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Pharmacy Network

PHARMACISTS have only one week left until the Pharmacy Business Network Event on 13-16 Sep in Canberra, see **p3** for details.

Donate blood in Adl

ADELAIDIANS now have a new centre to spill blood, with the opening of the Regent Blood Donor Centre in the Regent Arcade in Grenfell Street.

The new facility is Australia's largest donor centre, cost around \$4 million to build and features state-of-the-art facilities, extended opening hours, a 36-couch capacity and a contemporary design.

"Ensuring a secure supply of blood to meet the clinical needs of patients is vital," said Commonwealth Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing Catherine King.

"The location of this new donor centre in the Adelaide CBD will make the centre more accessible to the Adelaide community and ensure that blood donation is easier for donors," King added.

Linzess approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Linzess (linaclotide) to treat chronic idiopathic constipation and to treat irritable bowel syndrome with constipation (IBS-C) in adults.

Linzess is a capsule taken once daily on an empty stomach.

Complementary framework

THE Australian Self-Medication Industry has lauded the Therapeutic Goods Administration's transparency in its decision to publish details of its compliance review framework for listed complementary medicines.

"ASMI has long called for a more rigorous and effective regime to ensure the compliance of listed medicines," said ASMI Regulatory and Scientific Affairs Director, Steve Scarff.

"We are pleased that the TGA has published their framework for conducting compliance reviews.

"This increase in transparency will be of benefit to both consumers and sponsors and we look forward to seeing the published outcomes," Scarff added.

Scarff went further to say that all claims made about complementary medicines should be supported with evidence so that consumers can use them with confidence.

"It is clear that there have been a number of questionable products without appropriate evidence in recent years," he said.

"This causes damage to the industry, and we support a strengthened framework for advertising controls, as well as appropriate sanctions, penalties and complaints handling processes," he added.

According to Scarff a "strong and effective advertising framework"

should include clear, published guidelines, retain the existing self-regulatory processes within a broader co-regulatory system, and apply to all advertisers regardless of membership of any industry association.

Scarff also said that the framework should apply to all advertising regardless of the medium employed or the audience targeted; provide timely, consistent and transparent complaints mechanisms, and impose effective sanctions.

"The transparency created by the TGA is a positive step, but much will depend on the detailed plan associated with how the monitoring and review will be conducted in practice, and whether sufficient resources will be devoted to the area to ensure the approach is effective," he said.

Biosciences Precinct

THIS week marks the opening of the Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute (CHIRI) Biosciences Research Precinct.

Costing \$35 million, the Precinct is designed to the search for new and improved methods of diagnosis and the discovery of medicines key to fighting chronic diseases afflicting people worldwide.

Key areas of focus for the Precinct include diabetes, tissue engineering, cancer, stem cell and pharmaceutical research.

The ground floor of the Precinct includes a Model Pharmacy practice teaching space.

Risk management

THE TGA has published updated risk management plan questions & answers onto its website.

To view the documents visit www.tga.gov.au.

WIN A BOTANI HAPPY FEET PACK

Every day this week, **PD** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a Happy Feet Pack, valued at over \$65, courtesy of **Botáni**.

Botáni's happy feet program will keep your feet beautiful, with the Eco-Clear Body Bar (for cleansing), Detox Foot Scrub (exfoliating dead skin), Phytoseptic Anti-Fungal Cream (treatment) and Olivéne Repair Balm (to moisturise and soften).

For your chance to win be the first person to send in the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.

Eco-Clear Body Bar features one key ingredient which has antiseptic properties... can you name it?

Hint! Visit www.botani.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's winner Shaye Turner from Webstercare.



Brisbane Southside Pharmacy (Receivers and Managers Appointed)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT

Acquire this well established pharmacy located in a prominent southside suburb of Brisbane. The pharmacy is well positioned in the middle of a busy retail precinct, on a major thoroughfare, surrounded by banks, real estate agencies, an express supermarket and many restaurants and take away venues.

A strong script business and open 7 days per week, this pharmacy is ideal for parties looking for a long established pharmacy opportunity.

Expressions of Interest close Friday **14 September 2012**.

To register your interest, please contact Peter Marshall, Pharmacy Solutions Australia

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m: 0417 721 203

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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by *Cruise Weekly*.

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DAYDREAM Island Resort and Spa is offering four nights in a Garden Balcony room, full buffet breakfast daily, free return ferry transfers on Cruise Whitsundays for two adults and a \$50 Rejuvenation Spa voucher per room for just \$598 per person, twin share.

The package is on sale until 30 November and valid for travel 1 September 2012 - 31 March 2013. See www.daydreamisland.com/spring for more details.

Ginger for diabetes

A NEW study published in *Planta Medica* has revealed that ginger may assist in the management of high blood sugar in diabetics.

According to the study by researchers at the University of Sydney, extracts from an Australian-grown ginger were able to increase the uptake of glucose into muscle cells independently of insulin.

"This assists in the management of high levels of blood sugar that create complications for long-term diabetic patients, and may allow cells to operate independently of insulin," said Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry Basil Roufogalis.

"The components responsible for the increase in glucose were gingerols, the major phenolic components of the ginger rhizome.

