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## Nuvail approval

THE US FDA has approved Nuvail (poly-ureaurethane, 16%) nail solution, a novel prescription product to help manage nail dystrophy.

## Meph damages brain

RESEARCHERS from the University of Sydney have discovered that the popular party drug mephedrone can cause lasting damage to the brain.

The research, published in *PLoS ONE* the Public Library of Science journal, tested the drug on rats, giving them an injection of mephedrone once a day for ten days.

The rats were then split into groups, with the first having their brains examined an hour after their final dose, and the second having several weeks of drug-free living before being given behavioural tests to find signs of long-term cognitive impairment, and then having their brains analysed.

"With this second group that lived drug free for an extended period we found a substantial memory impairment in animals that had been given the higher dose of the drug," said Craig Motbey, a PhD candidate in the University's School of Psychology and lead author.

"This is concerning because it confirms earlier hints of memory problems in human mephedrone users.

"The fact the impairment was still there many weeks after the end of the drug treatment suggests that this damage may be permanent," he added.

## BPA now linked to obesity

COMMON plastic bottle and container ingredient Bisphenol A (BPA) has been linked to obesity in children and teens, according to a new study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The cross sectional analysis looked at a subsample of 2,838 American children and teens aged between six and 19 years, who were randomly selected for measurement of urinary BPA concentration in the 2003-2008 National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys.

Of those participants, 1,047 were classified as overweight and 590 were classified as obese.

According to the study's findings the median urinary BPA concentration was 2.8 ng/mL (interquartile range, 1.5-5.6).

Children who had the lowest BPA levels in their urine were found to have a lower prevalence of obesity.

Researchers also found that Urinary BPA concentration was

significantly associated with obesity, but said that explanations of the association cannot rule out the possibility that obese children ingest food with higher BPA content or have greater adipose stores of BPA.

Interestingly, obesity was not associated with exposure to other environmental phenols commonly used in other consumer products, such as sunscreens and soaps.

## Serenace 0.5mg recall

THE TGA has issued a recall order for Aspen Pharma's Serenace 0.5mg tablets (containing haloperidol) batch number BJ431.

The recall is being conducted because the manufacturer has received reports of tablets from the affected batch with black spots identified as penicillium species.

The order has been classified as Class I meaning that the defects are potentially life-threatening or could cause a serious risk to health.

Patients are being advised not to use the affected batch, but to return it to their local pharmacy and arrange for a replacement.

## Banning gag clauses

THE Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Mark Butler, has announced legislation set to be introduced, that will ban gag clauses in Commonwealth contracts with the Not-For-Profit (NFP) sector.

According to Butler, the law will ensure ongoing positive engagement and open debate between the Government and the sector.

The NFP sector includes around 600,000 organisations and accounts for around 8% of Australian employment.

## PSA Indonesian MoU

The PSA and the Indonesian Pharmacists Association have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop a framework for commitment and cooperation to support the work of both organisations in serving their members.

The MoU will also strengthen the communication, liaison, collaboration and cooperation between the IAI and PSA in policy development, education and training, political action, and commercial arrangements where there is mutual benefit.

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## Pricelinepharmacy@200



**PRICELINE** hit a milestone this month opening its 200th pharmacy on 13 September, Priceline Pharmacy Whyalla.

"We are really looking forward to developing strong relationships with our customers and providing them not only with great value, but also a lot of extra benefits, such as access to free in-store health consultations, and the great advantages offered by our Sister Club loyalty program," said Franchise Partner, John Cagney.

Speaking about the landmark opening, Priceline's State Manager, Peter McIndoe said, "It is vital that people living in regional and remote areas have easy access to medication and trusted pharmacy advice, and I'm pleased that a Priceline Pharmacy will be able to provide this quality health service to the people of Whyalla".

Pictured above at the opening is John Cagney (Franchise Partner), Jim Pollock (Whyalla Mayor who cut the ribbon at the ceremony), Scott Cameron (Priceline Network Development Manager), Morkos Abdelmalek (Franchise Partner) and Peter McIndoe (State Manager South Australia).

## J&J to open innovation centres

**JOHNSON & Johnson** is set to establish four innovation centers in China, California, Boston and London, to accelerate early innovation and enhance opportunities for collaboration and investment across its global healthcare businesses.

According to J&J the centres will serve as regional hubs focused on identifying early-stage innovations, and establishing novel collaborations to invest in and speed development of those innovations to solve unmet needs in patients.

The centres will boast in-house science and technology experts and will have local deal-making

capabilities, with flexibility to adapt deal structures to match the early-stage opportunity.

J&J also said that the four centres will provide scientists entrepreneurs and emerging companies focused on early-stage opportunities with access to its experts who can facilitate collaborations across the company's pharmaceutical, medical device and diagnostics and consumer companies.

"The innovation centers allow us to be closer to where the innovation occurs, to access and invest in the best early-stage science and technology, and to fuel our business as well as the health of the innovation ecosystem overall," said Dr Paul Stoffels, J&J Worldwide Chairman, Pharmaceuticals.

"Together with innovators and entrepreneurs, we can more rapidly deliver value and make a difference in the health and lives of people worldwide," he added.

## Sustainability at PAC12

**THE PSA** has revealed details about PAC12 keynote speaker John Chave, Secretary General of the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union's speech, including the fact that it will revolve around the sustainability of the supply chain.

The speech will look at the issue from the European experience.

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

## Combivent in the US

**BOEHRINGER** Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals has launched Combivent Respimat (ipratropium bromide and albuterol) Inhalation Spray in the US for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The propellant-free product requires one inhalation per dose as compared to Combivent MDI, which requires two.

## Women unsure on PFDs

**ONE** in three women experience pelvic floor disorders (PFD) during their lifetime, the majority of which are not sure what to do about it, according to the PFD Alliance.

