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Credentialing closing

JUNE intake for applications to the Credentialing of Advanced Practice course closes at the end of today, the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has stated.

For those interested in applying for a late intake, the Credentialing expressions of interest form is available on the APC website.

The next intake will open in Sep.

The application for credentialing spells out the seven step process - visit www.pharmacycouncil.org.au.

Tas GP heads RACGP

DR BASTION Seidel, a GP from the Huon Valley in Tasmania, has been announced as president-elect of The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP).

Seidel takes over the role from current RACGP president Dr Frank R Jones in Sep.

Guild looking to 7th CPA

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia says the successful pharmacy of the future will be less reliant on dispensing alone, but will retain a "strong retailing presence that combines products, services and support to deliver holistic health solutions that meet the individual needs of its patients".

That's the vision laid out by Guild executive director David Quilty in an update to Guild members yesterday, which highlighted issues being pondered by the Guild as it prepares for the next Community Pharmacy Agreement.

The 7th CPA will be implemented from 2020 to 2025, Quilty said, citing four clear trends driving health policy globally: ageing populations, health costs, consumer empowerment and technology & data.

"The ongoing success of community pharmacy will be

underpinned by its two core strengths as trusted medicines experts and highly accessible health destinations," he said.

Pharmacies of the future will be intensely patient focused and integrated with the wider health system, as well as having "developed new revenue streams from a diversified source of funders and likely specialised in particular areas of medicine or patient care".

MEANWHILE the Pharmacy Guild has also issued a new guide to help pharmacists understand the specific requirements for consultation rooms to administer vaccines in community pharmacies.

The resource gives an overview of the regulations mandated in each state or territory jurisdiction including dimensions, sound proofing, seating and access to washing facilities.

See www.guild.org.au.

Drug firm deception

THE UK subsidiary of prominent global Japanese drug firm Astellas, has had its membership of the UK's industry representative body suspended after what has been described as "deception on a grand scale", attempting to covertly market prostate cancer drugs to doctors, according to an article in *The BMJ* - **CLICK HERE**.

Hep C Rx approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Eplclusa to treat adult patients with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) both with and without cirrhosis.

Eplclusa is a fixed-dose combination tablet containing sofosbuvir, a drug approved in the US in 2013, and velpatasvir, a new drug, and is the first to treat all six major forms of HCV.

Product shortages

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has forewarned of anticipated short supply of Bristol-Myers Squibb's etoposide in various forms.

The TGA has advised of alternative injection products available on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods from two other pharmaceutical manufacturers, although there is no alternative capsule form on offer.

Bristol-Myers Squibb has told the TGA the shortage is due to an "unexpected interruption in the supply of the medicine's active pharmaceutical ingredient".

More details at www.tga.gov.au.

Sydney Uni PSOTY nominee

THE Faculty of Pharmacy at Sydney University has selected Matthew Huang to represent it at the PSA's Pharmacy

Student of the Year Award (PSOTY) NSW finals taking place on 04 Jul.

Huang was cited for his excellent communication skills in a pressurised situation, the Faculty said, adding that the high calibre of students made the selection process "no easy task".

The annual awards are aimed at final year students to recognise the importance of communication and counselling skills in best pharmacy practice, with the evaluation before a judging panel of industry leaders.

Pictured are Matthew Huang (fourth from the right) with fellow competitors Clare Naughtin, Maggie Oi Kei Lai and Mary Do Minh Ngoc Tran.

Winners of state finals in the PSOTY will proceed to the national final, with the winner to be



announced at the PSA's national conference in Sydney at the end of next month, with an overall prize of a trip to attend an international conference.



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Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Pharmacy Daily's* travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by *Cruise Weekly*.

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Fancy a small ship cruise to Cuba?

GRAND Circle Cruise Line, a leader in small ship cruising worldwide, has announced that it will begin operating 'Cuba's Cultural Treasures: A Coastal Voyage', an 11-night, 89-passenger cruise tour from Miami to Cuba in Jan 2017.

The unique cruise begins in Miami where, following an overnight and morning tour of Miami's Little Havana, travellers will embark the *M/V Clio*.

