

Choosing Wisely abstracts sought

NPS MedicineWise is inviting health professionals to submit abstracts for the inaugural Choosing Wisely Australia National Meeting 2017.

To be held in Melbourne on Thu 04 May, the event aims to showcase the implementation of the Choosing Wisely Australia initiative across the health sector and among consumers since its launch in Apr 2015.

The National Meeting will also look at future activities as momentum continues to build around the Choosing Wisely approach, which has now been adopted in 17 countries.

Choosing Wisely aims to eliminate unnecessary tests, treatments and procedures using the latest evidence-based recommendations from Australia's specialist medical colleges, societies and associations.

"This event is a great opportunity for Choosing Wisely Australia stakeholders to engage in conversations around best practice," said NPS MedicineWise client relations manager, Dr Robyn Lindner.

Abstracts should provide examples of clinician engagement including medical education, guideline development and health service implementation; consumer and patient engagement; systems change that is supporting Choosing Wisely Australia; the influence of the initiative on policy; & measuring the impact of Choosing Wisely.

Submissions of 250 words are due by 17 Mar - choosingwisely.org.au.

EBOS net profit up 10.9%

EBOS this morning reported its results for the six months to 31 Dec, with net profit after tax rising 10.9% to NZ\$68.8 million.

The company said its Australian revenues climbed 27%, resulting in EBITDA growth of 11%.

The increased sales were driven by the full six months of trading for the new Hepatitis C medicines.

"In the Australian pharmacy market, wholesale revenue growth (excluding Hepatitis C medicines) was affected by the ongoing impact of PBS reforms and lower levels of activity in the non-prescription over-the counter (OTC) channel," said EBOS Group ceo Patrick Davies.

However the company's Healthcare division continues to offset the negative impact of PBS reforms "by expanding its revenue streams and generating cost savings and improved productivity across its operations," he added.



New orphan drug

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has added riluzole (Teglutik) from Seqirus to its list of designated orphan drugs.

Teglutik is a liquid oral suspension used for the treatment of patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS.

Virus delivery method

RESEARCHERS at the University of Queensland's Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology have developed a "virus-like nanoparticle" (VNP) which delivers chemotherapy drugs directly to cells where they are needed in the battle against cancer.

The VNP is "an empty shell... it looks like a virus but it's not infections," said Dr Frank Sainsbury, lead author of a paper on the topic.

"That makes it safe to use as a targeted drug delivery system".

He said the research unlocked a "myriad of potential applications in therapeutic delivery" - to view the paper see pub.acs.org.

Chemist Warehouse makes scents

AUSSIE performer Delta Goodrem has launched a new perfume, with Chemist Warehouse claiming a coup by becoming the product's exclusive distributor nationally from Apr this year.

'Delta by Delta Goodrem' is "fun, spirited, feminine and fresh," the



songstress said, during a photo shoot for the new campaign which took place last week.



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No jab, no pay payoff

ALMOST 200,000 children aged under five who were not properly vaccinated have now met official immunisation requirements, a year after the introduction of the 'no jab no pay' policy which cut welfare payments for non-immunised kids.

Win with australis

This week Pharmacy Daily and Australis are giving away a set of both Gold and Pink Liquid Strobe Illuminating Drops each day.

Australis have taken illuminating to the next level with this silky smooth formula to enhance your cheekbones and create a luminous glow. Just a few drops of the new Australis Liquid Strobe Illuminating Drops will add subtle radiance to your face, neck or décolletage. To create a fresh, dewy complexion mix either the pink or gold into your current foundation for a subtle luminosity. Or for a more striking result, apply directly onto your face. For more information head to www.australiscosmetics.com.au.

To win, be the first person from **WA** to send the correct answer to the question below to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

How is it dispensed?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Jessy Sales-Luis from Good Price Pharmacy Warehouse.



First cannabis licence issued

THE government's Office of Drug Control has issued the first licence to be approved under its new regulatory system for medicinal cannabis use in Australia.

Melbourne-based Cann Group's new research licence allows it to legally cultivate medical cannabis and conduct research on its use for medicinal purposes.

The firm, which operates as an unlisted public company, has also submitted an application for a cultivation licence, and said it is "confident of securing this in the near future".

Cann Group chairman Allan McCallum said receiving the first licence validated the significant investment the company had made in establishing facilities and protocols to meet the strict criteria required for approval.

"This is an important milestone

in the medicinal cannabis sector in Australia, but also for Cann Group and the development of our business plan," he said.

Current Cann Group activities are focused on the breeding, cultivation, extraction and characterisation of cannabinoids.

McCallum said the firm would now be able to undertake further discussions with a number of other Australian research and technology organisations to access additional expertise and resources.

"We are putting in place the building blocks to ensure we have industry-leading research, cultivation and manufacturing capabilities...this will position us to eventually provide Australians with access to innovative and high quality medicinal cannabis treatments," he added.

The Cann Group's overall objective is to be recognised as the leading developer and supplier of regulated medicinal cannabis in Australia.

