

## 'Dragon Claw' videos

**MEMBERS** of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia are being asked by [www.dragon-claw.org](http://www.dragon-claw.org) website to invite any of their rheumatoid or lupus customers to share their story in a one to three minute video.

For many sufferers, rheumatoid disease can feel like an unpleasant animal moving around the body biting and scratching said Dragon Claw founder Michael Gill.

"Occasionally, the dragon rears up and breaths fire, which is felt as a flare, hence the name," he said.

The call for videos is all part of the organisation's call to "slay the dragon together".

Contact Susan Hughes through [info@dragon-claw.org](mailto:info@dragon-claw.org) or by calling 0421 459 747.

## Student Business Plan finalists

**THE** Pharmacy Guild has announced the finalists for its 2015 National Student Business Plan competition, which this year attracted a total of 18 entries.

The finalist teams are PlusCheck Pharmacy from the University of Sydney; Performance Pharmacy from the University of South Australia; and the University of Tasmania's Vitality Pharmacy.

Highly commended prizes also went to Local Pharmacy from Charles Darwin University, and Targeted Health Pharmacy of La Trobe University.

The finalist teams will now present their investor pitch live at the Pharmacy Business Network in Melbourne on Fri 18 Sep.

## Corum's high aspirations

**CORUM** Health has confirmed intentions to "reassert itself as the leading software provider to the pharmacy sector," with the company yesterday saying at the start of 2015 it had recognised that its clients were "not being provided with adequate service levels".

As well as this, software upgrades in Corum's LOTS system had been "proceeding too slowly," and correcting these deficiencies became the Board's main mission.

Since then the company has undergone a restructure, but "trading conditions in the pharmacy sector remain challenging, with reduced margins and increasing operating costs impacting customers' businesses," according to the Corum full year results announcement.

Corum reported \$19.3m in revenue for the year to 30 Jun, down almost 5%, with an 8.3% increase in after tax profit to \$4.6m.

The company said the flow-on effect of difficult trading was caution in terms of software and hardware upgrades, with some clients driven to "seek less featured

## NPS CPD credits offer

**FREE** online activities relating to asthma, blood pressure, chronic pain, fatigue and medicines in older people as well as activities on CVD risk, type 2 diabetes and oral anticoagulants are all on offer from NPS MedicineWise.

The activities need to be completed before 30 Sep.

**CLICK HERE** to access.

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alternatives which are cheaper".

Despite this Corum "retained its strong #2 market share position in the pharmacy software industry".

Corum confirmed it had also experienced a reduction in pharmacy customer numbers.

Major technology initiatives undertaken this year include migration of the software from the previous MS Access platform to Microsoft SQL server, materially improving performance.

Dedicated "CORUM-HUB" mini-drives have been installed at no charge in each pharmacy to allow faster processing, improved reliability and cloud access.

And the new LOTS ONE product has launched, offering "numerous enhancements and updates, with further enhancements planned".

Going forward Corum aims to grow its market share in pharmacy software, both organically and via "tactical acquisitions".

## Festival of Beauty

**PRICELINE** Pharmacy yesterday formally launched its 2015 *Festival of Beauty* with a Sydney function featuring Priceline Ambassadors Ada Nicademou, Samantha Harris and Ita Buttrose, all of whom walked the "pink carpet".

API ceo Stephen Roche said campaigns like this enable the group's 400+ store network to engage and connect with customers in their local communities "in a fun and exciting way".

Priceline Pharmacy's *Festival of Beauty* runs 27 Aug-23 March 2016.

## Falls lead injury cause

**FALLS** are both the leading cause of injury leading to hospitalisation for Australians and are the injury that has increased the most in recent years, according to a new report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

Surveying the period 01 Jul 1999 to 30 Jun 2013, the report said the yearly number of cases rose from about 327,000 to 447,000, an increase of over 36%.

**CLICK HERE** for the full report.

## Win with Aromababy

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and **Aromababy** are giving readers the chance to win an Aromababy prize pack worth \$39.95.

Celebrating 20 years, Aromababy is well known as an affordable, pharmacy-focused alternative to mass produced baby care. Aromababy was Australia's very first, natural baby skincare brand to combine research with the use of organic ingredients. Aromababy is used in select hospitals and may be used on sensitive skin.

To win, be the first person from **VIC** or **TAS** to send the correct answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Is Aromababy used in select hospitals?**

**CLICK HERE** for a hint

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Amy Hunt from HPS Pharmacies.



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## 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](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au).

