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Dispensing fail reprimand

THE Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal has reprimanded pharmacist Hayden Swan and imposed conditions on his registration after finding he engaged in unprofessional conduct by inappropriately dispensing large amounts of Sustanon 250 (testosterone) to a patient.

The Pharmacy Board of Australia referred him to the tribunal on 27 Mar 2015, with Swan admitting he engaged in unprofessional conduct by inappropriately dispensing testosterone to a patient in 2012, relying solely on the information the patient provided him despite having access to his dispensing history.

The records revealed the quantity of testosterone-based medications dispensed, namely nine ampoules, exceeded the usual dosage detailed in the MIMS Product Information for Sustanon and Primoteston.

Swan admitted he failed to

communicate with the prescribing medical practitioner to obtain approval, or verify whether it was necessary to dispense that many doses.

The Board's reprimand included conditions on his registration requiring him to complete an education course on professional ethics and dispensing and he was also required to pay the Board's costs.

In considering the appropriateness of the proposed sanction, the tribunal took into account that this was an isolated incident in his career and he "had demonstrated insight by making appropriate admissions and fully co-operating during the proceedings".

The sanction also recognised that he was at the time of the offence a relatively inexperienced pharmacist.

Where's my Huggs?

SUREFIT is offering *Pharmacy Daily* readers another exclusive deal, with special wholesale pricing on Huggs slippers for men and women.

The offer is available for orders placed by 13 Mar - see **page four**.

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news along with full pages from:

- Surefit
- Pharmacy 4 Less

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Just one click away from keeping up to date with all the **Pharmacy Daily** breaking news as it comes to hand



Pfizer 'Proactive Supply' launch

PFIZER will formally debut a new online ordering system for pharmacies at APP next week, with the new platform being the latest evolution of its long-running Pfizer Direct distribution system which controversially launched more than six years ago (**PD** 06 Dec 2010).

Dubbed 'Pfizer Proactive Supply,' it uses historical ordering information to forecast monthly requirements and automatically generate suggested orders.

Pharmacists are able to review and change the proposals online, or make their own customised orders if they don't want to accept the predictions from the system.

Pfizer Trade Operations lead, Sofia Williams, said the new system would help reduce the burden

within pharmacies and help them balance inventory levels, satisfy patient needs and minimise the cost of slow moving inventory.

"Pfizer Proactive Supply removes the labour intensive task of predicting what is required, as well as reducing the time taken in generating an order," she said.

"We hope it will give pharmacists more time to serve their patients' needs and requirements."

The system, which has already soft launched to a number of pharmacies, is accessible via www.thepfizerhub.com.au.

It will also be showcased at APP on the Gold Coast from next Thu.

Choosing Wisely 2017

NPS MedicineWise has announced the opening of registrations for the Choosing Wisely Australia 2017 National Meeting on 4 May in Melbourne for members and supporters.

The event will showcase the progress of Choosing Wisely Australia in the two years since launch, including measures of success and impact as well as creating opportunities to exchange ideas and connections to maintain and build momentum.

There will also be a focus on both consumer and health professional innovations and opportunities that support a culture shift, the organisation has said.

CLICK HERE for details.

NZ pharmacy vax call

THE Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand has called upon the NZ government to fund the provision of influenza vaccination for pregnant women this flu season.

The NZ Guild believes this would provide an extra point of contact for women who would like to know more about the vaccine and a convenient and appointment-free easy-to-access location to receive the vaccine.

Immunisation against influenza and whooping cough during pregnancy is recommended by the Ministry of Health, and funded.

However, immunisation rates are only 13%, according to Dr Thomas Breuer, GSK Vaccine's chief medical officer who is visiting New Zealand.

The ministry estimates the vaccination rate to be about 17% but the real figure could be higher.

US, EU sign GMP pact

THE United States and the European Union have agreed to extend their existing cooperation so they will be able to utilise each other's good manufacturing practice (GMP) inspections of pharmaceuticals facilities.

The amended Mutual Recognition agreement is the culmination of three years of cooperation under the Mutual Reliance Initiative, and will allow the FDA and EU drug inspectors to rely upon information from drug inspections conducted within each other's borders.

Ultimately this will enable the FDA and EU to avoid the duplication of drug inspections, lower inspection costs and enable regulators to devote more resources to other parts of the world where there may be greater risk, a release stated.

"The Mutual Recognition Agreement is an important step in working collaboratively and strategically with key partners to help ensure American patients have access to safe, effective and high quality drugs," said Dara Corrigan, FDA's associate commissioner for global regulatory policy.

Fatty brain fail

THE brains of obese people may be failing to register that the individual has eaten enough, as the regulatory system lets them down, according to new research from Associate Professor Zane Andrews of the Monash Bio-medicine Discovery Institute.

Andrews' findings were published in the *Neuropharmacology* journal.

CLICK HERE for the abstract.

New Allergan leads

ALLERGAN plc has announced that its current managing director for Australia, Glen Curran, has been appointed to a new leadership role in the company's European Region and will be relocating to the United Kingdom.