Contact your preferred travel agent or **CLICK HERE** for details.

Christmas in Bali 2 for 1 Cruise Deals

CRUISE and Maritime Voyages is offering generous two for one fares on board the premium cruise ship *Astor* for those wanting to travel to Bali for this Christmas, or early in the New Year.

Fares are available for the 11 night Christmas in Bali itinerary, departing Fremantle 19 Dec 2016.

Prices start at \$2,549 (interior cabin) for the first person with the second fare free with similar deals across Oceanview and larger Suites.

Visit www.cmvaustralia.com.

Methotrexate warnings

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has reiterated previous advice to pharmacists about dispensing methotrexate, following the recent *Medical Journal of Australia* article about overdosing (**PD** 07 Jun).

The Board yesterday published its latest newsletter, which included the warning to ensure appropriate dispensing procedures are followed at all times and that medications are clearly labelled, including for dose administration containers.

The update also reminded pharmacists that audits of compliance with registration standards are continuing and are now decoupled from the registration renewal cycle meaning

pharmacists can receive an audit notice at any time of the year.

The Board newsletter gives an overview of the revised professional indemnity standards which become effective tomorrow, and also urges pharmacists to ensure they are up to date with their continuing professional development requirements.

See www.pharmacyboard.gov.au.

HCA Board vacancy

THE Health Consumers Alliance (HCA) of South Australia has announced that it has a vacancy on its Board, following the move interstate of a Board member.

HCA invites applications from volunteers with governance experience and a commitment "to the vision of positioning consumers at the heart of health care."

The HCA is also providing an 'Introduction to Consumer Advocacy' training session, giving a background in the challenges and benefits of being a consumer advocate.

Visit www.hcasa.asn.au for more.

Zika vaccine success

TWO Zika virus vaccines have proved effective in mice trials, according to research teams in Brazil and the USA.

Published in *Nature*, the studies showed both vaccines protected after just one jab leading authors to predict similar success in humans.

CLICK HERE for the abstract.

Win with Nexcare™ Brand

Every day this week Pharmacy Daily and Nexcare Brand are giving away a prize pack valued at over \$40.00 that includes Nexcare™ Waterproof Assorted and Medium sized Bandages, Nexcare™ Blister Waterproof Bandages and Nexcare™ Absolute Waterproof Tape.

The Nexcare Brand Waterproof range includes:

- Nexcare Waterproof Bandages: watch Nexcare Nana tackle water, dirt and germs whilst wearing Nexcare Waterproof Bandages
- Nexcare Blister Waterproof Bandages: winner of the Wound Care category in the 2016 Product of the Year Award by Nielsen; as voted by 14,422 household consumers



For more information **CLICK HERE**.

To win, be the first person from SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question to: comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Which award has Nexcare™ Blister Waterproof Bandages won in 2016 in the Wound Care Category?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Amber Brown from Lakewood Pharmacy.

Compounding to jail

ALABAMA pharmacists David Allen, 60, and William Rogers, 48, working at a compounding pharmacy Advanced Specialty Pharmacy, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor violations of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, reports *Drug Topics*.

On Jun 21 U.S. District Judge Virginia Hopkins sentenced Allen to 12 months in prison and a fine of \$5,000 and Rogers, former president of the pharmacy, to 10 months and also fined him \$5,000.

Prosecutors argued that the company compounded its own amino acid solution that was mixed with other ingredients to form bacteria-contaminated total parenteral nutrition.



Dispensary Corner

A NEW fragrance which has launched in London is literally out of this world.

The Aroma Company created the scent, which is based on compounds detected during a space mission to a comet with the creative name of 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

The perfume, which is simply abbreviated as 67P, is said to smell like a combination of rotten eggs, bitter almonds and cat urine, with Jacob Aron from *New Scientist* magazine saying "I almost feel the smell as a physical presence inside my skull" during a recent preview.

"The full heft of 67P's bouquet hits me in the face...surprisingly it's not actually as foul as my first impression led me to believe - somehow a few floral notes are now coming through," he wrote.

The compounds were detected in readings from the Philae lander, which arrived on the comet in Nov 2014, more than ten years after it was launched by the European Space Agency.