

## Caring for meds in heat

NPS MedicineWise is reminding Australians that extremes in temperature, particularly heat, can impact the effectiveness of medicines.

"Most medicines need to be stored under 25°C, so if you're commuting or travelling, preparing for the possibility of bushfire and evacuation, or think your area could experience a temporary loss of electricity, you might need to use a cooler bag, esky or insulated pouch to store your medicines," said Clinical adviser at NPS MedicineWise, Dr Philippa Binns.

To stop heat affecting meds, NPS recommends treatments be stored in a cool, dry place away from direct heat, moisture and sunlight.

## US Fulyzaq approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has this month approved Fulyzaq (crofelemer) for the relief of symptoms caused by diarrhea in HIV/AIDS patients taking antiretroviral therapy.

The drug is derived from the red sap of the Croton lechleri plant, and is the second botanical prescription drug approved by FDA (after Veregen (sinecatechins), a treatment for external genital and perianal warts, was approved in 2006).

Fulyzaq is intended to be used in HIV/AIDS patients whose diarrhea is not caused by an infection from a virus, bacteria, or parasite.

As such, patients are required to take Fulyzaq two times a day to manage watery diarrhea due to the secretion of electrolytes and water in the gastrointestinal tract.

## Pharmacists mostly compliant

**MORE** than 90% of practitioners were shown to be compliant with the Pharmacy Board of Australia's registration standards, according to the results of the *Practitioner Audit Pilot Report-Phase One*.

This majority result, according to the Pharmacy Board, indicates that registrants are aware and engaged with the requirements of the registration standards for the pharmacy profession.

In terms of a breakdown, the report found that two percent of practitioners selected for the audit changed their registration status to non-practising.

Of this group the majority were found to be not practising in Australia and as such, were not required to participate or provide evidence of compliance with the registration standards.

"This highlighted a need to increase awareness among practitioners about the most appropriate registration type for this group," the report said.

In addition, during the audit five percent of the practitioners fell short of one or more of the registration standards and were thus referred to the Board for review.

"The levels of non-compliance varied and we have identified two areas where clarification and communication of requirements is required," the report said.

"The first was how to assess ROP of overseas registrants and the second was to develop criteria for assessing breaches of the CRC

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depending on the severity of noncompliance," the report added.

Meanwhile two percent of participants were found not participating in CPD/ROP and 1% did not renew their registration.

Moving forward, the second phase of the pilot is currently in progress with optometry, pharmacy and chiropractic professions under AHPRA's microscope.

Practitioners will be randomly selected across these three professions when they apply to renew their registration for the 2012-13 period.

Practitioners selected to participate will be audited for compliance against their Board's registration standards: criminal history, professional indemnity insurance, recency of practice and continuing professional development.

## Eggs are okay

**THERE** is no evidence of a correlation between egg consumption and risk of coronary heart disease or stroke, according to a study published in the *British Medical Journal*.

The study looked at eight articles with 17 reports (nine for coronary heart disease, eight for stroke) and found that higher consumption of eggs (up to one egg per day) is not associated with increased risk of coronary heart disease or stroke.

Egg consumption in patients with diabetes, however, was something that researchers noted needed more consideration.

## New health App

**RADIUS** Interactive has launched PhysiPal, health calculator for iPhone.

The App provides users with access to unlimited calorie/kilojoule conversion, weight loss/gain calculator, body health information as well as hundreds of health tips and "Motifications".

For details visit Apple's App Store.

## Accreditation Council

**THE** Pharmacy Board of Australia has decided to extend the Australian Pharmacy Council's role as accreditation authority for the pharmacy profession for a further period of 5 years from 1 July 2013.

"In making the assignment, the Board is conscious of the importance of balancing the need for flexibility and responsiveness to developments (such as the review of the National Scheme) with the need for certainty and continuity for education providers, as well as enabling effective planning and efficient management by the Council," the Board said.

As such, the Board will integrate suitable flexibility into its future arrangements with the Council; establish an agreed program of work; and identify key issues to be addressed during the period of the assignment.

Meanwhile, the Council will continue regular reporting (in addition to reports on accredited programs) to the Board on its activities and governance structures, in line with the Quality Framework for the Accreditation Function.

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### Petrie honoured

**ANDREW** Petrie, has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree by The University of Queensland for his outstanding career and his contribution to pharmacy and healthcare at the state and national levels.