Curran has been in his role since August 2011 and during this time has established a strong and dynamic business, delivering 12 successful product launches during his tenure, the company said.

He also steered the organisation through the company's complex combination with Actavis.

The current vice president of international strategic marketing for eye care, Gerry Muhle, will be transitioning to the role of country manager for the Australian and New Zealand business.

The appointments are integral to Allergan's international proposed organisational re-alignment, consolidating from five to three regions, such that as Australia and New Zealand are grouped with the Middle-East and Africa region.

Early bird closing

THE early bird registration discount for registration to attend the 5th BioCeuticals Research Symposium, "the event calendar highlight of the integrative medicine industry" expires next Fri.

Register now to receive the early bird rate of \$780.00 which is valid until 10 Mar 2017.

The event is themed "The Age Of Personalised Medicine: Improved Clinical Insights for Better Patient Outcomes" - **CLICK HERE** for more.

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- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central QLD (Job# 200013601)
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Dispensary Corner

ROCK ON!

Utah couple Makelle and Jared Ahlin have discovered their unborn child may have a thing for heavy metal, after flashing the sign of the horns in utero.

An ultrasound image (pictured) clearly shows the baby rocking on, with Makelle enthusiastically posting it on Facebook.

"Our kids are the coolest even before they enter the world...or just really full of themselves," she wrote, with the post going viral.

The baby is due late Jun.



HERE'S a rapid weight loss method: a Pennsylvania woman has lost over 90kg after having a massive cyst removed.

71 year old Mary Clancey just kept growing and growing until she tipped the scales at 166kg.

She tried everything to shake off the excess weight, but a visit to the doctor late last year to investigate blood clots led to the shock discovery of the gigantic growth on one of her ovaries.

An operation saw the cyst removed, with Clancey saying she "looked like an empty Easter egg".

She's recovered now and is determined to get curvy, saying "I'll be one hot babe eventually".

Potential new TB therapies

AN INTERNATIONAL collaboration led by Sydney University Professors Richard Payne, from the School of Chemistry, and Warwick Britton, from the Sydney Medical School and the Centenary Institute, has discovered a new compound which could translate into a new drug lead for tuberculosis (TB).

Its findings were published in *Nature Communications* last week.

Believed by many to be a relic of past centuries, TB causes more deaths than any other infectious disease including HIV/AIDs, the authors write.

In 2015 there were an estimated 10.4 million new cases of TB and 1.4 million deaths from the disease.

The bacterium causing TB (*mycobacterium tuberculosis*) is becoming increasingly resistant to current therapies, the group argues, highlighting the urgent need to develop new TB drugs.

In 2015 an estimated 480,000 cases were unresponsive to the two major drugs used to treat TB with an estimated 250,000 TB deaths caused by drug-resistant infections.

The research investigated soil bacteria compounds known to effectively prevent other bacteria growing around them.

Using synthetic chemistry, the researchers were able to recreate these compounds with structural variations, turning them into more potent compounds called analogues which, when tested in a containment laboratory, proved to be effective killers of *mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

"The analogues also effectively killed TB-causing bacteria inside macrophages, the cells in which the bacteria live in human lungs," said Payne, adding that planning for further testing and safety studies was underway.

Dust mite approval

THE US Food and Drug Administration has approved Odactra, a new "allergen extract" to treat house dust mite-induced nasal and eye inflammation.

Odactra is administered sublingually and exposes patients to house dust mite allergens, gradually training the immune system in order to reduce the severity of allergic reactions.

The first dose of the once daily tablet must be taken under the supervision of a health professional with experience in allergic diseases.

Win with SkinB5

This week **Pharmacy Daily** & SkinB5 are giving away each day the Acne Control Cleansing Mousse.

SkinB5 is an all-natural acne supplement that works from within to eliminate and stop acne on the face and all over the body. The SkinB5 acne treatment system is based on a potent dosage of vitamin B5, which is proven to increase skin health and reduce acne by regulating the skin's production of sebum, or skin oil. See www.skinb5.com for more.

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

Are the products tested on animals?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Chi Nguyen from SA Health.



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.

8 Mar: AACP Accredited Pharmacists' Forum: Quality Use of Medicines in the Management of Chronic Medical Conditions; CGold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre; more info at: www.aacp.com.au

9-12 Mar: APP 2017; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; for details visit: www.appconference.com

31 Mar-2 Apr: Extension Seminar in Clinical Medication Management; Novotel Melbourne; register here: www.shpa.org.au

29-30 Apr: Victorian Pharmacy Conference 2017; Monash University, Parkville; register here: www.psa.org.au

16-18 Jun: ConPharm 2017; Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart; find out more: www.aacp.com.au

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

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

26-28 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; QT Gold Coast; for details see: www.pharmacyassistants.com

16-19 Nov: Medicines Management Conference 2017; ICC Sydney; details tbc www.shpa.org.au

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