

## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has two pages of news, plus a full page from **Corum Group**.

## Stuffed toy recalls

**CUTE** doesn't necessarily mean safe, as any parent knows, and retailers are finding again that some toys in front of shop can actually be hazardous to young children, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) pre-Christmas safety check warns.

Out of 3,300 toys marketed in stores and online, the ACCC has found seven potentially dangerous toys that fail mandatory safety requirements.

The reminder comes at a critical time as toy sales rocket during the Christmas rush.

"Children are particularly vulnerable as consumers, and unsafe toys shouldn't reach their hands at any time," ACCC deputy chair Delia Rickard said.

[CLICK HERE](#) for 2015 recalls.

## Hep C funding hailed

**CONSUMERS** Health Forum (CHF) ceo Leanne Wells has welcomed the government's \$1b funding (PD 21 Dec) as a "Christmas gift" of an effective cure for hepatitis C and great news for all Australians, particularly the 230,000 patients who live with the disease.

The CHF response follows the Health Department's announcement Sunday signalling the funding in what it called a "watershed moment" in Australian history.

## Pharmacists strike action

**EMPLOYED** pharmacists at National Pharmacies stores across Victoria and South Australia will become the first in their profession to take strike action against their employer, spurred by threats to reduce penalty rates, says the employed pharmacists' union, Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA).

With a nation-wide debate raging over the Productivity Commission's potential reversal of weekend penalty rates from double time to time and a half for workers in retail, hospitality and entertainment, the PPA estimates the proposed cuts could trim new pharmacists' pay cheques by up to \$10,000 a year.

From tomorrow (Thursday), pharmacists will embark on a campaign against National Pharmacies, authorising strikes of up to 24 hours that could force the temporary closure of some sites if

the deadlock continues.

The campaign this week will begin with pharmacists refusing to perform a range of work duties.

National Pharmacies, which has 36 stores in SA, 17 in Vic and one in WA and NSW, said the pressures of a competitive and uncertain marketplace had forced a need to match the rest of the industry's offerings.

"Among the areas that need to be aligned with the rest of the industry are penalty rates," the company said.

Unions have vowed to wage a national campaign leading into the 2016 election, perceiving rate reductions as an attack on workers who should be rewarded for their sacrifice, not penalised.

## Diabetes home strips

**USERS** of the at-home blood glucose testing kit, GlucoMen XL, have been warned by UK authorities that improper storage of the vials may lead to "falsely high readings", which in turn could prompt people into taking an incorrect dosage of medication.

Consumers are also being reminded to check that the vials are closed properly according to the instructions for use, as exposure to high humidity can produce "falsely high readings".

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

## Antibiotic apocalypse

**WHILE** the threat to human health is described as "low", scientists have warned that the world was on the cusp of a post antibiotic era when bacteria resistant to the most common antibiotic of last resort, colistin, were discovered in China last month, reports *BBC News*.

UK medical authorities believed they had at least three years before colistin resistant organisms spread from China to England, but Public Health England and the Animal and Plant Health Agency had already begun testing for it, finding 15 cases out of more than 24,000 bacterial samples tested.

Salmonella and e.coli were among the resistant organisms found on three pig farms, the report said, with the Chinese resistance cases attributed to overuse of antibiotics in agriculture.

## FDA gay donor policy

**THE US** Food and Drug Administration has updated its blood donor deferral policy to reduce the risk of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

By utilising 'sound science', donor education materials and specific advances in blood testing, the FDA has reduced HIV transmission rates from blood transfusion from one in 2,500 to one in 1.47 million.

To review the FDA's revised recommendations, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Protecting the public

**THE** Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has released a new video and accompanying infographic explaining the Australia-wide scheme that is in place to protect members of the public.

The video explains how the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme) works.

AHPRA ceo Martin Fletcher said that all registered health practitioners are required to meet national standards.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the video.

## Win with MILANI

This week *Pharmacy Daily* and Milani are giving away everyday a prize pack including Plumrose Colour Statement Lipstick, Grey Bella Eyeshadow and Mauve Baked Blush.

