

## Janssen+Amphivena

**AFFIRMED** Therapeutics offshoot Amphivena has entered into an agreement which grants Janssen exclusive rights to acquire the business and its assets.

The arrangement is to support the pre-clinical development of Affirmed's novel TandAb based cancer therapy.

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### Guy Ewing

Owner of Barossa Chemplus Pharmacy



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## NZ pharmacist prescribing

**HEALTH** authorities in NZ claim the country is "leading the way in Australasia," after having implemented pharmacist prescribing before Australia.

NZ Associate Health Minister, Todd McClay, confirmed that clinical pharmacists will be able to prescribe in New Zealand, once they have completed a new postgraduate certificate in pharmacist prescribing and are registered with the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand.

"This move to allow pharmacist prescribing is consistent with the Government's commitment to support health practitioners to work to their full capability and improve patient access to integrated health services," he said. "Prescribing is a natural extension

of the experienced clinical pharmacist's role, using their extensive training and knowledge".

Under the move, pharmacists who have completed the appropriate training will be able to prescribe a range of medicines in a defined area of practice, agreed to with the collaborative health care team in which they work.

McClay said this means they will work closely with a patient's doctor to tailor and then better manage the combination of medicines to the individual's needs.

## NAPSA charity record

**THE** National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) has announced a new fundraising record for their annual Charity Cup campaign.

Throughout April, pharmacy students from sixteen universities across Australia participated in Charity Cup events to raise funds for the Day of Difference Foundation.

Outgoing Pharmacy Awareness Committee Chair, Matthew Tom, announced the record breaking total of \$21,598.12 at NAPSA's Annual General Meeting held in Brisbane over the same weekend as the Australian College of Pharmacy's Conference and Exhibition.

This year marks the third consecutive year that NAPSA has partnered with Day of Difference foundation for their Charity Cup campaign.

In this period, NAPSA has raised an incredible \$54,000.

## Anticoagulant dosing

**NPS** MedicineWise has created a useful dosage guide for the new range of anticoagulant therapy for patients suffering from Atrial Fibrillation (AF), Pulmonary Embolism (PE) and Venous Thromboembolism (VTE).

It includes a table giving details of the different contraindications for each of the newer anticoagulants.

The guide can be used to adjust dosing depending on the indication for therapy and the patient's level of renal impairment, age and/or weight.

Rivaroxaban (Xarelto from Bayer) is flagged for listing on the PBS from August 01 (PD July 08).

To access the guide **CLICK HERE**.

## Pharmacy a top job

**AMERICAN** magazine *US News & World Report* says that working as a pharmacist is the country's third best profession - behind dentists and nurses - based on a list produced from US Bureau of Labor Statistics figures.

Professions were graded on availability of jobs, growth over the last ten years, median salary, job prospects and work-life balance.

The US government is projecting 25% employment growth for pharmacists by 2020 - the equivalent of almost 70,000 jobs.

Pharmacists working in the areas of residential mental health, consulting services and rehabilitation were the highest paid, with the median annual salary for pharmacists being \$113,390.

The highest 10% of US pharmacists earned about \$145,000 a year - but the report also said pharmacists faced above average stress levels.

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## NZ Pharmacists Ready

**THE** New Zealand Pharmacy Guild President Karen Crisp has offered pharmacists as a source for easily accessible, timely and professional health advice in light of news reports that hospital emergency departments are being swamped by patients with 'minor ailments'.

Ms Crisp added that pharmacists are well-placed to help fulfil the Government's strategy for "better, sooner, more convenient" primary health care as the most readily accessible healthcare professionals in the community.

## TGA slimming alert

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued warnings about Viaplex Gold Capsules, Majestic Slim Perfect Capsules, and Plexus Slim Accelerator Capsules.

All of these products "pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken," the TGA said.

Testing has revealed that they contain undeclared prescription substances including sildenafil, 1,3-dimethylamylamine and phenolthphthalein.

## CPD cap hits pharmacists

**THE** federal government's \$2000 cap on self-education expenses will make it much harder for pharmacists to meet their mandatory continuing professional development requirements, according to the details of a formal Treasury submission from the Pharmacy Guild.

The submission was prepared by Guild Pharmacy Academy National Director, Anthony Tassone, who said the move will "make Australia less competitive as a country and would particularly hurt younger pharmacists, female pharmacists returning to the workforce and pharmacists practising in rural areas."

"A cap on deductible education expenses will lead to a lower skilled workforce across many sectors, particularly health and pharmacy," Tassone added.

The submission argues that the proposed cap is discriminatory against registered health practitioners, who under the National Law are required to maintain a minimum level of CPD to maintain registration and the right

to practice.

It also cites a PSA survey which found that 65% of respondents had spent more than \$2000 on deductible education expenses, with 81% saying their employer does not make any contribution to these costs.

He said that if the government is concerned about rorting, this should be identified and stamped out "rather than disadvantaging hard working pharmacists who are ensuring they have the skills to meet the needs of their patients".

The proposed cap is also not indexed, so will be further eroded with time due to inflation.

The Guild's full submission, which includes several case studies on the impact of the self-education cap, can be viewed by **CLICKING HERE**.

## Diabetes Week

**THIS** National Diabetes Week, NPS MedicineWise is reminding people with diabetes to keep track of three things — blood glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol levels — to stay healthy and prevent their risk of complications.

Almost one million Australians have type 2 diabetes and many may be at risk of developing serious complications including heart attack and stroke.

To help people with diabetes manage the "three pillars of good health," NPS has developed a suite of resources that individuals, community groups and health professionals can access for free.

These include the Keeping Track of Diabetes Guide, and the Diabetes Health Tracker tool to record medicines and test results, both available in multiple languages.

