

API shares down 15.5%

AUSTRALIAN Pharmaceutical Industries has told the ASX it is unaware of any reason for its share price dropping from 61 cents to 51.5 cents along with an increase in trading over recent days, in response to a formal ASX query.



PSA Intern Training

Get ahead with PSA

- » Study now, pay later*
- » Complete units towards post graduate qualifications
- » Access tailored local support to help pass your exams
- » Start now and fast track your program

*For eligible participants

P: 1300 369 772

E: intern@psa.org.au

www.psa.org.au/intern

Apotex claims court win

APOTEX says that a recent High Court decision about leflunomide has confirmed that it did not infringe a patent on the product held by Sanofi, with the reasons for the finding having "far-reaching consequences for the infringement

of patent claims to methods of medical treatment."

Apotex regional md Roger Millichamp said the ruling has clarified patent infringement, particularly in cases where generics are used to treat conditions for which they are not indicated.

"The effect of the High Court's decision is that if the generic drug is not indicated for the patented condition, the generic supplier is not liable for patent infringement if the generic drug is used by doctors and patients to treat the patented condition".

Millichamp said that Sanofi now faces the prospect of claims by Apotex and others for damages, with litigation running since 2008 and the generic supplier set to argue that Sanofi should pay costs.

MU research centre

MACQUARIE University has launched a new research, advocacy and educational body, the *Centre for the Health Economy*.

This comes as a response to the increasing difficulty for health-related industries to access data across the whole sector, with the aim of helping public and private organisations to understand the sector-wide impacts of intersecting research, technologies, systems, people and processes involved in the business of health.

According to Professor Mark Gabbott, Executive Dean of Macquarie University's Faculty of Business and Economics, "for the first time health-related industries will be able to access data that looks at how new health innovations can create knock on effects into different health industries, like service suppliers, pharmaceutical companies, health insurance providers and healthcare organisations."

The Centre for the Health Economy has already undertaken a joint research project with the Australian Self Medication Industry (ASMI) looking at the role of self-care in driving better healthcare outcomes for Australians.

Aussie health worries

INTERNET addiction, weight gain, food safety and pollution are four health threats worrying Aussies this year, according to life insurer AIA's 2013 *Healthy Living Index Survey*.

Plasma tender

THE National Blood Authority has issued a request for tender for the supply of imported plasma and recombinant products.

Items include recombinant Factor VIII and Factor IX, with existing arrangements for the supply of the products expiring 30 Jun 2014.

Dispensing Di-Gesic

ON 1 Jan 2014 the new conditions to promote the safe use of Di-Gesic (dextropropoxyphene HCl 32.5mg / paracetamol 325mg) and Doloxene (dextropropoxyphene napsylate), come into effect (**PD** Dec 3).

From the start of Jan pharmacists now must sight and retain (for 2 years) a Prescriber Confirmation Form each time a first script is dispensed for Di-Gesic or Doloxene.

This form will be given to the patient by his/her doctor, but is not required for repeat prescriptions.

Pharmacists must also photocopy and retain a de-identified copy of each Di-Gesic or Doloxene prescription dispensed, whether it is a first dispensing or a repeat dispensing.

Copies of these prescriptions may be required for audit purposes.

Pharmacists who participate in the supply scheme agree to be audited to determine compliance with the new dispensing conditions.

A sample of pharmacies will be selected for auditing in certain months and information collected during the audit process will be de-identified.

Full details of the Di-Gesic and Doloxene supply scheme along with frequently asked questions can be found on the Aspen Website.

Go to www.aspenpharma.com.au and log in from the Secure Access "DPP" dropdown link using the password "support".

Prior to 01 January 2014 scripts for Di-Gesic and Doloxene should be handled in the usual manner.



Your Pharmacy Recruitment Experts

FreeCall: 1800 429 829

Email: info@ravensrecruitment.com.au

Web: www.ravensrecruitment.com.au

Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - South Coast, NSW (Job# 2010289)
Busy dispensary with experienced team; Beautiful location \$110k pkg.
- **Pharmacist Manager** - West Coast, VIC (Job# 2010275)
With the support of a 2nd Pharmacist and Tech in a popular coastal town.
- **Dispensary Manager** - Capricornia Coast, QLD (Job# 2010012)
Full-time Dispensary Manager role with customer focused environment.

our dynamic support can move your business or career forward!

Pharmacist Manager

Permanent Full Time – Capricornia Region, Qld

We are looking for an experienced Pharmacist Manager to join a busy retail Pharmacy group. This position would suit a proactive Pharmacist who enjoys managing a large, dynamic and experienced team and who is passionate about implementing and driving clinical services.

An attractive salary package (depending on experience) including relocation assistance & temporary accommodation will be offered if required.

Contact: Bruce Elliot on 0404 002 011

To Apply: email your resume & cover letter to:

recruit@lifelifecentral.com

www.lifelifepharmacy.com



- Cost Effective
- Targeted
- Easy

Events Calendar

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* events calendar, opportunities to earn CPE and CPD points.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like us to feature, email info@pharmacydaily.com.au.

