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PHARMACY ALLIANCE
Freedom to choose

Budget bites into teeth

DENTAL products should be quarantined from the full impact of the 5.6% increase in fees and charges proposed by the TGA, according the Australian Dental Industry Association (ADIA).

"The proposed increase of TGA fees and charges is met by the suppliers of quality dental products and will be passed on to consumers, thus increasing the cost of dental care for all Australians," said Troy Williams, ADIA Chief Executive Officer.

ADIA added to its argument saying that the extra fees/taxes will negate some of the benefit of proposed increases to public funding for dental care.

Super Monday for pharma

02 APRIL is being described by pharmaceutical wholesalers as 'Super Monday' after they delivered more than four million therapeutic items to pharmacies across the nation.

Super Monday was sparked by the 01 April PBS price cuts, which saw the price of more than 100 commonly dispensed drugs drop.

The "well planned and executed response" to the uptake in ordering was made possible, according to the wholesalers, by the infrastructure and redundancy arrangements established under their Community Service Obligation

(CSO) agreement with the Federal Government (which requires wholesalers maintain the ability to deliver any of the more than 6,000 PBS medicines anywhere in Australia within 24 hours of an order being placed in return for a Govt subsidy).

"This was the largest day of orders in our history and I am proud to say that we met our CSO responsibilities," said President of the National Pharmaceutical Services Association, Patrick Davies.

"Aware of our obligations, CSO wholesalers worked closely with manufacturers and pharmacies in the weeks leading up to the April price cuts in order to minimise the impact on patients.

"When the time came, the CSO ensured that patients across Australia had reliable and timely access to PBS medicines even under extraordinary circumstances," he added.

PD comp winner

CONGRATULATIONS to the lucky winner of last Thursday's Hydralite competition, Christopher Kek of Chemist Warehouse Elsternwick.

See p2 for more chances to win.

Omega 3 fights cancer?

OMEGA 3 may be able to block the path of primary cancer tumors, according to pharmacy researchers.

The researchers, from Sydney University's Faculty of Pharmacy Pharmacogenomics and Drug Development Group, made the comments after gauging epoxides' (an Omega-3 agent) ability to block cancer cell movement in breast cancer tissue.

"These agents are a bit like frontline soldiers blocking the assault of an invading army and now we want to advance our research which was published late last year and apply it to breast cancer cells," said Dr Michael Murray, Professor of Pharmacogenetics at Sydney University.

"The major objective of our new project is to speed the development of anti-metastatic agents based on Omega-3 epoxides and trial their effectiveness in vivo on breast cancer tissue.

"Longer term we are aiming to develop a completely new class of anti-metastatic drugs designed to inhibit the spread of primary cancers," he added, saying that more research is needed to understand the effect that Omega-3 may have on the prevention of breast cancer.



Pharmacy Practice Incentives (PPI)

DAA and Clinical Interventions Claim Form DUE NOW

[Click here to access form](#)

IMPORTANT: Valid Claim Form must be lodged with Medicare by **14 April 2012** for eligible Claiming Period: 1 January to 31 March 2012



This Project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

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24-25 MAY 2012
**SYDNEY CONVENTION
& EXHIBITION CENTRE**



Guild Update

The new Pharmacy Business Network event is one of the Guild's most exciting initiatives of the year!

It is being held at the National Convention Centre from 13 – 16 September and will assist pharmacies remain successful, viable businesses in these challenging times.

It has evolved from the Women's Congress and will showcase the finals of the National Student Business Plan Competition.

This informative and business-focused event will offer CPD in both group 1 or group 2 activities.

Attendees can look forward to practical hands-on workshops, offsite educational excursions and hearing from local Canberra Nobel Prize winner Professor Brian Schmidt, as well as other high profile speakers.

The Rental Symposium Revisited, which is being held on the Saturday, is a must attend for anyone who wants to understand their lease agreement better, or is planning to negotiate a new or existing lease.