Milani Cosmetics is a cruelty-free brand. They do not test products on animals, nor do they allow others to test on their behalf. The brand is certified by both PETA and The Leaping Bunny Program (CCIC) as cruelty-free. Milani also has a ton of Vegan options also. For more info visit [www.milanicosmetics.com.au](http://www.milanicosmetics.com.au)

To win, be the first from WA, SA or NT to send the right answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Does Milani Australia carry the new Rose Blushes?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Joss Beare from Blooms the Chemist Kingaroy.



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## Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly promoted 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)

### Elucent Anti Ageing Day Moisturiser SPF30+ by Ego

Pharmacy-only company Ego has created **Elucent Anti Ageing Day Moisturiser SPF30+** with 4% AHAs, designed to visibly reduce wrinkles. This unique moisturiser helps maintain skin hydration by reducing water loss from the skin whilst improving skin texture and tone with Vitamin B3 and E, while simultaneously helping protect against the damaging effects of the sun with a broad spectrum SPF 30+ sunscreen. Related products include Elucent Serum, a night moisturiser, an anti-ageing eye cream and a gentle cleanser.

**Stockist:** 03 9586 8800

**RRP:** \$42.39

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



### DISPENSARY CORNER

**A CONTROVERSIAL** anti-marijuana campaign launched by the NSW Government has been mercilessly mocked online, spurring a series of hilarious parodies.

The original adverts were intended to deter youth consumption of marijuana, and depict a human-sized stoner sloth that struggles to maintain proper social interactions with other people due to its crippling addiction to marijuana.

One of the three advertisements released shows stoner sloth sitting at the dinner table with his parents unable to pass the salt, despite his mother persistently asking, instead opting to pass her a salad.

The online community joked that stoner sloth was only being thoughtful by helping his mother limit her sodium intake.

A parody depicting exactly just that surfaced online shortly, dubbing over the original with "Excess salt in your diet comes with risks like high blood pressure, heart diseases and stroke...so tonight, don't pass the salt. "Pass the salad".

**CLICK HERE** to watch the parody.

**MEANWHILE**, health and drug experts nation-wide have slammed the Stoner Sloth campaign, with the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre releasing a public plea to the Government to dissociate the organisation from the adverts.

"While we wish the NSW Government luck in future cannabis campaigns, the current Stoner Sloth campaign doesn't reflect NCPIIC views on how 'cannabis harms' campaigns should be approached," said the NCPIIC in a statement to media.

**CLICK HERE** to see Stoner Sloth.



### PoxClin Sensitive - for the relief of the symptoms of chickenpox

Itchy spots, blisters and scabs from chickenpox can be distressing for both children and their parents, but **PoxClin Sensitive** contains a CoolMousse for instant cooling and soothing itch relief. PoxClin Sensitive also helps to prevent scarring and blocks bacteria that may bind to broken or scratched blisters. The product has a mild and pleasant fragrance of chamomile and lavender and is specifically designed to condition and moisturise children's skin.

**Stockist:** Symbion PDE #222313 or Sigma PDE #198903

**RRP:** \$22.99

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

### Express For Men - by Restoria

This permanent hair colour for men comes with resealable tubes and a unique brush that ensures easy, no-mess application. **Express for Men** provides a quick and natural looking solution to grey hair that can be achieved in the stress-free privacy of home promising 100% grey coverage in minutes. The product is available in four natural shades: Light Brown, Natural Brown, Dark Brown, Black and now also as Jet Black, a colour specially designed for Asian hair.

**Stockist:** 1800 244 292

**RRP:** \$12.90

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



### Natio Divine Christmas Giftpack

**Natio Divine** is a special gift pack for Christmas with five luxury pampering inclusions. It features Spa Heavenly Hand Cream (90mL), Spa Pep-Up Body Cleanser (210mL), Spa Ultra Hydrating Body Lotion (250mL), Spa Foot Revival Cream (110mL) and a large beautiful striped tote bag. This festive season collection will please the most fastidious of gift critics.

**Stockist:** 03 9415 9911

**RRP:** \$39.95

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



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**Postal address:** PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

**Street address:** 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

**P:** 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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**Publisher:** Bruce Piper [info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Reporter:** Mal Smith

**Contributors:** Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

**Advertising and Marketing:** Magda Herdrik [advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**Business Manager:** Jenny Piper [accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)



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CORUM **LOTS** one

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