Petrie is a former PSA Queensland President and National Councillor, and his award citation highlighted his involvement with the development of in-hospital teaching of pharmacy students and the establishment of the Queensland Poisons Information Centre.

Petrie was also recognised for his contribution to the establishment of clinical post graduate courses in Qld and his acceptance of the principles of the National Medicines Policy within Queensland Health.

"He has left an enduring stamp on the profession and is someone that has influenced many pharmacists in this country," said Professor Lisa Nissen, president of the Queensland Branch of the PSA. "He has been a great member of our profession," he added.

## ANZTPA edges ever closer

**UNDER** a joint scheme for regulation of therapeutic products to be administered by the Australia New Zealand Therapeutic Products Agency (ANZTPA), a medicine will be defined in a way that will include the following product types: prescription, OTC and complementary medicines; most medical gases; vaccines; allergens; biotechnology medicines; plasma products, including immunoglobulins; radiopharmaceuticals; most radio-contrast agents; dialysis solutions (except haemodialysis solutions); and sunscreens.

The definition is part of a discussion paper published by ANZTPA, which is described as a "conversation starter" outlining the contents of a possible regulatory scheme for therapeutic products in Australia and NZ.

Interestingly, the paper discusses New Zealand's plans to operate separate regulation for certain low-risk 'natural health and supplementary products which

would be reviewed five years after its commencement to consider whether or not to maintain a separate scheme.

In terms of standards, the discussion paper states that ANZTPA will be able to determine standards for medicines to be set out in Orders and relating to: the quality of medicines and ingredients in medicines; the manufacture of medicines; containers, closures and packaging; presentation of medicines; information for consumers and healthcare professionals, including product labels; terminology to be used in applications and in information for consumers or healthcare professionals; and other matters concerning the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines.

In addition, the paper states that a medicine covered by the joint scheme will only be able to be: imported into Australia or NZ; exported to a third country from Australia or NZ; and supplied in Australia or NZ by the holder of a product approval granted by ANZTPA, unless specifically exempted.

Meanwhile, medicines intended for supply in Australia and/or NZ will be classified as either Class 1 medicines or Class 2 medicines.

The classification will determine the product approval procedure that applies to the medicine.

The classification of a medicine will be based on a number of factors, including: the intrinsic risk of the product; the risks associated with the quality of the product; and the risks associated with the intended use(s) of the product.

Class 1 medicines will be low risk and the product approval procedure will be based on certifications made by the applicant and an automated validation of key data by ANZTPA.

Class 2 medicines will be higher risk and the product approval procedure will be based on a pre-market evaluation of the quality, safety and efficacy of the medicine undertaken by ANZTPA.

To view the document visit [www.anztpa.org](http://www.anztpa.org).

The document is open for consultation until 21 February.

### Garlic for heart health

**AGED** garlic extract significantly reduces blood pressure in Australian adults with hypertension, according to a new study published in the *European Journal of Clinical Nutrition*.

The study, by researchers at the University of Adelaide found that two daily capsules of a high potency formula of aged garlic extract was enough to reduce systolic blood pressure by an average of 12 millimetres of mercury - which is comparable to the effect of many commonly prescribed anti-hypertensive medicines.

The result is interesting given that a reduction in systolic blood pressure in this range lowers the risk of cardiovascular disease by 16 - 40 per cent.

## WIN A QR HEALTH™ PRIZE PACK

This week **PD** is giving ten lucky readers the chance to win a Quick Response Health™ prize pack, valued at \$92 each.

Q.R Health™ is a range of high potency, premium quality effervescent vitamins and supplements. The 6 unique products in the Q.R Health™ range have been specifically formulated to maximise efficacy through a pleasant taste and delivery format.

For more information go to [www.quickresponsehealth.com](http://www.quickresponsehealth.com).

To win, simply be the first person to send in the correct answer to the question below to: [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**What ingredients contained in QR Defence aids the absorption of Vitamin C?**

Congratulations to yesterday's winners, Kelly Healey from John Hunter Hospital and Gary Walsh of CAEM Shelving Engineering.



