

SHPA shows true GRIT

THE winter issue of SHPA's new member journal *Pharmacy Growth, Research, Innovation and Training (Pharmacy GRIT)* highlights the "culture of continuous improvement and high-quality patient care" hospital pharmacists bring, SHPA acting ceo Andrew Matthews said in an introduction.

"Our 'Innovation at the Frontline' feature highlights the innovative work of SHPA members and what this means for clinical safety, patient accessibility to health services and improvements in patient care," he said.

"Delivery of chemotherapy at home, improvements in transitions of care between acute and primary care, radiopharmacy, accessibility to new Hepatitis C medicines, opioid stewardship and pharmacists in general practice are just some of the examples where our members are making real differences."

In the feature article, SHPA federal councillor Deirdre Criddle discusses her role as a clinical pharmacist in the Complex Needs Coordination Team (CoNeCT) based at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth.

"CoNeCT is more than a hospital outreach service and often serves individuals without a medical home," said Criddle.

"The pharmacist enables conversations with GPs, hospital specialists and community pharmacies and bridges the gaps.

"My relationship with GPs and community pharmacists is crucial in ensuring appropriate handover of care of our CoNeCT clients."

CLICK HERE for the open-access featured article.

Medlab, Heritage alliance

HERITAGE Brands Limited has announced a strategic alliance with listed medical life science company Medlab Clinical "to develop next generation, over-the-counter, well being solutions for the pharmacy retail channel".

The Heritage Brands product range includes Le Tan, Australis, Innoxia, Mode, In Essence and Oil Garden, with the company also having the Australian distributions rights for Skin Republic, Luma, Sensationail, Nailene, Fing'rs and Revlon Eyelashes.

The alliance provides an additional sales channel for Medlab, which currently markets its specialised nutritional products to doctors, naturopaths, pharmacies (behind the counter) and other relevant practitioners in Australia, New Zealand and Asia.

Medlab ceo Sean Hall said the two companies shared a similar philosophy and values regarding health issues, with the relationship expected to boost sales via Heritage to "health-conscious consumers

looking for uniqueness, innovation and value in a trusted brand".

Heritage Brands chief Constantine Gendis said the agreement would take the company into the growing nutraceutical space.

"From a combination of quality, value and innovation, we expect a positive consumer reaction as we expand the products' distribution reach and add them to our portfolio of brands," Gendis said.

Medlab has already developed 24 evidence-based products, and recently received ethics approvals to proceed with two clinical trials for its cannabis-based medicines which are administered via the company's NanoCelle patented nano-particle spray (**PD** 20 Jun).

Key shareholders in Heritage Brands include Souls Private Equity Limited and Rawlo International Pty Ltd, with the company last year recording gross sales revenue of more than \$63 million, a year-on-year increase of almost 70%.

Codeine resources

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has released new support materials specifically for pharmacists to use when engaging with customers about the forthcoming rescheduling of codeine-containing products.

The content includes a special pharmacist fact sheet detailing the reasons for the change, support for clinical decisions about alternative pain treatments and a warning about stockpiling the products.

See www.tga.gov.au for details.

Home care reform

THE Federal Government Department of Health has announced the release of a public discussion paper to help inform future care at home reforms.

Minister for Aged Care Ken Wyatt said older Australians wanted better choices and improved access to services to help them continue to live active and healthy lives in their own homes and communities.

"The reforms the Australian Government has introduced in recent years aim to put consumers in control of their care.

"The goal is a more consumer-driven, market-based and nationally consistent system – one that is fair and supports older Australians."

Before further reforms are implemented, the Health Department wants to have more stakeholder input, releasing a discussion paper.

With pharmacy services a significant element in the integrated care of older Australians, health professionals as well as other stakeholders are invited to give feedback - **CLICK HERE**.

New PBAC appointee

MINISTER for Health Greg Hunt has made a new appointment to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

Michelle Burke, an industry nominee, comes to the role with more than 20 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, contributing in areas which include access to medicines and industry development - visit pbs.gov.au to see PBAC membership.

Flo Nasal Relief TVC

ENT Technologies has launched the third in a series of video animation ads for the Flo Nasal Relief range.

The new impactful ad is viewable via YouTube (and the Flo website) and demonstrates the differences between a preservative-free saline nasal spray or sinus wash, "to help customers make the right decision for nasal or sinus congestion".

See pharmacydaily.com.au/videos.



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Guardian warms Vinnies



THOUSANDS of crafty Australians are busy knitting for good as part of the Guardian Angels program, a Guardian Pharmacy social responsibility project, now in its 19th year.

Over the span of its existence the Guardian Angels Knitting Program has given the gift of warmth to over two million people in need, and has this year teamed up with the St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) to give back to the tens of thousands of Australians facing hardship this winter.

From 17 Jul to 31 Aug this year, Guardian Pharmacies across the country will distribute knitted garments including beanies, scarves, jumpers and gloves to Vinnies shops and services in a bid to provide each of the 105,000 homeless Australians with warm winter wear.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Victoria chief executive officer Sue Cattermole said they were grateful for the donations, which would help give dignity and comfort to Australians in need.

"Homelessness doesn't discriminate – it can affect people of all ages and backgrounds – and for the 105,000 people experiencing homelessness each night, winter is a particularly hard time," Ms Cattermole said.

Gary Dunne, chief operating officer of Guardian's parent company, Sigma Healthcare, said, "We are consistently amazed by the endless compassion of our Guardian Angels, and are thrilled to have the St Vincent de Paul Society come on board as our official charity partner this year."



Pictured are knitting angels from Vines Road Guardian (**top**) and Busiko's Guardian (**above centre**)

Northern Territory

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Rural scholarship winners announced

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has announced the 39 recipients of the Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme 2017.