8 Dec: Apply First Aid; St Leonards; more info at: www.guild.org.au/nsw

4 Feb 2014: Cardiovascular Disease & Type 2 Diabetes Risk Assessment; Brisbane; call: (07) 3831 9246

8 Feb 2014: Pharmacy on the Move; Sydney; more info at: www.psa.org.au

21-23 Feb 2014: CPD by the SEA - NSW Convention; Novotel Sydney Manly Pacific - www.cpdbythesea.com.au

21-23 Feb 2014: Foundation Clinical Pharmacy Practice Seminar; InterContinental Adelaide - see more at: www.shpa.org.au

28 Feb - 1 Mar: Blackmores Institute Symposium; Australian Technology Park, Sydney; more info at: <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/BIS13/>

1-2 Mar 2014: Cardiology Seminar; Sofitel Gold Coast Broadbeach - visit: www.shpa.org.au

7-9 March 2014: PSA Annual Therapeutic Update; Crown Plaza Terrigal; see www.psa.org.au/conferences

13-16 Mar 2014: Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2014, Gold Coast - see www.appconference.com

11-12 Apr 2014: 2nd BioCeuticals Research Symposium; Sofitel Sydney Wentworth; for more info see: www.bioceuticals.com.au

12-14 Apr 2014: FIP Fifth Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress, Melbourne - for details **CLICK HERE**.

PHARMAC boasts of success

NEW Zealand's Pharmaceutical Management Agency (PHARMAC) claims its approach to funding pharmaceuticals is "as relevant now as it has ever been," saying in its annual review yesterday that it's enabled record numbers of New Zealanders to receive funded medicines over the last year.

The review showed that the number of funded prescription items has also continued to grow, to a record 42.2 million.

Drawing a comparison with Australia, ceo Steffan Crausaz pointed out that atorvastatin 40 mg, which costs Australian taxpayers \$51.00 for 30 tabs through the PBS, costs just AU\$5.80 for 90 tabs in New Zealand.

This product alone "would save the PBS more than \$1.4 million a day," he said.

Crausaz said that PHARMAC's methods will be even more important as it beds in new roles.

"In the past year, PHARMAC has successfully absorbed the national immunisation schedule within the funding it manages, and also manages all funded hospital medicines.

"Now that PHARMAC is taking on a wider role the relevance of the PHARMAC approach comes even more sharply into focus," he wrote.

"An even larger piece of work is now underway, involving hospital medical devices. While medicines number in the thousands, devices number in the tens of thousands."

An analysis of NZ prescribing data showed that 85% of pharmaceutical spending went to 16% of patients - or conversely a large number of people (2.7 million) are covered with just 15% of the budget.

"In other words PHARMAC gets enormous bang for the buck for the majority of New Zealanders in need of medicines".

CLICK HERE to read the review.

GSK loses appeal

GLAXOSMITHKLINE has had an application for leave to appeal the decision in its Children's Panadol dosing device patent case against Reckitt Benckiser dismissed.

GSK sought the appeal claiming "apprehended bias" by the judge in the case, but earlier this week the request was dismissed with costs.

Council appoints Reid

CANBERRA pharmacist Patrick Reid, Chief Executive Officer of Leading Aged Services Australia, has been appointed as one of five new experts to the ACT Government's Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing.

The appointments were announced by the Minister for Ageing, Shane Rattenbury, who said the council assisted the Government in the development and implementation of positive ageing policies to advance the status and interest of older people.

ACT Branch President of the Society, Associate Professor Greg Kyle, said the appointment was significant.

"Having Patrick Reid as a member of the council brings the expertise of the ceo of the age services peak body, combined with that of a pharmacist, to the table in this very important area," Associate Professor Kyle said.

Reid is a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia.

DISPENSARY CORNER



GASTROINTESTINAL issues may be looming for a Brisbane jewel thief, who swallowed two large diamond engagement rings earlier this week.

According to the *Courier Mail*, the man posed as a customer to look at the jewellery worth more than \$50,000, before absconding with them.

He was chased by the store manager through a crowded shopping centre, eventually being cornered in a nearby pharmacy - at which stage he wolfed down the rings, one of which was a one carat diamond solitaire and the other a 1.53 carat yellow diamond surrounded by 28 smaller gems.

"I think the second one would have been pretty difficult to swallow," said the store manager. The man has been charged with theft and fraud, with the magistrate refusing bail until the precious items work their way through his system.

WIN HYDRALYTE FOR CHRISTMAS

Every day this week *Pharmacy Daily* is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a **Hydralyte** prize pack including an Orange and Apple Black Currant Effervescent Tube, valued at \$30 each.

Planning a Christmas Party? Drinking Alcohol?

Fact 1: Alcohol acts as a diuretic (a substance that increases urine output).

Fact 2: For every standard drink you consume, you are likely to urinate about 100 mL more than you drink - leading to dehydration.

Fact 3: Symptoms of dehydration include, fatigue, headache & dizziness.

TIP: A glass or two of Hydralyte before you go to bed will help you retain fluid & rehydrate effectively.

To win this great Hydralyte prize pack, simply be one of the first ten people to send in the correct answer to the question below to:

comp@pharmacydaily.com.au.



True or False: Symptoms of dehydration include fatigue, headache & dizziness

The correct answer to yesterday's question was: **True**