending credit for a temporary period.

"I am very pleased to report that the response I have had so far from manufacturers has been very supportive, and I hope that together we can work through the immense challenges ahead for so many community pharmacies," Sclavos said.

Pictured below cleaning and fixing flood damage at Aston's Pharmacy in the inner Brisbane suburb of Rosalie is (from left) Robyn Ede, Lesle Aston, Garry Aston and Kos Sclavos.



Ipswich Day and Night Pharmacy pictured (left) under water

significantly jeopardised by flattened trading.

"Unfortunately, insurance cover does not assist hundreds of pharmacies that will face significant loss of trade," he added.

The comments were made whilst Sclavos toured some of the flood devastated pharmacies in Ipswich and Brisbane over the weekend.

"It is difficult to comprehend the damage to so many pharmacies," he said.

"Not only is stock destroyed but fixtures and fitting have also been damaged and even



## DISPENSARY CORNER

**HAND** sanitiser needed!

A pair of New Zealand men are aiming to break the record for the world's longest handshake, in an outdoor battle of wills.

To break the record, the pair, Alastair Galpin and Bob Purdon, will have to continuously shake hands for over 24 hours.

Whilst in progress, the pair will have to eat, chat and use the toilet whilst shaking hands.

They will also face temperatures ranging from 30 degrees to zero.

**ROAD** rage in unusual places.

Two men entered into a lawn mower race in Christchurch, NZ, should have taken a calming herbal supplement prior to racing.

According to reports, the race went off without a hitch, until the competitors crossed the finish line, and one disgruntled mower shunted another racer sideways with his ride-on machine for around 10 metres.

Whilst the mowers were in motion, the man whose mower was being shunted, climbed off his machine and onto the other, only to start throwing punches.

Officials are still perplexed as to why the men fought over a lawn mower race.

**SO** clean you can eat off it?

It seems toilet chic is the new look for restaurants in 2011.

A recently opened restaurant in the Chinese province of Yunnan is proving to be onto a winner, with tourists and locals alike flocking to have a meal whilst sitting on a loo.

Meals on offer include 'toilet bowl hot pot', 'fried poo sticks' and 'excrement ice cream'.

To add extra ambience, the Modern Toilet restaurant also features urinal wall features.

"We had a survey before opening, and 20% of people wanted to try it, 60% weren't sure, while only 20% found the idea unacceptable," said Modern Toilet owner, Xu Liang.



The future of modern dining?



Attend & earn up to 27 CPD points

## Guild Pharmacy Academy - NSW Convention 2011

Friday 25th - Sunday 27th February 2011 | Novotel - Manly Pacific

Earn ALL your required CPD points in one weekend

- An extensive education program is on offer
- See, touch & discuss products with industry suppliers at their trade booths
- Network with industry colleagues & peers at dinner on Saturday night
- Zone Leaders meet Sunday 27 February

Register now at [www.guildpharmacyacademy-nswconvention.org.au](http://www.guildpharmacyacademy-nswconvention.org.au)

