



## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news, our regular Health & Beauty feature plus a full page from APP 2018.

## PBA intern survey

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has extended the deadline for its Pharmacy Internship Experience Survey (PIES), which can now be completed up to 9am AEST on Mon 09 Apr 2018.

The Board said due to the Easter break it wanted to ensure that everyone invited to participate had a fair opportunity to provide a response to the survey, which seeks feedback from interns and preceptors to help improve the supervised practice process.

Emailed invitations contain a link to the survey which takes 15-20 minutes to complete.

## PD TIPPING WINNERS



NRL ROUND 4

MICHAEL WATSON

from Jandowae Pharmacy

AFL AFL ROUND 2

MICHELE HERBERT

from GuildSuper

Pharmacy Daily

## CM compliance improves

AN INCREASE in complementary medicines (CM) regulatory activity by the Therapeutic Goods Administration has seen a significant drop in the proportion of CMs with verified compliance breaches over the last six months.

The TGA has released a half yearly performance snapshot, which also confirms a jump in complementary medicines which had their registrations cancelled by a sponsor after a TGA request for information - from 20% in Jul-Dec 2016 up to 73% for the second half of 2017.

The TGA has previously been criticised for the proportion of medicines with verified compliance breaches, which ran at 80% for Jul to Dec 2016.

This figure dropped to 56% for the same period in 2017 with the increase in targeted reviews, including a strong focus on sunscreens.

The six-monthly report provides statistical information for 01 Jul to

## Paramedics prescribe

ADVANCED paramedic practitioners are now entitled to train to become independent prescribers across the UK, NHS England has announced.

According to a report in the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, it is estimated that around 700 paramedics working in hospital emergency departments, GP surgeries and minor injury units are poised to begin training to qualify to prescribe by 2019.

## e-prescribing tick

IMPLEMENTATION of an electronic prescribing system for the Hunter New England Local Health District has resulted in a number of significant benefits for prescribers, dispensers and ultimately for patients, according to a report in *Australian Prescriber*.

Electronic prescribing across the district has improved patient safety, communication and accountability, and provided an electronic record of medication prescribing and administration, authors concluded.

Access the article at [nps.org.au](http://nps.org.au).

31 Dec 2017 in relation to the TGA's regulation of therapeutic goods for safety, effectiveness, performance and quality, tracking progress against nominated priorities.

The agency also highlighted an increase in approval rates for new prescription medicine applications and changes to existing ones within target timeframes.

Generic medicines also received a boost with shorter times to approval conclusions.

The reformed orphan drug program, which came into effect on 01 Jul 2017, created a fairer scheme aligned more closely with international criteria, the TGA said, and the Special Access Scheme (SAS) Category C notification pathway was made available on 03 Jul to improve timeliness of access to goods deemed to have an established history of use, without prior approval.

The biologicals list and conditions of use in SAS Category C - which enables supply of goods deemed to have an established history of use without prior approval - have been updated this month and are immediately effective.

See the full report at [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au).

## Industry GMP forum

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced the inaugural 2018 Good Manufacturing Process (GMP) Forum registrations are now open.

The TGA will host the forum in conjunction with the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, the Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists to the Australian Pharmaceutical Industry, the Parenteral Drug Association Australia Chapter and the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering.

Topics to cover will include the international regulatory environment, GMP clearance, transition to the new PIC/S GMP Guide PE009-13 along with GMP Obligations for Small and Medium Enterprises, SME Education and GMP inspection requirements.

The forum is recommended for industry personnel employed by sponsors and manufacturers of prescription, over-the-counter and complementary medicines, as well as consultants working with the therapeutics industry.

Presenters will be senior TGA speakers who are subject matter experts in GMP.

Visit [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) for details.

# THE CPD YEAR IS HALF-WAY THROUGH

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NPS MEDICINEWISE PROFESSIONAL

## Christies Beach TWC service focus



**PHARMACY** of the Year nominee Christies Guild TerryWhite Chemmart Pharmacy at Christies Beach, South Australia, has been highlighted by the Guild for its focus on patient engagement.