"PFDs are very common, yet women often avoid the topic for a variety of reasons, including the fact that they think it's a normal part of aging – which it's not," said Dr Karen Noblett, Professor and Division Director for Urogynecology at the University of California.

"PFDs can impact various aspects of life, everything from exercise and travel to confidence and sexual intimacy, but women should not be embarrassed or feel like they just have to live with it," she added.

The comments coincide with the launch of a new campaign, Break Free from PFDs, designed to help women understand the facts about PFDs and empower them with information on how to pursue individualised solutions for improved quality of life.

For campaign details see [www.breakfreefrompfd.org](http://www.breakfreefrompfd.org).



Every day this week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving two lucky readers the chance to win a skincare pack, courtesy of **Sukin**.

Flaunt your sensitive side with the introduction of Sukin's mini-range. Created specifically for fragile skin, these gentle cleansing and moisturising essentials leave delicate, troublesome skin feeling

soft and clean without the tightness often associated with sensitive skin. The pack is valued at RRP \$30 and includes two soap-free cleansers which gently remove excess dirt, whilst calming actives soothe the skin. The team is completed with the non-greasy facial moisturiser, offering long-lasting hydration and a soft, nurtured and smooth complexion.

For your chance to win, be the first person to send in the correct answer to the daily question below.



**What are the names of the three products that feature in the Sukin Sensitive range?**

Email your answer to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Hint! Visit [www.sukinorganics.com](http://www.sukinorganics.com)

Congratulations to yesterday's winners **Carolyn Clifford**, from Pharmabroker Sales and **Mimoy Lee** from Demartes Amcal Pharmacy.

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[www.goodpricepharmacy.com.au](http://www.goodpricepharmacy.com.au)



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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](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au).



### LIFTING the veil.

A 65-year old British woman, June Blythe, has had her sense of smell and taste and restored after 40 years.

Blythe, an avid cook, lost the two senses after suffering chronic rhinosinusitis in 1975. Having no sense of smell did not however stop her from becoming an aromatherapist, whilst having no sense of taste did not stop her from continuing on with her love of cooking- for which she won many competitions.

"I had to rely on memories to remember how things smelled and tasted," she said.

Blythe had all but given up on her two senses after countless efforts to restore them had failed, when she decided to give doctors at Britain's only NHS smell and taste clinic a chance.

The process involved a three-hour operation during which surgeons removed polyps from her sinus cavities.

Nine days after the operation when nothing had changed, Blythe did not hold out much hope, but it was on the tenth day that things began to fall into place, when she realised that she was beginning to smell the lemon that she was zesting for her scones.

"It's like I'm living in a different world," she said.

### DOG rescue.

An Alaskan malamute has become the newest firefighter in China, and is undergoing rigorous special mission training to equip him to participate in rescue missions under extreme conditions.

As part of his training the pioneering pup is learning to walk over two 10m long tightwalk wires in 60 seconds.

His training is being monitored by 10 other dogs, which trainers hope will soon join him in rescue missions.



### Balance your liver

**Faulding's Liver Balance** is designed to assist in the maintenance of normal blood sugar balance in healthy people, and to assist in the maintenance of general wellbeing. The product contains high levels of the antioxidant spirulina, as well as R.S-alpha lipoic acid, pyridoxine hydrochloride, Vitamins B6, B2, B3 and B12, and chromium picolinate. According to Faulding, the product works to aid healthy liver detoxification; fat, carbohydrate and protein metabolism; and healthy skin, nails and hair.

RRP: \$14.99 (60 tablets)

Stockist: 03 9918 5336

Website: [www.faulding.com.au](http://www.faulding.com.au)



### Ostelin

#### Osteoguard

Assists in the prevention and treatment of Osteoporosis



Scientifically formulated to maintain bone mineral density

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### Osteoguard bone health

**Ostelin's** high potency Vitamin D and calcium supplement **Osteoguard** is scientifically formulated to help maintain bone mineral density and assist in the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis. According to Ostelin, the product offers users six levels of support for strong bones: with Vitamin D to reduce bone loss, calcium to increase bone mineral density, Vitamin K and magnesium to assist with the maintenance of strong healthy bones, boron to aid calcium metabolism, and manganese to help maintain healthy bones and joints.

RRP: \$26.99

Stockist: 1800 451 453

Website: [www.ostelin.com.au](http://www.ostelin.com.au)

### Prevent dry legs and feet

The new **NS-8 Foot & Leg Moisturiser** is an everyday foot and leg care cream that maintains healthy skin to prevent dry skin that can become thickened and cracked. The formula is light and non-greasy, and is enriched with Vitamins C, E and F and 10% urea to help to prevent dry, rough, cracked skin. The use of urea (similar to the lipids in the skin) also helps the product to absorb quickly into the skin, rather than sitting slickly on its surface. The moisturiser is suitable for all the family, but is specially formulated for diabetic skin care.

RRP: \$13.95 (125g)

Stockist: 1300 366 833

Website: [www.ns8.com.au](http://www.ns8.com.au)



### Prevent dry legs and feet

**Bio-Organics Magnesium Forte Powder** contains 18 ingredients for energy, muscle, heart and recovery. The high strength formula is suitable for people who experience nocturnal leg cramps, those who undergo strenuous exercise or would like to support their energy levels. Apart from magnesium, other key ingredients include Co-Enzyme Q10, Vitamin C, selenium and manganese to help protect cell membranes from free radical damage, as well as B vitamins that have an essential role in energy production. The powder is also tropical flavoured and can be added to water or juice.

RRP: \$39.95 (Available from 01 October)

Website: [www.bio-organics.com.au](http://www.bio-organics.com.au)