

Monday 10 Apr 2017



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from **Wizard Pharmacy**.

GMP standards

THE Therapeutic Goods
Administration (TGA) has posted
on its website details around its
expectations with relation to data
management and data integrity
as part of good manufacturing
processes (GMP).

The TGA says it uses ALCOA principles (Attributable, Legible, Contemporaneous, Original, and Accurate) as well as ALCOA+ (which includes ALCOA plus Complete, Consistent, Enduring, and Available) that are required to ensure the integrity of data, irrespective of how it is generated.

New data released by Gemalto found that 1,792 data breaches led to almost 1.4 billion data records being compromised in 2016 as hackers targeted large-scale databases in industries across the world - breachlevelindex.com.

The healthcare industry was hardest hit, Gemalto reports, accounting for 27.5% of all breaches, and increased from 2015 numbers by 10.8%.

Visit tga.gov.au for more.

Wages reform call - PSA

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has announced it is providing expert advice in support of a case to increase the award wage for pharmacists.

The PSA said it agreed to be called as an expert witness in a review of the award before the Fair Work Commission (FWC) to highlight changes in pharmacist practice since the last review in 1998.

PSA national president Joe Demarte said that as the peak body for all pharmacists, not only was PSA best placed to provide expert advice, given its lead role in developing and implementing professional practice standards, but was also strongly committed to improving remuneration and wages for pharmacists working in all sectors of the profession.

"Standards, Codes and Guidelines produced by PSA clearly highlight the increasing complexity and professional healthcare services provided in pharmacist practice in Australia, which needs to be better reflected in pharmacists' remuneration," Demarte said.

PSA also made a comprehensive submission to the Government's Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation last year, calling for more appropriate, evidence-based payment models for pharmacist services.

Key recommendations from the PSA included pharmacist services remuneration by Government allowing for flexibility in terms of service-setting to meet consumers' needs and that a more appropriate payment model is one recognising and remunerating pharmacists based on the complexity of the presenting consumer's situation and/or services provided.

"We will continue to explore reforms and solutions to improve income and wages across the entire sector, including through access to remuneration outside of the existing 6th Community Pharmacy Agreement and hospital funding," Demarte said.

RUM bins flood Qld

QUEENSLAND'S and Northern NSW's disastrous flood crisis has resulted in massive amounts of damaged stock in pharmacies.

The National Return and Disposal of Unwanted Medicines Project (RUM) assures pharmacists that there are plentiful supplies of RUM bins from API, Sigma and Symbion.

Smoke kills one in 10

SMOKING causes one in 10 deaths worldwide, a new study shows, with half of them in just four countries: China, India, the US and Russia.

The report, published in the *Lancet*, said that in spite of tobacco control policies, world population growth has seen an increase in the number of smokers.

CLICK HERE for the *Lancet* study.

Pedometer value

PROVIDING pedometers, with and without providing step targets, to individuals with rheumatoid arthritis increased activity levels and decreased fatigue, according to recent research published in *Arthritis Care & Research*.

For control patients, who did not receive pedometers, average daily steps declined and there was no significant change in fatigue.

Lead author Dr Patricia Katz said, "Because rheumatoid arthritis medications have only small effects on fatigue, it's important for patients to have other ways to manage their fatigue.

"These results suggest that something as simple as increasing physical activity by walking can help," Katz wrote.





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Dispensary Corner

SHE'S literally monkeying around!

An eight-year-old girl has been dubbed the real life 'Mowgli girl', like The Jungle Books' main character, after being discovered living among the monkeys at Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in Bahraich, northern India.

The un-named girl (pictured) was first spotted two months ago by woodcutters, naked and imitating her monkey counterparts by eating food off the floor and walking on all fours.

She was taken to hospital by police where she's been recovering since.



MELBOURNE dad Mat Bowtell is making a difference to the lives of children, one prosthetic hand and finger at a time.

