

## Inter professional Communication

### Overcoming Psychological Barriers

#### Event details:

Liverpool	1 May
Illawarra	5 June
Coffs Harbour	17 July
Penrith	24 July
Newcastle	18 Sept
Albury	23 Oct
Tweed Heads	13 Nov

10 Group 2 CPD credits

Register at:

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

## Healthcare kit recall

IGC DOREL'S complete Healthcare Kit is being recalled because the thermometer provided reads in degrees Fahrenheit; regulations stipulate that thermometers sold in Australia must read in Celsius. See [www.recalls.gov.au](http://www.recalls.gov.au).

## API downplays Alliance loss

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries says it's continuing to trade with a "large number" of former Pharmacy Alliance (PAL) and Independent Pharmacists of Australia Group (IPAG) pharmacists, despite the groups switching their major supply contract to Sigma Pharmaceuticals (PD Fri).

In a statement to the ASX yesterday, API said it had recently executed preferred wholesaler agreements with approximately 150 members, while a further 50 PAL/IPAG members were also continuing to trade with API.

"API expects to increase its level of trading with members in the short to medium term," the statement said.

In contrast to API's assertions, Sigma and PAL last week claimed that during the five year term of the new agreement they expect at least two thirds of PAL and IPAG members to use Sigma as their first line wholesaler.

The groups together comprise about 380 pharmacies turning over around \$400 million in wholesale revenues - a significant amount of business for the wholesalers.

"The commercial terms agreed with Sigma are superior to others offered up through the competitive market process for independent community pharmacies," according to PAL Chairman Simon Reynolds.

## Fri's PD comp winner

CONGRATULATIONS to Clare Harris of Justice Health Pharmacy Services who was the winner of last Friday's Carmex comp.

"The overwhelming majority of the Pharmacy Alliance Group have already taken advantage of these new arrangements," he said.

API said it continues to reserve its rights with regard to its contractual relationship with PAL and IPAG.

## New PBAC Chair

THE Department of Health and Ageing has confirmed its appointment of Dr Suzanne Hill as the new chair of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

Flagged by PD on 16 May, Hill's appointment will see her head up the Govt's expert group of technical advisers who recommend listing of medicines on the PBS.

Hill currently works for WHO's Department of Medicines Policy and Standards in Geneva, and was previously Associate Professor, Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Newcastle.

"Dr Hill will bring to her new role a wealth of experience, at a time when rigorous assessments are as important as ever," said the Health Minister, Nicola Roxon.

MEANWHILE Medicines Australia Chief Executive, Dr Brendan Shaw, has welcomed Hill's appointment, saying "I am sure Dr Hill will bring astute leadership to the PBAC and contribute significantly to ensuring the Committee continues to be held in high regard internationally".

Shaw also congratulated outgoing Chair, Professor Lloyd Samsom, saying under his stewardship the PBAC became much more open and transparent.

## NRT on PBS a success

THE latest figures from the Department of Health and Ageing show that 100,000 scripts for subsidised nicotine patches have been filled by Australians since the NRT aids became available on the PBS in February.

"Placing patches onto the PBS has clearly helped to make them affordable for tens of thousands of Australians who want to quit - and has the added benefit of proper support and guidance from a medical professional," said Health Minister, Nicola Roxon.

## 33720 registrants

THERE are more than 23,230 pharmacists in Australia with general registration, according to figures released by the Pharmacy Board of Australia today.

The data summarises the numbers of pharmacists registered as at 30 Jun 2011, at the end of the first year of the new national registration scheme.

There are also 816 non-practising pharmacists, 1888 with provisional registration and just 7 with limited registration - along with 7778 registered pharmacy students.

The board is encouraging pharmacists to continue to access its website regularly - and in particular to read the information on Continuing Professional Development requirements in preparation for completion of their application and for renewal of registration by no later than 01 Nov.

Practitioners are also invited to update their contact details online at [www.pharmacyboard.gov.au](http://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au).

## WIN A VITAMIN C SERUM



To promote the new packaging, U Little Beauty is giving away a Vitamin C Serum to 10 lucky PD readers.

This very popular

serum helps to combat stressed looking skin and wrinkles with a strong concentration of naturally derived Vitamin C which is a natural stimulant of collagen and is rich in antioxidants.

To win, simply send in the correct answer to the daily question below to:

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

## Who is the new face of U Little Beauty?

First two entries received win!

Hint! Visit

[www.ulittlebeauty.com](http://www.ulittlebeauty.com)

Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winners, **Joylon Hawley** from **Aspen Pharmacare & April Pearce** of **Ayr District Hospital**.

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## Guild Update

This week's update from  
the Pharmacy Guild

## Blue September

**POPULAR** toilet paper brand Quilton is introducing an exclusive pharmacy-only pack to support Blue September's "Facing up to cancer in men" campaign.

Pharmacy Guild National President Kos Sclavos is an official ambassador of Blue September.

Blue September is an international campaign to promote action on cancers affecting men.

It's a fun way to promote awareness of the simple steps men can take to reduce their cancer risk.