MedAdvisor expands

LISTED medication adherence company MedAdvisor has completed the previously announced acquisition of online doctor-patient communication platform OzDocsOnline.

The purchase is said to deliver important strategic benefits to the company, including enhancing the range of GP-related services offered by MedAdvisor such as online referrals, consultations, bookings of appointments and communication of test results.

MedAdvisor ceo Robert Read said OzDocsOnline would add a network of more than 100 medical practices and 100,000 users to the system.

"There is an opportunity to improve the sales and marketing efforts of OzDocs Online including connecting MedAdvisor's existing patient platform of over 630,000 users to their preferred GP," he said.

OzDocsOnline was purchased for \$150,000 in cash, with the business currently generating about \$60,000 per annum from transactional general practitioner fees.

I Love Pharmacy comp closing soon

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has reminded rural and regional pharmacies that the closing date is fast approaching for its 'Why I Love Rural Pharmacy' video competition.

Being run as part of the #iloveruralpharmacy theme of the Rural Pharmacy Forum at next month's APP2017 on the Gold Coast, pharmacists are being invited to submit a 30-45 second video about experiences in their unique rural work settings.

The closing date for submissions is next Sun 26 Feb 2017, with prizes to be awarded in the Best Video and People's Choice categories.

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Dispensary Corner

A BUSINESS in Parachute, Colorado has been given the all clear to open a drive-through marijuana dispensary.

Tumbleweed Express Drive-Thru is set to open next month in a former car wash.

Town manager Stuart McArthur even went so far as to say the business was a very "creative and innovative idea".

The whole thing seems pretty cruisey but some laws will still apply: no customers under the age of 21, not even in the back seat of the car, and the cannabis must not be visible from outside the dispensary.

And get this, pot accounted for 30% of the community's 2016 sales tax revenue of over US\$1m.



SOMETIMES karma works its magic fast, like when a Californian man discovered a corpse in the back of the van he'd just stolen from outside a funeral parlour.

The Riverside Police Department said the vehicle was snatched when a mortuary worker left the keys in the ignition while he briefly popped into his workplace.

Upon discovering the dead body, the thief returned the vehicle, then tried his luck at stealing another one.

The man who clearly did not learn from his mistakes was arrested a short time afterwards.

Health, Beauty and New Products

Welcome to our weekly promoted feature with all the latest health, beauty and new products for pharmacy. Suppliers wanting to promote products in this feature should email newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Aromababy Natural Baby Lotion 250ml

Award-winning natural baby brand **Aromababy**, offers a complete series of organic-rich products for mother and baby, formulated to suit all skin types including skin affected by eczema. Essential oils or fragrance are often best avoided on sensitive skin. The 250 mL **Natural Baby Lotion** is essential oil free, relying instead on the properties of avocado oil and natural vitamin E to soothe skin and reduce the appearance of redness. This concentrated formula ensures excellent value for money and comes from a trusted specialist baby care brand of over twenty years. Free sachets, Baby Club content and gift with purchase available with orders until 31 Mar 2017.

Stockist: 03 9464 0888

RRP: \$25.95

Website: www.aromababy.com



Complexion Perfection Powder Brush



Designer Brands (DB) introduces its **Complexion Perfection Powder Brush**, an all-purpose brush to apply powder, blush and bronzer for a natural finish. This new specially shaped brush will help create the perfect complexion, easily fitting the curves and angles of your face. Made from high quality synthetic fibres, the full-bristled brush blends, sets, dusts and contours the skin, providing sheer to medium coverage - complexion perfection.

Stockist: 03 8544 8000

RRP: \$12.99

Website: www.dbcosmetics.com.au

Oh So Tan Bronze & Maintain Duo

Ulta3 brings you the new Oh So Tan Bronze & Maintain Duo to bronze, build, maintain and repeat. Firstly the lightweight, hydrating dry oil formula with delicious caramel fragrance blends effortlessly and absorbs instantly for a streak-free, fast-drying finish, and features a unique easy-spray trigger. Containing nourishing oils and vitamin E, the lightweight, moisturising formula in the lotion easily absorbs into the skin for lasting hydration, super-soft skin and a gradual, natural looking tan.

Stockist: 1800 181 140

RRP: \$31.41

Website: www.ulta3.com.au



Arnica Cream by Jurlique



Jurlique **Arnica Cream** is a lightweight cream that is easily absorbed and helps soothe and restore delicate skin. The non-greasy cream leaves the skin looking and feeling cool, calm, comforted and firm. It contains arnica to soothe, green tea and grapeseed to balance, chamomile and marshmallow to hydrate and daisy to clarify. Complimentary active ingredients such as shea butter, safflower oil, glycerin and vitamins C and E hydrate and protect the skin.

Stockist: 1800 805 286

RRP: \$45.00

Website: www.jurlique.com.au

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Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: Level 2, Suite 1 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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Publisher/Editor in chief: Bruce Piper

Managing Editor: Jon Murrie

Reporter: Mal Smith

Contributors: Nathalie Craig, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Bonnie Tai

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan and Melanie Tchakmadjian advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au

Editorial: info@pharmacydaily.com.au

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