Featured in a Guild blog post, the team from Christies Beach (pictured) are honoured to have been named as finalists in the awards which will be announced at next month's APP conference on the Gold Coast.

Co-proprietor Michael Wakim said "I think we stand out from other pharmacies...because we are not a retail-centric pharmacy.

"People appreciate our emphasis on engagement with our patients. The key is to maintain that focus on patient care and our engagement with the community.

"This all adds up to the feel of the pharmacy which is underpinned by our staff," he said, noting that the pharmacy only recruits team members who want to make a difference to other people's lives.

Wakim said changing the pharmacy's structure, work flows, job roles, culture and expectations of patient service was helping

future-proof the business.

"We believe this model of pharmacy is the future of community pharmacy and by successfully enacting these changes now, we are at the forefront of the industry and perfectly positioned to readily take up all future health service opportunities that we expect will arise," he said.

Benefits are already flowing, with increased script numbers, customer satisfaction and uptake of professional services, Wakim added.

## New hope for uveitis and psoriasis

**JANSSEN** pharmaceuticals has announced the addition to the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods of a new biologic therapy for psoriasis, which it says is set to challenge the current dominance of Humira (adalimumab).

Tremfya (guselkumab) is the first biologic approved in Australia that selectively blocks cytokine IL-23, a protein that plays a critical role in the pathogenesis of plaque psoriasis, the company said.

Tremfya is not funded on the PBS, but the company is running a special access scheme.

**MEANWHILE** in another release, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) is now funding Allergan's Ozurdex (dexamethasone 700µg) a sustained-release intravitreal implant for patients with non-infectious posterior segment uveitis, along with other specific conditions.

See the PI at [allergan.com.au](http://allergan.com.au).

## Heat Doward claims dominance

**PHARMACY** distributor Heat Doward says the results of a new customer survey confirm that it is a "dominant force in Australian pharmacy".

The organisation, which handles products such as eyewear brand OZK.O, Macks earplugs, Speedo, Billie Goat, ulta 3, Medi Manager and Simpkins Confectionery, asked pharmacy retail managers to rate it on key metrics.

The results were "overwhelmingly positive," Heat Doward said, with the company scoring more than 4+ stars (out of 5) on service from sales representatives, head office service and support, brands on offer, and margins & terms.

The strong feedback comes just 18 months after Heat Group acquired rival personal care products distributor Doward International (*PD* 01 Nov 2016).

Heat Doward has launched a new corporate positioning including a 'Your Partner in Pharmacy' tagline, with md Gillian Franklin saying the survey "shows we are truly delivering on our promise of great brands and outstanding service - driving revenue and growth in pharmacies across the country".

Heat Doward says it will have a significant presence at APP on the Gold Coast early next month, with new and existing customers invited to see the new range showcase.

## Early access to meds

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration has posted a presentation on a local perspective around early access to medicines by its Prescription Medicines Authorisation Branch assistant secretary Adrian Bootes to the International Society of Pharmacovigilance Training Course mid-Mar this year.

The presentation gave an overview of Australian expedited pathways, some considerations for implementation and other options for early access in Australia.

The drug eligibility criteria were presented with a flow chart on the pre-submission, submission and priority review processes, as well as the provisional approval pathway.

International harmonisation principles were also developed.

Visit [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) for access.

## AMR game-changer

**RESEARCHERS** have turned to gaming to help improve antimicrobial prescribing behaviour in hospitals, thus helping manage antimicrobial resistance (AMR), according to a *Pharmaceutical Journal* report.

The scientists at Imperial College London have developed a game featuring virtual patients in a hospital setting requiring prescribers to diagnose and manage them making optimal use of antibiotics - [imperial.ac.uk](http://imperial.ac.uk).

## Win with Nutri-Synergy

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away an NS prize pack valued at \$38 each including NS Working Hands, NS-8 Heel Balm and NS-8 Leg Care Cream.