### Pharmacy Practice Incentives (PPI)

## DAA's/Clinical Interventions claim form **DUE NOW**

The DAA's/Clinical Interventions claim form **MUST** be lodged with Medicare between 1- 14 January 2013

**Click to access Claim form**

**IMPORTANT:** Claims received by Medicare after 14 January 2013 will be rejected.



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



## 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).

### Need a Headlice Hero?

**Headlice Hero** promises to be gentle on hair but lethal on lice. Developed by Smart Science, **Headlice Hero Treatment Spray** attacks head lice infestations and eradicates the lice by killing them and preventing the eggs from hatching using a physical action. This physical action is a non-poisonous process that coats the lice, causing them to dehydrate and die in a single 10 minute treatment. As an added bonus, rather than stripping hair of moisture and smelling of lice treatment, the product is designed to leave hair in silky smooth condition, and smelling faintly pleasant. The product also offers a 100% money back guarantee.

RRP: \$19.99

Stockist: (02) 8709 8814



### Boost omega-3 with the help of Antarctica

**BioCeuticals** latest krill oil product, **UltraClean Antarctic Krill 1500mg**, harnesses krill taken from environmentally sustainable sources in Antarctica. Krill oil contains a high quantity of omega-3 fatty acids. The oil is also high in phospholipids, which are important components of healthy cell membrane structure, and also contains astaxanthin, a powerful antioxidant. The product is scented vanilla and is designed to be taken once a day. In terms of its sustainable credibility, the product contains krill caught in Antarctica using Eco-harvesting technology which prevents anything larger than krill from being caught. Once caught, the krill are then air injected through a hose back to the boat, alive and fresh for immediate processing on board the vessel.

RRP: \$49.95 (30 capsules)

Stockist: 1300 650 455

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



### Train asthmatics with Flo-Tone

**Flo-Tone Trainer** is a simple add-on to a pressurised inhaler that enables patients to acquire good inhaler technique, easily. The attachment is designed to be used by healthcare professionals together with a placebo inhaler to teach patients correct inhaler technique. By coupling Flo-Tone Trainer to the mouthpiece of an inhaler, on inhalation, it will provide an audible signal that guides the patient to actuate the inhaler and coaches them towards the appropriate inspiratory flow rate.

RRP: \$4.99

Stockist: 1800 812 097



### Tuberose for a radiant complexion

**Estee Lauder's Re-Nutriv Radiant White Age-Renewal Lotion** combines Re-Nutriv White Tuberose, a concentrated form of the white tuberose flower, with potent anti-oxidants and advanced brightening ingredients to brighten skin, as well as advanced anti-aging ingredients. Additionally, the Lotion includes Re-Nutriv's exclusive Life Re-Newing Molecules to provide skin with radiant vitality. The hero ingredient, white tuberose, comforts and soothes skin against the irritants that can cause a cycle of irritation which can lead to the overproduction of melanin, resulting in age spots and discolouration.

RRP: \$100 (200ml)

Stockist: 1800 061 326

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



## DISPENSARY CORNER

### DRUNK dogs?

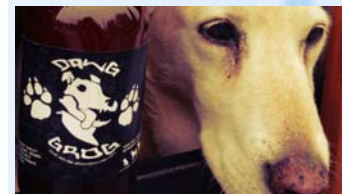
Well not quite, unless they can get drunk on flavour of a new 'pooch hooch', aptly titled **Dawg Grog**.

The doggie beverage is the brainchild of Daniel Keeton who works at Bend's Boneyard Brewery tasting room in the US state of Oregon.

Keeton, a keen dog lover, decided to craft the **Dawg Grog** so that his dog Lola could also have her own beverage when he had a beer.

Despite the name, the bevvie does not actually contain any alcohol, but is rather created using vegetable broth and spent grain.

Thus far, Keeton has reported **Dawg Grog** has been a hit with Lola who often licks her bowl clean.



### SMALL form of time travel.

A US newspaper gained a window to the past this month, after receiving a parcel which was meant to be delivered in 1949.

The parcel contained a Pennsylvania Railroad calendar for 1950, along with a note addressed to James Flanagan, the former General Manager of newspaper *The Scranton Times*.

According to publisher Bobby Lynett, the calendar was delivered by a postie who gave no explanation for its 63 year delay.

When Lynett then contacted the post office, he was told that sometimes lost mail resurfaces when the US postal service dismantles an old machine or renovates an office.

Lynett now plans to offer the calendar to the Steamtown National Historic Site railroad museum for their display.