Trials to go online

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has published details of the migration process for Clinical Trial Notifications from the current paper-based database to a new online system.

Effective from next Mon 19 Oct 2015 the internal paper-based system will be closed, with data to be reformatted to allow matching to the new online system.

Once this is complete in early Dec, pre-01 Jul 2015 CTN information will be posted to the online TBS system, after which sponsors will be able to view and change clinical trial information online.

PDL support number

PDL is rolling out a new phone number for members in NSW and ACT to dial for all incident reports and advice in relation to products.

The new number is 1300 854 838, with pharmacists encouraged to save it into their mobile phone for easy reference.

The change means the report and support line is now the same for all PDL contacts across Australia. PDL has also announced the appointment of John Guy as the NSW/ACT Professional Officer. He takes the support service role with extensive industry experience having owned and managed pharmacies for over 27 years.

“All reports are treated confidentially and in a non-judgemental manner,” he said.

“Having worked at the coal face for so long, I too have worried about making a dispensing error, which gives me insight and understanding into what a reporting pharmacist is going through. I am here to help,” he said.

EU guides adopted

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced the adoption of a range of European Union guidelines in Australia, following a consultation period which ended in August this year. The guidelines cover a range of areas including quality plus clinical efficacy & safety, and include several product-specific biosimilar guidelines.

For details see tga.gov.au.

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$9m pharmacy fine

A PHARMACY in the US state of Kentucky will pay US$9.25 million to settle allegations that it received illegal payments from Abbott Laboratories for promoting Depakote to nursing home patients. Pharmacies in the state of Kentucky will pay US$9.25 million to settle allegations that they provided inappropriate drugs based on their needs, rather than “the business interests of the companies providing the drugs”.

Real-time feedback service

THE Pharmacy Guild has today announced the launch of a new service for members which aims to provide live feedback on the in-store experience of customers. Currently being trialled nationally, the new Customer Experience Index system involves an in-store survey conducted by a Guild visitor on site within the pharmacy.

It includes one-on-one feedback for the pharmacy owner/manager on what can be improved, with the onsite visit completed within a two hour period.

The Guild says the innovative service expands on the successful QCPP mystery shopper program.

Labor ministry grows

OPPOSITION leader Bill Shorten has reshuffled his shadow ministry, with changes including the appointment of Katy Gallagher as Shadow Minister for Mental Health - in addition to responsibilities for housing and women’s policy.

Mental health webinar

THE National Institute for Mental Health Research will host a free online webinar next Tue, to showcase the MindSpot, Mental Health Online and ThisWayUp therapist-assisted online mental health programs.

According to the Pharmacy Guild, the Using e-MH resources in your work webinar will be a “great entry point for pharmacists who would like a referral option but feel concerned about referring patients to self-help programs”.

The webinar takes place at 6.30pm AEST on Tue 20 Oct - to register CLICK HERE.

George walks for brain cancer

PHARMACY Guild national president George Tambassis has issued an appeal for pharmacies across Australia to get involved in the Walk4BrainCancer 2015 campaign, which is being run by the Guild’s charity partner Cure Brain Cancer Foundation.

Fundraising walks will take place across the country, with the proceeds to help raise awareness and funds for cancer research.

“As little as $100 per pharmacy would be fantastic, as that would sum up to half a million dollars and this is the sort of money that the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation needs to run some really important clinical trials on new and emerging medicines that are coming onto the market,” Tambassis said.

Guild member pharmacies last month received a Walk4BrainCancer promotional poster and were urged to put it up to highlight their nearest walk - see www.walk4braincancer.com.au.

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Jurlique Baby’s Calming Massage Oil is lightweight oil that provides a soft massage without being oily. The massage works to promote a restful sleep, while leaving the skin soft, calm and comfortable. It contains hydrating and calming lavender and chamomile, uplifting rosemary and soothing calendula and birch, as well as protective jojoba oil and vitamin E.

Stockist: 1800 805 286
RRP: $29.00 100mL
Website: www.jurlique.com.au

CoQ10 150 mg from Blackmores

Blackmores CoQ10 150mg is a high potency dose of coenzyme Q10, derived from a natural source, to help replenish declining CoQ10 levels in the body. It is an antioxidant that provides support for cellular energy production as well as helping to maintain normal healthy functioning of the heart, the company says.

Stockist: 1800 803 760
RRP: $25.49 30 caps
Website: www.blackmores.com.au

Fake Bake Fair Self-Tan Lotion

Dipping your toes into the world of DIY tanning can be daunting. For a flawless first time result, choose Fake Bake Fair Self-Tan Lotion. Set to complement any skin tone, this easy glide formula features Fake Bake’s exclusive ‘show where it goes’ cosmetic colour guide to help ensure streak-free results. For total control, the gradual formula also means you can reaply over consecutive days, or stop at one application, depending on the depth of colour you’re after.

Stockist: 1300 787 587
RRP: $39.00
Website: www.fakebake.com.au

CareDent introduces Rapids product range dispenser

Oral health care company CareDent, has introduced a new dispensing solution for the Rapids product range which includes the Rapids Dry Mouth Strips for relief for dry mouth sufferers and the Rapids Mouth Ulcer Strips for relief of pain from mouth ulcers. The Rapids Dispenser is designed to be placed at the cash register or nearby shelving unit and makes the Rapids range more visible. The dispenser contains 12 x Rapids Mouth Ulcer Strips and 12 x Dry Mouth Strips and can be easily restocked with additional product.

Stockist: 1800 369 273
RRP: $167.24
Website: www.doward.com.au
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