

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news including our regular **Health & Beauty** feature.

FDA pushes generics

DRIVEN by the need to whittle away at the price of pharmaceuticals, the US is approving new generic drugs faster and more consistently than ever, according to a report by the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society.

CEO of the US Food and Drug Administration Scott Gottlieb last week indicated that the agency would expand abbreviated new drug applications (ANDA) and see priority reviews, which would accelerate generic competitors to market more quickly and help bring down costs.

The years 2016 and 2017 have already seen consecutive record approval numbers.

See the FDA's Generic Drug Review Dashboard at fda.gov.

Ramsay-Malouf deal ratified

RAMSAY Health Care's franchise network expansion into community pharmacy took a significant leap forward when it announced it had inked a deal on 10 Aug to add 18 pharmacies across Queensland by acquiring the Malouf Group (**PD** 23 Aug 17) and now this arrangement has official approval from regulatory authorities.

The deal will be finalised early next month, Ramsay said in a statement.

As previously reported, Malouf's is presently the largest privately owned pharmacy group in Queensland, employing more than 450 staff with pharmacies across Brisbane and surrounding areas, on the Sunshine Coast and in a range of regional locations including Toowoomba, Gympie, Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Mackay.

Malouf founding partner Richard Malouf said, "We are delighted to see the Malouf Pharmacies come into the Ramsay Pharmacy Franchise Network.

"Ramsay Health Care is a great organisation with a similar vision and culture to our organisation as well as the commitment to delivering excellent healthcare services," Malouf said.

"We are confident that our pharmacies will be in good hands for the long term and that the health of our customers will come first".

Ramsay Health Care chairman, Michael Siddle said, "Paul Ramsay was a friend to Richard Malouf and would be very pleased with this deal.

"Ramsay Health Care and its franchisees will maintain the excellent service and culture that has made Malouf Pharmacies one of the most reputable pharmacy brands in Queensland for over 50 years," Siddle added.

He also confirmed there would be no changes to operations for Malouf Pharmacies at this stage, with rewards programs and current staff kept in place.

Lilly drops Axiron

ELI Lilly Australia has agreed with owner Acrux to cease promoting the transdermal testosterone solution Axiron, returning the product to its maker who said it currently has no plans to commercialise Axiron in Australia.

In a Dear Healthcare Professional letter, the company pointed out that the product was not 'A-flagged' and could not therefore be substituted at the pharmacy level.

Patients, estimated at around 2,500 men according to Besins Healthcare, will need to visit their doctors and seek an alternative prescription if they wish to continue testosterone replacement therapy.

Besins, the manufacturer of testosterone replacement therapy Testogel (1% transdermal testosterone gel) is hoping to pick up patients impacted by the sudden withdrawal of Axiron, and to this end is intensifying its promotion to doctors and upping its manufacturing production, said Besins md Geoff Blundell.



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Super Soniic and Hard Rod caps safety alerts

SAFETY advisory warnings have been issued by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) around two products which some Australians may have purchased online.

Super Soniic capsules contain the poison strychnine and the undeclared substance sildenafil, posing a serious risk to health.

Similarly Hard Rod Plus capsules contain the undeclared substance aminotadalafil.

Neither the capsules themselves nor the place of manufacture has been approved by the TGA which says these drugs should not be ingested and remaining capsules should be taken to a local pharmacy for safe disposal.

Call to 'be part of the solution' to AMR

HEALTH professionals and the public are being asked by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to 'be part of the solution' and take action to slow the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The call comes as part of the global Antibiotic Awareness Week (13-19 Nov) campaign endorsed by the World Health Organization.

The Commission's senior medical advisor Professor John Turnidge said, "This Antibiotic Awareness Week we want to encourage people to take action to slow antibiotic resistance by reducing unnecessary prescriptions for antibiotics."

Citing some recent gains noted in the Commission's *Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Australia (AURA) 2017*, Turnidge said the results were encouraging, and it was "good to see the message beginning to get through."

He sounded a note of caution however referencing the lack of improvement in community clinic antibiotic prescribing habits and subsequent rise of MRSA bloodstream infections.

Visit safetyandquality.gov.au/aww.



UTS Innovation Gala Dinner



THE 2017 Innovative Pharmacist of the Year Award and Gala Dinner was touted as "another great success", organisers said and by the look on the faces of some of the participants (pictured), the evening did indeed sparkle.

The gala event brought together representatives from government,

industry and research to celebrate the trailblazers of Pharmacy in Australia.

UTS extended its congratulations to all the award winners and nominees with a special thanks to sponsor Astra-Zeneca for their ongoing support of pharmaceutical innovation in Australia.



Peanut allergy patch

PEOPLE allergic to peanuts might soon be able to breathe easier, as peanut patches designed to help those with allergies to become less sensitive have shown promise in a recent US clinical trial published on the JAMA network.

The patch gives the patient continual exposure to controlled amounts of peanut proteins and doesn't pose the risk of triggering the allergy that actually eating peanuts would, researchers explain.

The trial used patches with low, intermediate and high doses of peanut protein and compared them to a placebo patch.

CLICK HERE to access the study.