Mat Bowtell has created 3D printed limbs to help those living without, after being inspired by a scholarship to Japan where he was exposed to robotics and a \$1 million prosthetic arm.

Bowtel decided to buy a \$5,000 3D printer and get printing, but he discovered the whole process took 20 hours to tune and another 20 to print.

Despite the arduous process, the generous man won't stop at hands and now wants to print 3D legs for landmine victims in Colombia and Syria.

Postage is now proving to be the main pain for Mat who spent \$86 recently sending an arm to a 17-year old girl in Iraq.

Standard meds charts

PART of an initiative from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is to improve the safe use of medicines via use of the national standard medication chart (NSMC).

The NSMC is a collection of standardised charts that present and communicate information consistently between clinicians on the intended use of medicines for an individual patient.



The Commission has engaged with MedicineWise to assist prescribers, pharmacists and nurses to enhance their existing skills

and gain an understanding of the role that medication charts play in medication management.

To this end the Commission and MedicineWise have provided an online learning course for users of national standard medication

The course is intended for experienced clinicians as well as students, guiding through the principles of safe prescribing and how to complete the NSMC correctly.

For access, go to learn.nps.org.au.

Guild backs ERRCD

PHARMACY Guild of Australia executive director David Quilty has said the Guild strongly supports the Minister for Health's indication of a committment to the introduction of a real time recording system for controlled drugs to reduce fatalities from prescription drug abuse.

With coroners around the country calling for such a recording system, a Fairfax Media report suggests next month's budget may include the adoption of an Electronic Recording and Reporting of Controlled Drugs (ERRCD) system, although Minister Greg Hunt would not comment on what the budget may hold.

"I look forward to ensuring the electronic prescription system ... is acted on in my first six months,"

The Guild, the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) are all applying pressure on the government to provide urgent funds to help states and territories fully implement the ERRCD system, in a bid to curb the consistently swelling number of overdose deaths from abuse of prescription medicines

While fatal overdoses on the mainland continue to escalate Tasmania, which implemented an ERRCD in 2012, has managed to reduce prescription-drug related deaths by more than 30%, the Telegraph reports.

Similarly, since 2012 in the United States of America, New York's version of ERRCD has successfully reduced prescription medicine doctor shopping by around 75%.

Weekly

Welcome to PD's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is Dr Lesley Braun, Director Blackmores



Industry-university engagement feeds innovation - time for more, not less

AUSTRALIAN universities enjoy an excellent reputation for quality research and education, however they lag behind when it comes to university-industry engagement. In fact, Australia has the lowest level of industryresearch collaboration in the

It's probably the reason why Chief Scientist Alan Finkel started talking about introducing a new metric to evaluate university success, which goes beyond the usual citation and grant counts – industry engagement.

The Medical Research Future Fund released its Australian Medical Research and Innovation priorities for 2016-2018. This included utilising industry investment for the rapid funding of priority areas in health and medical research.

Preventative health research is also mentioned as a priority. Nutritional and dietary supplements, traditional medicines and systems are target rich areas for low risk treatments. Whilst those available in Australia as OTC preparations are underpinned by either traditional and/or scientific evidence, they may also have further potential to reduce disease incidence or progression. When they work well, strategic partnerships are a powerful engine for innovation and discovery. Australia needs more of this, not less.

In the area of complementary medicine research the high level of public use and low level of government research funding makes these industry initiatives even more important.

WIN WITH SOUTHERNATURE

This week Pharmacy Daily and SOUTHERNATURE are giving away their Omega 3 Concentrate each day, valued at \$51.95 RRP.

IFOS Certified Omega 3 Concentrate Fish Oil is specially designed to help support the health of the cardiovascular and nervous systems and to support eye health. SOUTHERNATURE uses only Premium Fish Oil to ensure a quality oil, high in EPA and DHA to provide optimal health benefits. For more info CLICK HERE.





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What kind of report about the quality of the product is available to view

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