**Pharmacy Daily**

**Friday 26th February 2016**

**PHARMACYDAILY.COM.AU**

---

**J&J talc perspective**

JOHNSON & Johnson maintains its baby powder made from talc is safe, despite the company being charged $US72m after a woman’s death from ovarian cancer was linked to the product (PD 25 Feb).

An official statement by the company claims “few ingredients have the same demonstrated performance, mildness and safety profile as cosmetic talc”.

Further to this they said the talc they use is “carefully selected and processed to be asbestos free”.

Professor of Cancer Epidemiology at the University of Cambridge Paul Pharoah said while there was possible association with genital talc use, he disputed the risk in relation to some types of ovarian cancer was actually significant.

“In my view the decision of the court is flawed for two reasons. First, the evidence of a causal association between genital talc use and ovarian cancer risk is weak. Second, even if the association were true, the strength of the association is too small to be able to say on the balance of probabilities that any cancer arising in a woman who used talc had been caused by the talc,” he said.

---

**Orphan drug addition**

TOBRAMYCIN solution for inhalation has been added to the Therapeutic Goods Administration designated orphan drugs list.

The product is from Boucher & Muir and is used to treat patients with cystic fibrosis infected with pseudomonas aeruginosa.

---

**Mayne profit up 380%**

MAYNE Pharma has reported stellar revenue and profit growth for the first half full year (1HFY15) ending 31 Dec, positioning the company “to deliver continued financial growth success across FY16 driven by opportunities across multiple channels and all business segments.”

Revenue for the period hit $127.3m, an increase of 114% on 1HFY15, with reported EBITDA of $40.7m, up 201%.

Reported net profit after tax was $19.2m, up a staggering 380%, while net operating cashflow touched $30.5m, up 259%.

Commenting on the result, Mayne Pharma’s ceo Scott Richards said, “We are pleased to report an exceptionally strong half with increases in revenue, EBITDA, net profit and operating cashflow over the 1HFY15.”

“All three US-based segments contributed significantly to growth in both US dollar and Australian dollar terms.”

Richards explained that the US and Australian generic divisions (GPD) delivered strong growth and direct sales through the division’s own distribution operations now represent 83% of GPD sales in the period.

Referring to plans to continue to invest in facilities and pipeline, he added, “The dual-site expansion to materially enhance both manufacturing capacity and capability announced in Aug 2015, remains on track for completion in FY18.”

“The outlook remains very positive and the Company has significant growth opportunities across multiple channels and business segments,” said Richards.

---

**Alert pharmacist picks fake scripts**

A PHARMACIST became suspicious of a doctor’s actions in script shopping and called police, who found him in possession of 70 diazepam tablets.

The doctor, named by stuff.co.nz as Ashley John Hodgson was based in Tauranga, NZ, and had a history of addiction to opioids and benzodiazepines.

He has been censured by the health tribunal.

---

**Natl Pharm negotiates**

NATIONAL Pharmacies has said it is negotiating with the pharmacist union for a new enterprise agreement that takes reasonable and responsible steps to adjust to the changing pharmacy industry.

The pharmacy chain was responding to the strike action taken by pharmacists employed by National Pharmacies (PD 24 Feb).

The chain spokesperson said the group “is committed to negotiating in good faith to reach an outcome that is fair, equitable and sustainable for everyone, including all of its valued and respected pharmacists.”

National Pharmacies thanks its members and customers for their patience and understanding.

---

**Pharmacists fight back**

THE New Zealand Police has partnered with Wellington City Council in a bid to tackle increasing theft in the pharma industry.

“Thief in the pharmaceutical industry is a serious problem that is identified as a precursor for other crimes,” Wellington Police Sergeant Mathew McKenzie said.

They will be running a theft prevention and staff safety event for pharmacies on 09 Mar at the Wellington Central Police Station.

---

**High sunscreen alert**

SALES of sunscreen in Australia are on the rise with 500,000 extra sunscreen purchases in any given month last year, according to Roy Morgan Research.

