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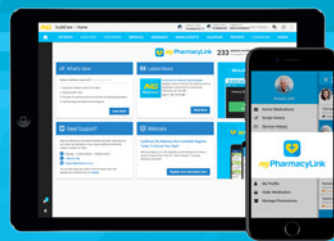
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## Today's issue of PD

*Pharmacy Daily* today has three pages of news plus a front cover page from **Pharmacy Alliance** and a full page from **Flo Rapid Relief**.



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## NPS partners with NCIRS

**NPS** MedicineWise has announced a partnership with the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS) to deliver a landmark, nationally coordinated immunisation support program for Primary Health Networks (PHNs) across Australia, including pharmacies.

The program, entitled the Primary Health Networks Immunisation Support Program, will be co-designed with PHNs to better support and coordinate immunisation providers and services in their regions.

The aim is to ensure PHN efforts across the country deliver on National Immunisation Program goals and are as consistent as possible, while addressing specific challenges in their local areas.

Immunisation providers, including GPs, nurses, community health clinics, Aboriginal Medical Services, local councils and pharmacies



will benefit from the new PHN immunisation programs which will be consistent with the Australian Immunisation Handbook guidance, but adapted to be more targeted to specific community and patient requirements.

NPS MedicineWise ceo Lynn Weekes says, "We are pleased to partner with NCIRS on

such a nationally significant and essential undertaking to enhance the effectiveness of immunisation services throughout the country.

"Supporting the invaluable work of PHNs by ensuring they are well-equipped with consistent and tailored immunisation information for the health professionals working in their local communities, is our priority in the development of this new program," she said.

## NDSS tender call

**THE** Department of Health has invited proposals from suppliers for listing of their products on the National Diabetes Services Scheme Product Schedule.

Products sought include blood glucose test strips, syringes and urinary ketone test strips.

Supplies will need to be delivered to Community Service Obligation Wholesalers for distribution to NDSS Access Points (community pharmacies) and other approved organisations.

Go to [tenders.gov.au](http://tenders.gov.au) for details.

## Apolloni takes out Telstra award

**AUSTRALIA'S** pharmacy industry was drawn into the spotlight with the announcement just prior to the weekend that Elise Apolloni (pictured) of Capital Chemist Wanniasa won two categories at the Telstra

business women's awards.

Apolloni took out the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award and Young Business

Woman of the Year, which meant she was in the finals for overall ACT winner.

Guild ACT Branch Director Margaret Beerworth, in congratulating Apolloni, said it was "a great night for Elise, her partners and team, and all those community pharmacists out there."



## Price disclosure bites

**THE** Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Oct cycle of price cuts took effect on Sat as posted initially in Jun (**PD** 20 Jun 17), with indicative pricing in Jul (**PD** 17 Jul 17) and a Pharmacy Guild of Australia analysis revealing an anticipated saving to taxpayers of around \$99m (**PD** 17 Aug 17).


Some major impacted products include atorvastatin, oral contraceptive Levlen, cold sore treatment Zovirax and more.

Health Minister Greg Hunt claims savings of more than half a billion dollars over the next four years.



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## Portable ice test

**RESEARCHERS** in Korea have developed a wireless sensor and a smartphone app that can detect the presence of amphetamines in human urine in just seconds.

The device is also portable enough to be worn as a bracelet, has unprecedented sensitivity for amphetamines with low risk for false-positive results, and costs about \$50 to produce.

The inventors said the system does away with the need for expensive equipment that requires long analysis time and highly skilled technicians to operate.

Scientists presented their proof-of-concept design last week in the journal *Chem* - [CLICK HERE](#).



## Continuous glucose monitoring tick

**THE** first continuous glucose monitoring system for adults 18+ years living with diabetes has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Named the FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring System from Abbott Diabetes Care, the system requires no calibration by a fingerprick blood test and can be used by adult patients to make diabetes treatment decisions.