**1 Sep:** Work Priorities workshop; Melbourne; more info at: [www.cpd.shpa.org.au](http://www.cpd.shpa.org.au)

**2-4 Sep:** STROKE 2015; Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre; details at: [www.stroke2015.com.au](http://www.stroke2015.com.au)

**4-5 Sep:** The Friendlies' Conference - 2015; Stamford Grand, Glenelg; more info at: [pharmacyconference.com.au](http://pharmacyconference.com.au)

**8 Sep:** QCPP Refresher Training; Cairns; info and registration: [www.guild.org.au/qldcpd](http://www.guild.org.au/qldcpd)

**9 Sep:** CPD Accredited First Aid; Brisbane; info and registration: [www.guild.org.au/qldcpd](http://www.guild.org.au/qldcpd)

**10-11 Sep:** Australasian Disease Management Association 11th Annual Conference; Brisbane Convention Centre; visit: [www.adma.org.au](http://www.adma.org.au)

**12 Sep:** CPD Accredited First Aid; Gold Coast; info and registration: [www.guild.org.au/qldcpd](http://www.guild.org.au/qldcpd)

**16 Sep:** Cardiovascular Update: The Role of Pharmacy; St Leonards; more info at: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**17-19 Sep:** Pharmacy Business Network; Etihad Stadium, Melbourne; details at: [pharmacybusinessnetwork.com](http://pharmacybusinessnetwork.com)

**19 Sep:** PSA Immunisation Training; St Leonards; visit: [www.psa.org.au](http://www.psa.org.au)

**22 Sep:** Excellence in Allergic Rhinitis CPD Seminar and Webcast; The Arena - NAB Docklands, Vic; more info at: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

**26 Sep-3 Oct:** Kota Kinabalu Conference; Kota Kinabalu, Borneo; for details visit: [www.cpdconferencing.com.au](http://www.cpdconferencing.com.au)

## Hepatitis C breakthrough

**PHARMACISTS** could have a significant new role in the treatment of hepatitis C, with the TGA yesterday registering Bristol-Myers Squibb's new Daklinza (daclatasvir) in combination with other products for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection in adults with liver disease.

Daklinza, when used in combination with sofosbuvir, is a once-daily all-oral interferon-free regimen which is a "great leap forward in clinical medicine," according to Professor Gregory Dore, head of the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Research Program at the University of NSW's Kirby Institute. Speaking at a presentation in Sydney yesterday, Dore said community pharmacists may prove a "key factor in giving broad access" to the new medication which is currently under review for a potential PBS listing.

### Blackmores modules

**BLACKMORES** Professional is conducting another seminar this Saturday 29 Aug titled *Peace in Practice for Healthcare Professionals*.

Presenter for the five module training workshops is Petrea King, author, teacher and facilitator and ceo of the Quest for Life Foundation established in 1989.

Bookings essential: 1300 941 488.

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With many pharmacies already dispensing methadone they have an "interface to the most affected population" of hepatitis C patients, Dore said.

He urged pharmacists and pharmacy staff to improve their understanding of hepatitis C in preparation for the PBS listing of Daklinza which is a much improved treatment option for the condition.

### NICE diabetes targets

**STRICTER** blood glucose targets have been recommended by the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in its new suite of diabetes guidance which aims to help reduce variation in the management and care of the condition.

The guidance covers type 1 diabetes in adults, type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children and young people, and diabetic foot care.

With most adults with type 1 diabetes presently having HbA1c scores that are above target levels, they are at increased risk of long-term potentially life-threatening complications.

The new guidelines recommend adults with type 1 diabetes achieve a target HbA1c level of 48 mmol/mol (6.5%) or lower and should be offered multiple daily injection basal-bolus insulin regimens.

**CLICK HERE** to access guidelines.

**DISPENSARY CORNER**

### SERENITY now?

Incense may need to come with a health warning, after a study published in the *Environmental Chemistry Letters* journal evaluated the health risks associated with burning incense indoors.

Researchers from the South China University of Technology tested incense containing sandalwood and agarwood as well as cigarette smoke, checking the effects on the ovary cells of Chinese hamsters.

Incense smoke was found to be mutagenic, and was also more cytotoxic and genotoxic than cigarette smoke - meaning the incense was potentially more likely to be carcinogenic.

"Clearly, there needs to be greater awareness and management of the health risks associated with burning incense in indoor environments," said lead researcher Rong Zhou.

PS: lock up your hamsters!

**HOUSE** dust contains a rich variety of microflora, according to a US study which found an average of 9,000 different species of microbes in a normal home.

Researchers from the University of Colorado gathered dust from more than 1,200 households across the USA and analysed the contents, with the research published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*.

The scientists found, fairly unsurprisingly, that the types of bacteria and fungi varied, depending on where the home was located, who lived there and if pets were present, according to a *BBC report*.

The "Wild Life of our Homes" study primarily focused on the dust found on the ledges above doors, overlooked when cleaning.

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### Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central Western NSW (Job# 2011587)  
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- **Dispensary Technician** - Melbourne North, VIC (Job# 2011467)  
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- **Pharmacist Manager & Pharmacist** - North, TAS (Job# 2011610)  
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