In the 12 months to Sep 2015, 11.6% of Australians aged 14+ (or 2.3 million people) bought sunscreen in any four week period.

The spike in sunscreen purchases down under coincides with a slight increase in the number of Australians worried about getting skin cancer: from 57.9% of the population in 2014 to 58.9% in 2015.

---

**Pharmacy Software for Professional Services**

**WATCH VIDEO**

---

**Alert pharmacist picks fake scripts**

A PHARMACIST became suspicious of a doctor’s actions in script shopping and called police, who found him in possession of 70 diazepam tablets.

The doctor, named by stuff.co.nz as Ashley John Hodgson was based in Tauranga, NZ, and had a history of addiction to opioids and benzodiazepines.

He has been censured by the health tribunal.

---

**Priceline health & beauty**

ON WEDNESDAY, Priceline Pharmacy celebrated its focus on health and beauty with its inaugural The Beauty Prescription, an event showcasing its expertise in Sydney.

In attendance were representatives across all media platforms as well as influencers and Priceline Sisters Ita Butrose, Ada Nicodemou and Samantha Harris (pictured).

There were more than 50 stands at the event which championed products ranging from new brands.
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.

4-6 Mar: NSW Annual Therapeutic Update; Crowne Plaza Terrigal; visit: www.psa.org.au

5-6 Mar: Emergency Medicine Seminar; Crowne Plaza Melbourne; details at: www.cpd.cpsa.org.au

12-13 Mar: Oncopedia Seminar (foundation); Parmelia Hilton Perth; more info at: www.cpd.cpsa.org.au

17-20 Mar: Pharmacy Guild of Australia Annual National Conference APP 2016, Gold Coast - more information at: www.appconference.com

15-17 Apr: PharmHack: The world’s first pharmacy hackathon; Fishburners, Ultimo; details at: www.pharmhack.com.au

16-17 Apr: Victorian Pharmacy Conference 2016; Monash University, Parkville; more info at: www.psa.org.au

1-10 May: 44th Offshore Refresher; Cape Town and Sun City, South Africa; details at: www.psoffshore2016.com.au

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

18-20 May: National Medicines Symposium 2016, Canberra Convention and Exhibition Centre; for more info go to: www.ngs.org.au

Guild negotiating review

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia said it is working with the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation panel along with other stakeholders on a discussion paper planned for release in April this year.

The Guild has announced that a panel, chaired by Professor Stephen King and including Bill Scott and Jo Watson, will present recommendations. They will cover future remuneration, regulation including pharmacy location rules, as well as other arrangements that apply to pharmacy and wholesalers around PBS matters.

In addition, the Guild said the panel will provide ongoing consultation after the April discussion paper is released, present its interim report in H2 this year and its final report for the minister by March next year.

In related news, the Department of Health said it has launched a Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation section on its main website with details of the review including terms of reference, biographies of panel members, contact details for the review secretariat and other relevant information.

MEANWHILE the Guild has also alerted members in Forefront that from 23 Mar, NSW will join SA, WA, Qld and NT in making it mandatory for pharmacists to use Project STOP to record the details of sales of over-the-counter packs of pseudoephedrine from community pharmacy, in an online real-time electronic system, at the time of supply.

The NSW branch of the Guild has been commissioned by the Ministry of Health to assist community pharmacies to access Project STOP, and to provide training on its use.

PD market to $3.2b

THE Parkinson’s Disease (PD) market is set to hit $3.2b by 2021, yet game-changing treatments will not be available for the foreseeable future, according to GBI Research.

Market growth will occur despite the patent expiries of several key products including include Azilect, Neupro, and Stalevo.

Research shows symptom-relieving therapies will continue to dominate the market to 2021.

Win With MILANI

This week Pharmacy Daily and Milani are giving away everyday a prize pack including Supreme Kohl Kajal Eyeliner, Eyeshadow Primer and Tastastic Face & Body Baked Bronzer.

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

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

How many Baked Blush Colours are there?

Congratulations to yesterday’s winner, Helena Yeung.