The system reduces the need for fingerstick testing by using a small sensor wire inserted below the skin's surface that continuously measures and monitors glucose levels, and can be worn for up to 10 days, the FDA said.

Users determine glucose levels by waving a dedicated mobile reader (pictured) above the sensor wire to determine if glucose levels are too high (hyperglycemia) or too low (hypoglycemia), and how glucose levels are changing.



## NAPSA ticks residency

**WITH** more than 100 residents located in 30 accredited hospital and health service sites for the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) residency program across the country (PD 12 Sep 17), the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) has spoken up in support.

NAPSA president Sandra Minas said it was an outstanding result for the first accreditation round.

SHPA has now launched the next round of accreditation for sites seeking SHPA approval to begin their residency program in 2018.

The SHPA Residency Program is a structured, practice-based program conducted over two years providing a fast track to advanced practice for early career pharmacists as they progress through four six-month rotations to foster intensive experiential learning.

Minas added that it was important that NAPSA members normalise, support, adopt and champion the SHPA program.

## Pharmacy Alliance growth plan

**PHARMACY** Alliance members converged at the annual Members' Forum at Palazzo Versace on the Gold Coast last week to 'shape their future'.

CEO Darren Dye addressed more than 130 member and supplier partner delegates saying, "Our focus as a business is to help our members grow and develop their profits in an uncertain pharmacy environment by providing specific strategies that they can implement to provide greater return".

The Pharmacy Alliance team presented a strategic plan that will see membership grow to 1100+ pharmacies by 2020 which includes both independent and co-branded Alliance Pharmacy members.

Initiatives have been developed to drive members' future financial success through Alliance Rewards, a new incentive program for pharmacies, and more development with supported Z POS and Dispense system to drive pharmacy operations.

Kos Sclavos, in his opening keynote said that the key to shaping the future is to focus on creating a deep relationship with patients with tools

readily available today.

In addition, Pharmacy Alliance revealed a new pain category strategy, a collaborative project with key supplier partners, to differentiate co-branded Alliance Pharmacy members as pain management experts.

International retail expert, Gal Shvitiel, drew on overseas examples to emphasise how shoppers want to shop, when they want to shop and what inspires them.

The expert panel is pictured below from left: Gal Shvitiel, managing director GIG Retail; Bill Turner, Office of Drug Control, Department of Health; Mark Mesiha - pharmacist and regional manager, Pharmacy Alliance; Darren Dye - Pharmacy Alliance ceo and Kos Sclavos - pharmacist and former national president of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.



## WIN WITH COLOUR BY TBN

This week Pharmacy Daily and Colour by TBN are giving away each day a 'Lost in Your Eyes' Eyeshadow Palette and 'More Than Just a Pretty Face' Eyeshadow, Bronzer & Highlighter Palette.

These two multi-faceted palettes allow you to create a wide variety of eyeshadow and base looks. With a combination of matte and shimmer shades, these palettes are perfect for use during party season with their super-pigmented formula. Visit [www.colourbytbn.com.au](http://www.colourbytbn.com.au) for more information.

To win, be the first from NSW or ACT to send the correct answer to the following question to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Does the Lost in Your Eyes Eyeshadow Palette contain matte, shimmer or a mix of shades?

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



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## Dispensary Corner

**AFTER** a 12 year relationship goes sour, whom should you marry?

Laura Mesi, an Italian fitness instructor and "vlogger" from the small town of Lissone near Milan, decided to be the first in the country to marry herself - I love myself so its a selfie-marriage, the *Independent* reported.

The 40-year-old said the idea of a solo wedding, which has no legal significance, first came to her two years ago, after a previous relationship ended.

And it was all style with a white wedding dress, a three tier cake, bridesmaids and 70 guests.

Mesi reportedly said, "I told my relatives and friends that if I had not found my soul mate I would marry myself by my 40th birthday".



**SO YOU** take 15 friends to the local restaurant to celebrate your daughter's birthday, go to pay the account and find it's been covered?