Aussies tick euthanasia

ALMOST 90% of Australians aged 18+ are in favour of "letting patients die when they are hopelessly ill and experiencing unrelievable suffering with no chance of recovery", according to a special Roy Morgan Snap SMS Survey.

In contrast, just 10% (down 7%) say doctors should "try to keep patients alive" and 3% (down 11%) are undecided.

The support for assisted dying at 87% is up a significant 18% since the May 1996 survey.

Analysis shows that large majorities of supporters of all parties now support euthanasia, led by 91% of Greens voters, 88% of National voters, 87% of ALP voters and 86% of Liberal voters.

Visit roymorgan.com for details.

Speech recognition embryonic for e-health

ALTHOUGH the use of speech recognition technology has been touted as a means of reducing the time and effort to capture and record information, it is still not yet ready for use in settings that require highly accurate information, such as healthcare, according to a study published in *JAMIA*.

Authors report that speech recognition was more error-prone and more time-consuming than a keyboard with mouse.

CLICK HERE to access the study.

Win with Plunkett's

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away a NS prize pack valued at \$30 each.

NS Working Hands...an intensive, non-greasy, non-slip hand treatment that absorbs instantly and leaves an invisible skin protection barrier that locks in the natural ingredients to restore dry, cracked, calloused and split hands. NS Working Hands leaves hands moisturised without the grease factor... so hands can get back to work, fast!

Visit: www.nsWorkingHands.com.au

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

NS Working Hands absorbs fast and is non greasy – why?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



Dispensary Corner

IF YOU like travel and elephants, you should probably visit Zambia.

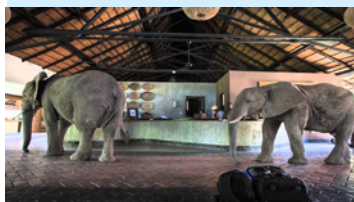
Not only can you catch the mighty proboscidean monsters on your safari, but they may check in at your hotel foyer, the literal elephant in the room (see below).

That's how it happened recently when two unexpected African pachyderms appeared in the foyer of Robert Zgozi at Mfuwe Lodge at South Luangwa National Park.

A spokesperson admitted this was not the first time it had happened, "but it's always exciting", the *Daily Mirror* reports.

"Two bull elephants had been in our courtyard eating wild mango fruit," he said.

"When they were ready to go, they simply walked through reception and down the front steps and headed into our front car park."



TIME travel is real, according to Glasgow photographer Peter Russell who noticed this 1850's painting revealing that the young path walker appeared to be checking her iPhone (pictured).

The photograph was tweeted with the comment 'Just like her on the dating app in Ferdinand Walmüller's Die Erwartete' ('The Expected One') and has since gone viral.



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

Intensive Care Cocoa Glow Lotion

Vaseline brand brings the pure power of its moisturising profile to this amazingly glowing result.

Intensive Care Cocoa Glow Lotion with pure cocoa butter is a body moisturiser that deeply moisturises the skin, keeping it supple and soft with the unique silky smooth feel that only Vaseline brand offers. The fast-absorbing, non-greasy formula contains micro-droplets of Vaseline jelly and rich moisturisers that restore the appearance of dry skin. With this deeply penetrating product the beauty may only be skin-deep, but lasts so much longer as it restores the natural glow.



Stockist: 02 8303 6464

RRP: from \$5.25 for 225mL to \$11.57 for 750mL

Website: www.vaseline.com.au

Veet High Precision Facial Wax & Care



Veet High Precision Facial Wax & Care is a unique two-in-one warm wax system that has been developed for the removal of unwanted facial hair with the added benefit of after care. It has been designed with precision wax containing almond oil at one end, and a soothing aftercare cream containing aloe vera at the other. The tube also includes a slanted applicator to ensure the perfect amount of wax is applied in each use. The skin is left hairless, smooth and moisturised.

Stockist: 1800 022 046

RRP: \$15.99

Website: www.veet.com.au

Pearl Drops 2 Day White

Pearl Drops 2 Day White is an at-home teeth whitening treatment that gives a visibly whiter smile in just two days. The two step system is simple, convenient and easy to use. It features an Accelerator Mouth Rinse, which moderates the mouth's pH balance to prepare the teeth for the whitening process. This is followed by Premium Whitening Gel which allows for the active ingredient peroxide to begin to whiten the surface and remove deep stains in the teeth. Developed by dentists, the treatment is enamel safe, has zero effect on sensitive teeth and is safe for crowns, caps and veneers.



Stockist: 1800 222 099

RRP: \$24.99

Website: www.pearldrops.com.au

Spider Veins from Remescar



Remescar Spider Veins is a medical device that instantly treats and prevents discoloured, visual and structural imperfections of skin affected by spider veins. This well proven product forms a protective shield over and around the affected area to give the impression of smoother skin while it hides imperfections as well as reinforcing and protecting the blood vessels. Remescar Spider Veins also reported to improve microcirculation and decrease the redness of vascular lesions. This is another pharmacy-only product from Remescar.

Stockist: 1800 791 381

RRP: \$44.99

Website: www.keysun.com.au