For details **CLICK HERE**.

## Medtronic recall

**THE** TGA has advised that Medtronic Australasia is recalling some batches of its MiniMed insulin reservoirs (MMT-326A and MMT-332A models) because of the danger of leakage.

There are 14 batch numbers affected in Australia.

For details **CLICK HERE**.

## ADMA conference

**THE** Australian Disease Management Association's ninth annual conference will take place 22-23 Aug at Sydney's InterContinental Hotel, and will be opened by NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner.



## PAC13 Update

The PAC13 program is quickly filling up with more speakers confirming for PAC13. Dr Sue Shepherd will present a gastrointestinal clinical update focusing on the Low FODMAP Dietary Management for Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

Ben Angel will be presenting in the first Early Career Pharmacist workshop on Saturday 12 October. The self-titled agent of influence will help participants understand what makes up their personal brand and how to use it to advance their career. ECPs will then get a chance to practice these new skills during the second workshop, when they are matched with a pharmacy owner or pharmacy industry leader who will work directly with them, helping them to refine their networking and influencing skills.

There has also been an oral health workshop added to the Sunday of PAC.

A reminder that this year, each full registration (either with or without the social functions) will come with a free seven inch tablet computer. These tablet computers will have the PAC App pre-loaded and are yours to keep after the conference.

For more information and to register for PAC visit [www.psa.org.au/pac](http://www.psa.org.au/pac).



## WIN A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF CARMEX® LIP BALM PRODUCTS

Every day this week **Pharmacy Daily** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win an entire range of Carmex® lip balm this winter, and stay beautiful, all winter long!

Keeping warm, hydrated and looking beautiful during the winter months can prove a little tricky! Carmex® lip balm is the absolute

must-have for helping to keep lips moisturised and more importantly.... kissable this winter! The entire Carmex lip balm range is perfect for maintaining your own simple yet sophisticated on-trend make up style as you get out and about enjoying winter, from the mountains to the metropolis!

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**Who is the Australian Ambassador  
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Congratulations to yesterday's lucky winner, **Meme Phung** from **Macquarie Medical Centre Pharmacy**.







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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 [newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### Internationally successful Prunelax comes to Australia

A new addition to the Lightning Brokers range this year, **Prunelax Extra Strength** tablets are an effective laxative of natural origin, building on the original Prunelax which was a jam containing prunes, ground senna fruits and leaves. The tablets now contain senna extract as the active ingredient and retain plum extract as a key ingredient. The brand has already seen a strong response from consumers, and with television advertising under way it's expected to really get sales moving.

**Stockist:** Lightning Brokers 1300 888 797

**RRP:** 20 tablets \$5.49, 60 tablets \$10.99

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



### Safer driving for mum and bub

Dreambaby has released an updated version of its award-winning **Bump Belt**, offering added protection for both expectant mother and child. Additions or 2013 include new non-slip dots to stop the Dreambaby Bump Belt from slipping upwards, and its black colour blends discreetly with the interiors of most modern vehicles. The Bump Belt ensures that in the event of an accident the seat belt is positioned correctly over the abdomen, reducing the risk of injury to the unborn child, and it does not affect the structural integrity of the seat belt.

**Stockists:** 02 9386 4000

**RRP:** \$34.95

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

### Red Nose Baby Wipes support SIDS research

Aussie Wipes has joined forces with the *SIDS and Kids* charity to launch this new range of **Red Nose Baby Wipes**, which are the only locally owned and manufactured wipe on the market. 5% of all sales from the wipes go to the charity, and they're also the only baby wipes in Australia accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council, supporting forest management and preserving wildlife habitats for future generations. They're also dermatologically tested and approved and pH balanced.

Bulk orders of one carton containing nine jumbo packs cost \$35.97.

**Stockists:** 1300 494 737

**RRP:** \$5.99 for 100 jumbo wipes

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



### New Rouge Eclat Lipstick by Clarins

This new range from Clarins promises intense long-lasting colour along with the "Nutri-Youth Complex," which protects lips against dehydration and boosts collagen. The inclusion of Vitamin E protects against free radicals, while 100% plant waxes give instant comfort and appearance of fine lines.

**Clarins Rouge Eclat Lipstick** is available in 15 spectacular and sumptuous shades, comes with a delicious blackberry and liquorice scent, and will be on shelf from 19 August 2013.

**Stockists:** 02 9663 4277

**RRP:** \$38

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



## DISPENSARY CORNER



IT'S often thought that dying in your sleep is a good way to go, but probably not like this...

A 45-year-old man in Brazil has been crushed to death in his own bed, after a 1500kg cow fell through the roof of his bedroom.

Joao Maria de Souza was fast asleep next to his wife when the animal, which had escaped from a nearby farm, apparently broke through the fence of his home and climbed onto the lean-to style roof of the building.

The corrugated iron couldn't support the cow's weight and it collapsed, causing broken limbs and severe internal injuries.

His devastated mother, Maria de Souza, told *SuperCanal TV*: "I didn't bring my son up to be killed by a falling cow."

**THERE'S** a good reason your mum told you to go to bed early.

A report published recently in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* says that late nights and a lack of routine at bedtime can significantly affect academic performances.

A UK study of more than 11,000 seven year olds found a strong correlation between sleep patterns and performance in maths and reading tests.

The scientists from University College London said it was possible that inconsistent bedtimes were due to chaotic family settings rather than disrupted sleep, and it was this that had an impact on cognitive performance in children.

Interestingly the children with erratic bedtimes were from less socially advantaged backgrounds, according to the *BBC*.

They were also less likely to be read a bedtime story and watched more television.

However after adjusting for these factors there was still a strong link between poorer academic performance and going to bed later.

Most of the better performing kids went to bed at about 7.30pm.