The scholarships provide financial support to students from rural and remote communities to encourage them to undertake undergraduate or graduate studies in pharmacy at university.

Scholarship winners receive \$10,000 each year, for up to four years of study, to help cover the costs associated with study away from home.

They also participate in a mentoring program aimed at reinforcing students' ties to rural and regional Australia.

"Scholarship holders receive financial and mentoring support to ensure they get the most out of their university studies – and the fact that they are encouraged to conduct their professional careers in rural Australia is fantastic," Pharmacy Guild of Australia national president George Tambassis said.

"The mentoring program helps the students develop a learning plan and also provides support to students outside the university environment.

"It's an important support for students who have come from rural and remote areas and are studying away from their family base."

This project is an initiative of the Rural Pharmacy Workforce Program and is government funded as part of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

Ephedrine AusPAR

AN AUSTRALIAN Public Assessment Report (AusPAR) has been posted for Mayne Pharma's Ephedrine Hydrochloride, around approval of a major variation, namely a new strength of 25mg/mL.

Win with LANÁTE

This week Pharmacy Daily and LANÁTE are giving readers the chance each day to win a LANÁTE prize pack including Body Cream and Face Cream.



LANÁTE is a topical formulation containing high strength Ammonium Lactate, which helps remove the surface layer of the skin cells, allowing for skin renewal, and reduce water loss by drawing additional moisture to the skin. LANÁTE can increase dermal firmness, thus improving the general appearance of the skin. To find out more, **CLICK HERE**.

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

In what season does Keratosis Pilaris tend to worsen?

CLICK HERE FOR A HINT

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Sandra White from Iron Pharmacy Group.

Faster, Easier MedsCheck Recording!

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Dispensary Corner

THANKS Grandad for saving me from untimely demise at the teeth of wildlife - well, maybe.

New research out of Duke University, USA, has demonstrated that in a hunter-gatherer community, through the full range of chronotypes



(members of a group with different circadian rhythms), one or more individuals will be awake for 99.8% of the time.

"Chronotype variation and wakeful older individuals in modern humans may be a legacy of natural selection acting to reduce the dangers of sleep," authors concluded.

They had tracked the sleep activity of modern day hunter-gatherers in Tanzania finding that, over a period of twenty days, there were only eighteen minutes when no-one was awake.

Wake up Jeff!

CLICK HERE for the study.

BIGGER than Ben Hur? Actually completely the opposite.

Scientists in the USA have encoded a short movie into the DNA of living bacteria cells.

The Harvard University researchers transferred the "mini film" - just five frames long, depicting a galloping horse - onto nucleotides and then used CRISPR technology to encode them into E.coli bacteria.

They believe the technology could be used as a future storage medium, saying DNA is "much more stable than silicon memory if you want to hold something for thousands of years".

DAA dollars dominate

OF ALL the government supported services, the one that contributes the most to pharmacies, in terms of remuneration received, is Dose Administration Aids (DAA), according to the Hall and Partners financial report to the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation chaired by Professor Stephen King.

However the conclusions of the report are based on an exceptionally small sample size, with just 38 pharmacies completing the survey (**PD** yesterday).

In addition to DAA income, an array of government allowances and support payments were claimed by pharmacies last financial year, the most common of which was the Rural Pharmacy Maintenance Allowance (RPMA).

The majority of pharmacies in major cities claimed no allowances or payments, the report said.

For most claimants, the report revealed the contribution of the RPMA is between only 1% and 10% of annual revenue.

Of responding pharmacies, one

third provided pharmaceutical services to nursing homes with per bed charges ranging from \$1 to \$20.

Overall, DAAs, absence from work certificates, opioid dependence treatments and staged supply were the most common fee-based services offered by these pharmacies.

Those in cities more commonly offered compounded medicines, diabetes management services and weight management and nutrition services.

Visit health.gov.au for the report.



Smoking cessation training course

THE Woolcock Institute is hosting an upcoming Nicotine Addiction and Smoking Cessation Training Course, which offers participants the opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of the field to work in primary and allied healthcare as a tobacco treatment specialist.

The course takes place 08-10 Aug 2017 in Glebe, NSW, and costs \$1,870 per person - more details at www.woolcock.org.au.

Raven's recruitment

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Jobs of the Week

- **Accredited PIC** - Mid NSW Coast (Job# 200013940)
Additional hours available if required; work in sought after beachside town!
- **Pharmacist Manager** - Great Ocean Road, VIC (Job# 200014359)
Opportunity to make your mark in a rural community. Relocation package on offer.
- **Pharmacist** - Sunshine Coast, QLD (Job# 200014147)
Full-time Pharmacist opportunity in a vibrant pharmacy setting - above market \$\$.
Have you arranged a Locum for your next break? call us to sort it!

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.

28-30 Jul: PSA17; Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour, Sydney; for details see: www.psa17.com

5-9 Aug: Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business Conference 2017; Mt. Buller, Victoria; register your interest here: www.medicic.com.au

6-12 Aug: Pharmeducation Pharmacotherapy Update; Cable Beach Club Resort, Broome; details here: www.pharmeducationbroome.com

1-3 Sep: Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel Sydney; register here: www.pharmacy-connect.com.au

10-14 Sep: 77th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2017; Seoul, Republic of Korea; register here: www.fip.org

24-28 Sep: 2017 Pharmacy Alliance Members' Forum; Palazzo Versace, Gold Coast; register here: www.pharmacyalliance.com.au

17-19 Oct: World Self Medication Industry General Assembly 2017; ICC Sydney; registrations opening soon: www.wsmiga2017.com

26 Oct: CMA Annual Conference and Industry Awards; Sydney; details here: www.cmaustralia.org.au