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Sleep apnoea module

THE Australian College of Pharmacy has released an eLearning module titled *Sleep apnoea: Not just a bad night's rest*.

The course was developed by experienced accredited pharmacists, the College says.

Visit www.acp.edu.au for details.

PDL RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

Go to www.pdl.org.au and click 'My Account' to renew today.



Blackmores record profit

BLACKMORES yesterday released its figures for the nine months to 31 Mar, with group profit for the period surging 145% to \$76 million.

The company said all businesses and regions had delivered sales growth, with total revenue of \$532 million, up 63% on the previous corresponding period.

Sales within Australia grew even faster, up 71% to \$369 million, with Blackmores saying this was influenced by Chinese consumers.

The company also highlighted its continued support for community pharmacy, accredited education programs and new product development.

Asia is also an increasingly important part of the Blackmores portfolio, with the company estimating that Asian shoppers now account for 50% of total revenue for the group.

The recent regulatory changes in China, which have caused a slide in

the Blackmores share price, were said to be a "positive reflection of the Chinese government's commitment to the free trade zones," while the changes also saw additional ingredients approved for in-market sales which were seen as "a future opportunity for Blackmores".

The company said it would host upcoming events in Sydney, Melbourne and Shanghai next month to help shareholders "better understand this complex market that is rich with opportunity".

The results announcement also confirmed a 24% lift in sales for the Blackmores BioCeuticals division, which was described as a key platform for product leadership.

BioCeuticals has a strong pipeline of new product development "backed with recognised education and research underpinning performance," the company said.

This division has also signed a new agreement with a leading distributor in the USA.

The Blackmores board reaffirmed confidence in its strategy, along with the ability "to deliver a strong full year profit result and improved returns for shareholders and staff".

MA ticks World IP Day

MEDICINES Australia has highlighted World Intellectual Property Day, an international initiative celebrating the role intellectual property plays in stimulating innovation, a key pillar of the peak industry organisation.

With more than 450 innovative pharmaceutical and medical biotechnology firms in Australia, intellectual property plays a central role in driving economic growth, jobs, and competitiveness, MA said.

A/Hrs UK dispensing

THE Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) has recommended to the UK government that pharmacists be empowered to dispense urgent medicine supplies routinely to patients out of hours without the need for a prescription from a GP, reports *The Pharmaceutical Journal*.

The Committee also recommended pharmacists be encouraged to substitute generic drugs for branded ones to save the NHS millions of pounds and prevent the need for planned government cuts of £170m from the community pharmacy budget.

CMs help depression

SOME nutrient supplements, when used together with antidepressants, can enhance the medication's effects according to new research out of the University of Melbourne and published in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

A systematic search of databases PubMed, CINAHL, Cochrane Library, and Web of Science was used to conduct a meta-analysis.

Authors concluded positive results for S-adenosylmethionine, methylfolate, omega-3 and vit D.

CLICK HERE for the abstract.

HOW ARE YOUR CREDITS CLOCKING UP?

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Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist** - New England area of NSW (Job# 200010031)
2 Full time roles avail-New registered or 2+ years experience.
- **Pharmacist In Charge** - North Brisbane, QLD (Job# 200011926)
Permanent friendly roster with pro-active community pharmacy group.
- **Pharmacist** - Melbourne's north east, VIC (Job# 200011898)
Newly / recently registered Pharmacist to join a successful Community team.

Love your work? ... SO DO RAVEN'S!



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.

29 Apr-1 May: Fitness & Health Expo; Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre; details at: www.fitnessexpo.com.au

1-2 May: Naturally Good Expo; Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park, Sydney; details at: www.naturallygood.com.au

1-10 May: 41st Offshore Refresher; Cape Town and Sun City, South Africa; details at: www.psaoffshore2016.com.au

14-15 May: Laboratory Tests Seminar; Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart; see: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

19-20 May: National Medicines Symposium 2016; Canberra Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info go to: www.nps.org.au

21-22 May: Critical Care Foundation Seminar; Novotel Brisbane; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

28-29 May: Medication Management in Geriatric Care Seminar; Rydges Sydney Central; for more info visit: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

4-5 Jun: Critical Care Foundation Seminar; Crowne Plaza Melbourne; details at: www.cpd.shpa.org.au

7-9 Jun: 15th National Immunisation Conference; Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre; details at: www.phaa.net.au

17-19 Jun: ConPharm 2016; Hilton, Adelaide; more info at: www.aacp.com.au

Nurofen label \$1.7m fine

THE Federal Court has fined Reckitt Benckiser (RB) \$1.7m subsequent to hearings around Nurofen labelling issues, where the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) had sought a fine of \$6m (*PD* 13 Apr), according to a report from the *ABC*.

Last year, the Federal Court found Nurofen's "specific pain range" labelling misled consumers because they all contained the same active ingredient and did the same thing.

RB defended its position with an argument that "rational" consumers would not think that a pain-specific product was any more effective than a regular one.

The company had made strong returns from the products

according to ACCC barrister Katrina Banks-Smith who argued that there "needs to be some serious taking away of profit".

RB barrister Matthew Darke said that consumers buying the specific pain range got exactly what they paid for.

Justice Edelman handed down his judgement this morning.

China vax-track plan

FOLLOWING the scandal involving the recently exposed sale of millions of dollars' worth of improperly stored vaccines (*PD* 21 Mar), the Chinese Government has decided to establish a vaccine tracking system to ensure appropriate management of distribution channels and cold-chain storage, reports *Biospectrum*.

The new rule requires B-class vaccines to be distributed in the same way as A-class ones, which are covered by the national compulsory immunisation program.

The new tracking system will record circulation and use of vaccines so that all can be tracked through their entire life cycle.

MHRA ED drugs raid

UK'S Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has seized more than 62,000 doses of unlicensed erectile dysfunction (ED) medicines during raids in Scunthorpe this week.

The illegal medicines have an estimated street value of £200K, the MHRA said.

Do you have the Pharmacy Daily app?



DISPENSARY CORNER

A SMALL Sydney based trade company has been raising a few eyebrows and getting a few laughs with its chosen name: Viagra Scaffolding.

The work truck (pictured), has been spotted around the central business district and is emblazoned with the slogan "Viagra Scaffolding - We'll help you get it up".



ALTHOUGH redheads and ginger people cop a lot of flack, studies show they'll have the last laugh when it comes to remaining vibrant and youthful.

Whilst trying to uncover why some people look older and others younger for their age, researchers discovered the MC1R gene was the culprit.

The gene, which is responsible for producing among other things red hair and pale skin, is also hypothesized to be connected how old people look.

Researchers studied the genomes of almost 2,700 older Dutch adults looking for variants linked to their perceived age.

The results reveal that participants with two copies for a risk variant of MC1R looked an average of two years older than people of the same age without those variants.



Win with Bosisto's

This week Pharmacy Daily and Bosisto's are giving away each day a Bosisto's EucoSteam Inhaler combo and EucoSteam Inhalant 200mL.

Bosisto's EucoSteam Inhaler is a portable and easy way to use warm steam inhalation for colds & flu. Just fill the lightweight inhaler with hot water (adding Bosisto's Inhalant for soothing eucalyptus vapours) and inhale the steam to help clear nose and chest congestion. Naturally soothing relief, anytime, anywhere.

More info at www.bosistos.com.au

To win, be the first from TAS or VIC to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Which natural essential oil does Bosisto's Inhalant contain?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Rachael Runner from Guildlink.