"Under normal conditions, blood glucose level is strictly maintained within a narrow range, and skeletal muscle is a major site of glucose clearance in the body," he added.

Australia's future: aged care

BY 2050 one in 20 working Australians will be an aged care worker, according to the Minister for Ageing Mark Butler.

The comments come in conjunction with the announcement that the Federal Government will provide funding for projects across Australia to create integrated aged care teaching centres.

According to Butler the initiative will combine teaching, research, care provision and service delivery in one location to create a learning environment akin to teaching hospitals.

"We want to provide graduates studying aged care with opportunities to learn in an environment that brings together research, training and real-world practical scenarios," Butler said.

The funding will see 16 grants provided to universities and aged care facilities across the country under the Teaching and Research Aged Care Services initiative.

Recipients funded under the TRACS initiative are: Aged Care & Housing Group (SA), Brotherhood of St Laurence (VIC), Deakin University (VIC), Griffith University (QLD), HammondCare (NSW) QLD University of Technology, Resthaven Incorporated (SA), RSL LifeCare Limited (NSW), Southern NSW Local Health District (NSW/ACT), St Johns Village Inc. Victoria (VIC), University of Adelaide, University of Wollongong, University of

Canberra, University of South Australia, University of Southern Queensland, and the University of Tasmania.

"The projects will cover a range of disciplines including nursing, psychology, medicine, physiotherapy and occupational therapy designed to support the training and professional development of workers in aged care," Butler said.

"It is critical that as the population ages, we ensure we have a highly skilled workforce and that the career path is attractive to the younger generations who are considering a future in the aged care industry," Butler added.

In search of excellence

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has opened entries for the Quality Care Pharmacy Program Pharmacy of the Year awards.

The awards recognise excellence in pharmacy across three categories: Business Management, Community Engagement, and Innovation in Professional Services.

Each of the three awards will be bestowed on a different community pharmacy, whilst the overall Pharmacy of the Year for 2013 being selected from these three category winners.

The award winners will score themselves cash prizes, as well as a trophy to show off.

See pharmacyoftheyear.com.au.

DISPENSARY CORNER

DEEP fried lawsuits.

One might be excused for thinking that the sheer volume of sugar, fat and salt in a Mars Bar would preclude it from being considered a healthy snack, however lawyers from the manufacturers of the chocolate are hoping to distance the bar from its unhealthier cousin, the deep fried Mars Bar.

The law firm has written to the Aberdeenshire fish and chip shop in Scotland, the supposed birthplace of the deep fried delight, requesting that the shop write a disclaimer on its menus saying that the Deep Fried Mars Bar is not authorised by the company.

The company's objection, according to reports, appears to spring from the fact that Deep Fried Mars Bars are not in line with Mars' marketing code which promotes a "healthy active lifestyle".

AFRAID of heights?

If so, visiting or living in the Yushan village in Hefeng County, Hubei Province, China, is totally off the cards for you, with the only access to the village being a rope between two sheer cliffs.

Dubbed as the world's most isolated village, the community of 200 installed the ropeway 15 years ago, before which they had to walk several days to reach other townships to trade goods.

The ropeway is 1,000 metres long, powered by a diesel engine, and 400 metres above ground.

The brave soul who maintains the ropeway, Zhang Xinjian, was the only volunteer for the job.



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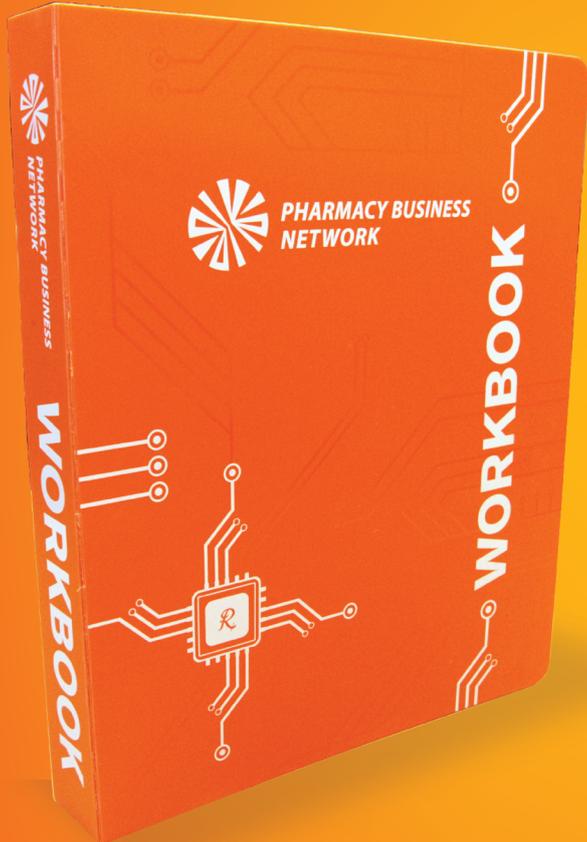
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PHARMACY BUSINESS NETWORK

An initiative of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia



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13 - 16 SEPT 2012

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More information and registration visit www.guild.org.au/pharmacybusiness



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

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