That's what happened to Jolie Welling in Applebee's restaurant in southwestern Pennsylvania.

The restaurant's owner knew the source but was sworn to secrecy - a local business owner, who came from very poor beginnings, has made good, very good, and now repeatedly performs these generous acts randomly and anonymously.

The benefactor told waitress Samantha Powell, "I grew up poor and now I'm not."

## Nutraceuticals take up slack

**AUSTRALIAN** food producers are being encouraged to seize an unrealised opportunity to transform part of the nation's \$50 billion annual food waste bill into profitable ingredients for the burgeoning local nutraceutical and food ingredients industry.

Sourcing local nutraceutical ingredients for vitamin and health supplements produced in Australia, an industry worth \$4.7 billion annually, is a new challenge for Australia's agribusiness sector - leveraging the value of respected all-Australian products especially in lucrative Asian markets.

The solution of transforming surplus horticulture and food waste, such as grape seed extract, into valuable nutraceutical ingredients is an aim of the proposed Fight Food Waste & Fraud Cooperative Research Centre.

The concept has the support



of 47 industry and 11 research partners, with key participants from disparate industries cooperating and communicating in strategic collaborations.

Swisse Wellness, one of Australia's high profile health and vitamin brands, says it is keen to work with research organisations and other food industries

to build local supply chains for its required raw ingredients.

"It's such an important value add for our products to be both sourced and manufactured in Australia, building on our clean, green and safe brand," says Swisse Wellness' Simon Woolmer.

## TGO 91, TGO 92 labels

**TAKING** on board feedback from industry stakeholders, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has made several minor amendments to the Therapeutic Goods Order (TGO) No. 91 and 92 relating to labelling for prescription and related medicines and non-prescription medicines respectively. Visit [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) for details.

## Phcy education - 9yrs

**ITHERAPEUTICS** is celebrating its ninth year of providing free online education to pharmacy staff across a wide range of topics and is offering a chance to win one of four day spa packages, with additional bonuses for members who reach Gold Membership.

Go to [www.itherapeutics.com.au](http://www.itherapeutics.com.au) to select from five QCPP, 11 CPD and more than 40 other product-related training modules to start qualifying for rewards.

## Gabas reclassified

**PRESCRIPTION** drugs gabapentin and pregabalin are to be reclassified by the UK government as a class C controlled substance, after experts issued safety warnings following an increase in deaths linked to its use.

A Home Office consultation has been launched in response to growing pressure for the drug to be reclassified to tackle misuse.

Addiction group Addaction lead pharmacist Rachel Britton said the deaths were associated with a cocktail of CNS affecting drugs which can eventually suppress respiration causing death.



## Guild Update

### Smart hiring

**ENSURING** that the next person employed in a community pharmacy is a real asset to the team is a topic that will be examined at the Pharmacy Assistant National Conference later this month. Adrian Searle, principal of Decision Health, will present on investing the necessary time on recruitment projects to ensure the hiring process leads to a great addition to your team. Mr Searle's presentation will include examination of interview structure and focus, candidate profiling and candidate evaluation.

For 17 years the PA Conference has been the peak educational and networking event for pharmacy assistants. Held on the Gold Coast each October, the conference attracts up to 400 attendees.

The event includes a pre-conference workshop, comprehensive two-day education program, a social agenda including a conference dinner, and a trade exhibition featuring 40-plus stands showcasing the latest products, services and industry developments.

For pharmacy assistants, the conference provides a forum to gain product knowledge, personal and professional development and management skills.

The conference this year is being held at QT Gold Coast at Surfers Paradise from 26 - 28 October 2017.



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<sup>1</sup>IMS Health Data, Dec 2016 <sup>2</sup>The nasal decongestant effect of xylometazoline in the common cold. Eccles R et al. American Journal of Rhinology (2008) Vol 22 pp 491-496

Always read the label. Use as directed. Consult your healthcare practitioner if symptoms persist.