The event will also focus on:

- effective business planning
- more efficient purchasing
- mastering new software
- better staff management
- creating high value professional services.

To register your interest, follow us on Twitter and join the network on LinkedIn visit www.guild.org.au/pharmacybusiness.



**The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia**

Pharmacy mental nutrition

BLACKMORES has committed to nourishing the minds of Australian pharmacists via the launch of a series of free educational seminars throughout April, May and June.

According to Blackmores, the seminars will examine the relationship between medicines and nutrient levels, and are "part of Blackmores' ongoing commitment to evidence-based practice and pharmacist continuing professional development".

The result of a partnership between Blackmores and the Australian College of Pharmacy, the seminars will cover key nutrient changes based on life stages and health conditions, key mechanisms of action underlying drug-nutrient relationships and the potential for drug induced depletions.

According to Blackmores, the sessions are also designed to help equip pharmacists with strategies and skills with which to help their patients address and conquer

nutrient depletion issues.

The seminars will be led by independent pharmacists Dr Treasure McGuire (Senior Conjoint Lecturer in the School of Pharmacy, UQ and Ass Prof of Pharmacology, Faculty of Health Sciences & Medicine, Bond University) and Dr Brett MacFarlane (Education and Research Officer, Australian College of Pharmacy).

The sessions will take place as follows: 15 May, Mantra Chatswood; 16 May, Novotel Sydney Brighton Beach; 08 May, Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne; 09 May, Amora Hotel Riverwalk Melbourne; 17 April, Victoria Park Function Centre Herston; 30 April, Grand Chifley Adelaide; 01 May, Esplanade Hotel South Perth; 07 May, Salamanca Inn Hobart; and 05 June at the Mantra on Pandanus Darwin.

Sessions will start at 6pm and will conclude at 8.30pm.

For details email rsvpeducation@blackmores.com.au.



DISPENSARY CORNER

THE future is here, well sort-of.

Designers of a real-life working flying car have shown off their project to eager car enthusiasts at a New York motor show.

Titled Terrafugia Transition, the car-plane comes complete with foldable wings for convenient parking even in a bustling city such as New York, as well as four wheels, and all important turning indicators.

The car is priced at a modest \$270,000 and its manufacturer has told reporters that it already has 100 orders which it says will be ready for delivery at the end of the year.

SURVIVAL instinct.

An aged German cat, Poldi, has survived the odds living in a forest for 16 years after having gotten himself lost.

Poldi went for a gentle stroll from his owners Munich-based home in 1996, and was never seen again.

His grieved owner gave him up for dead long ago, supposing some misfortune had befallen the orange tabby cat.

Like another famous orange cat, Garfield, Poldi managed to land on his feet, setting himself up in a forest 32kms from where he wandered off.

He was found 16 years later by a group of hikers who took pity on the affectionate tabby, and carried him to a local animal welfare shelter where a tattoo on his ear enabled him to be traced back to his overjoyed owner.

According to reports, since returning home Poldi has managed to settle back into civilisation as if he never left, enjoying attention from his owner, sleeping, regular meals and sunning himself.



Poldi, stirred, not shaken.

WIN A PRESS & GO NAILS PACK

Every day this this week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving 3 lucky readers the chance to win a **Press & Go** Nails prize pack. Each prize pack includes 2 Press & Go designs valued at \$30.00.

Press & Go Nails are the first of their kind anywhere in the world, the patented adhesive technology doesn't ruin your natural nail, and they are flexible, light - not to mention they take only minutes to put on with no drying time.



Nicole Scherzinger is the face of this range which currently carries 12 fabulous patterns which last up to a week!

Get a salon-perfect manicure in seconds!

- Press on. Peel off
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To win, simply be one of the first three people to send in the correct answer to the question below to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

**Which singer and USA X-Factor Judge is the
face of Broadway Press & Go?**