Any funds raised in support of Blue September are donated to the Australian Cancer Research Foundation and Bowel Cancer Australia – the official Blue September charities.

The limited edition Quilton toilet tissue pack has been designed with a message to get men to take action for better health.

It's also a novelty product that men will talk about for hours and wives and children can buy in time for Father's Day.

Each pack has a variety of men's cancer awareness messages printed on the paper, combined with sport and humour trivia facts to lighten the message.

For each pack sold, \$2 will be donated to Blue September.

Additionally, all participating pharmacies will go into the draw for a chance to win prizes, including a holiday to California (valued at \$9000).

For pharmacy owners/managers, the order codes (PDE) for the Blue September Quilton packs are:

- API – 344915
- Sigma – 032110
- Symbion – 482447

For further information visit [www.blueseptember.org](http://www.blueseptember.org).



The Pharmacy  
Guild of Australia

## Sensaslim issues response

**THE** backers of the controversial Sensaslim weight loss spray have asked why they should not be allowed to promote it via their own website (*PD* yesterday), when they have been issued an Australian Registered Therapeutic Goods certificate by the TGA.

*PD* has a copy of the ARTG entry which confirms that Sensaslim Solution was listed on 20 Sep 2010.

Spokesperson Peter Ralph told *PD* yesterday that "all we are promoting on our site is the product...and asking people to make up their own mind.

"Our web site has been created by Australian Area Managers that have been caught up in this mess and believe we should be able to sell Sensaslim to the public and we

don't want to hide anything," he said.

Ralph has challenged Ken Harvey to advise which parts of the [www.spraylosschallenge.com.au](http://www.spraylosschallenge.com.au) website he has a problem with and "if he is being fair I will change what he wants".

**MEANWHILE** Sensaslim has also confirmed that it is proceeding with legal action against Ken Harvey, despite Sensaslim Australia being placed into administration.

Sensaslim lawyer Terry Harrison said the action against Dr Harvey is being personally funded by Sensaslim md Peter O'Brien, who is being added as a Plaintiff.

"The action will not be withdrawn and will continue," Harrison said.

## Dawn's circulation up

**AUSTRALIAN** swimming legend Dawn Fraser has become the official ambassador for High Tech Health's Circulation Booster.

Fraser, who's now in her 70s, is a daily user of the device for relief from swelling and pain, and a \$3 million national TV and press marketing campaign featuring the former Olympian launched yesterday.

"Dawn Fraser is an icon in Australia and has a reputation for honesty and integrity, and we believe that this new campaign will generate fantastic new sales opportunities for our pharmacy customers," said High Tech Health general manager Doug Bell.

More info on 1800 505 108.

## Lyme Disease Appeal

**THE** Karl McManus Foundation for Lyme Disease Research and Awareness is reminding pharmacists that its Lyme Disease Appeal kicks off on 01 September.

To support the fundraising, the Foundation is distributing a Lyme Disease Appeal Kit containing two A4 posters, a collection can and information leaflets to pharmacies across the nation.

Pharmacists wishing to create a window display should email [info@karlmcmanusfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@karlmcmanusfoundation.org.au), to make use of extras such as balloons and eye-catching cubes.

Participating pharmacies also have the chance to win cash, with \$500 for the pharmacy who raises the most funds, and \$250 for the best window display.

## "BOOST YOUR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT"



At Novotel Darling Harbour  
**SYDNEY 21-23 September 2011**  
Presented by Geoff Perry, FMRC Bus Dev.  
Over 2,000 Pharmacists have attended  
[Click here for brochure.](#)  
Gain 26 CPE points  
"The most practical, demystifying course I have been to."  
- Megan Kelly, Kiama



## DISPENSARY CORNER

### ANTI-venom anyone?

A one-metre long snake has forced a bullet train in Japan to stop in its tracks - literally - after it was found nestled into a passenger's seat.

The snake, described as black and red in colouring, is believed to be a Hinduran milk snake which escaped from its owner's cage whilst travelling on the train.

Following the cessation of the train journey, animal experts were called in to remove the reptile from the seat and transfer it to a local wildlife sanctuary.

### NO supplements needed.

Reigning champions Taisto Miettinen and Kristiina Haapanen have successfully defended their coveted title at this year's Finnish Wife Carrying Competition.

To win, the 46-year old Taisto sprinted 253 metres, leaping hurdles and wading through a pool of water, with his partner Kristiina clinging to him upside down with her legs wrapped around his neck, in front of a crowd of 6,500 spectators.

Taisto said the secret to defending his title was to train on the course wearing ski boots.

### A DEGREE in ...robbery.

Innsbruck University has come under fire after details of an unusual assignment set by an architecture professor, Armin Blasbichler, were discovered by mainstream media.

According to reports, Blasbichler asked his students to plan a way to rob 21 banks across Austria, in a bid to highlight their security weaknesses.

The main problem that many have with the assignment however, is Blasbichler's publication of the proposed robbery plans in a book.

"It was astonishingly irresponsible," said one outraged citizen.

"This book is now a blueprint for every violent criminal in the city," the person added.

 Pharmaceutical  
Society of Australia

## 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)