### Hands, Legs and Heels

Dry, rough, cracked hands, legs and heels? NS Working Hands is an intensive repair treatment, it absorbs quickly so that hands get back to work fast. NS-8 Heel Balm is diabetic friendly and recommended by podiatrists while NS-8 Leg Care Cream refreshes and cools dry, tired, heavy legs. Visit: [www.Plunketts.com.au](http://www.Plunketts.com.au).

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

**Name one condition that Plunkett's NS Working Hands guarantees relief from.**

*Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Nikki Ruhl.*





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## Dispensary Corner

**IN THE** absence of an amazing new Nootropic drug, many people choose instead to augment their memories by taking thousands of selfies every year.

Most of the time this practice is nothing more than harmless chronicling, however, in the eastern Indian state of Orissa a new craze of taking selfies with elephants has gripped the area.

Unfortunately for these selfie-snappers, this has on occasions led to elephants becoming enraged and left people injured.

It should serve as a cautionary tale for anybody thinking of doing this in the future, just remember - unlike the human who needs physical reminders, the elephant never forgets...



**TRUE** love has had its way in the town of Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania in the USA where a couple who met in their local supermarket have tied the knot.

The retail romance culminated in the ceremony which appropriately took place in aisle 13 of the Community Supermarket last Sun, 01 Apr.

It wasn't an April Fool's joke, with the vows exchanged after bride Becky Smith finished her morning shift.

District Judge Frank J. Pallone Jr, who officiated at the ceremony, said it was his first wedding at a grocery store.

## 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](mailto:newproducts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

### Aknedoron Purifying Lotion

Weleda **Aknedoron Purifying Lotion** is a mildly astringent intensive spot treatment that helps to regulate skin and soothe blemishes. The mix of natural plant extracts includes sage, thyme and lavender essential oils to rebalance the skin, while witch-hazel and mineral sulphur calm irritation and stimulate healing blood flow. The treatment is best used at night, on problem areas and blemishes on the face and body. Use twice daily. Ideally used together with Aknedoron Cleansing Lotion in a regular cleansing routine.



**Stockist:** 1300 551 454  
**RRP:** \$25.95 for 50mL  
**Website:** [www.weleda.com.au](http://www.weleda.com.au)

### Omega 3, 6 & 9 in Mega Oil

Graham's natural **Mega Oil** is formulated with extra virgin, cold pressed and organic oils. Mega Oil is aimed at treating the internal causes of skin disorders as well as general health and wellbeing. With an excellent source of essential fatty acids, Mega Oil is high in omega 3,6 and 9 and helps to reduce inflammation in the body as well as treating the internal causes of skin conditions. This unique blend of these valuable oils is presented as a cost-effective answer to those annoying skin issues. Use as directed. If symptoms persist, consult your healthcare professional.



**Stockist:** 07 5596 1708  
**RRP:** from \$19.95 for 200mL  
**Website:** [www.itchy.net.au](http://www.itchy.net.au)

### Spinbrush Kids My Way Crazy Wrapz

Spinbrush **Kids My Way Crazy Wrapz** battery powered toothbrush for kids allows children to personalise and decorate their toothbrush while they safely and effectively clean their teeth. The small moving brush head is gentle on children's teeth and gums and is not removable, keeping it safe for inquisitive little minds. The large jewel switch is easy for little fingers to use, while the AAA batteries are replaceable. The pack includes 141 unique stickers to personalise and decorate the toothbrush. My Way Crazy Wrapz are now available in Boys' and Girls' styles.



**Stockist:** 1800 222 099  
**RRP:** \$9.99  
**Website:** [www.spinbrush.com.au](http://www.spinbrush.com.au)

### Guess 1981 For Men

**Guess 1981** For Men by Marciano is a fragrance for men that offers a spicy, smoky and unique interpretation of woods. The multifaceted fragrance opens with fresh violet leaves and Italian bergamot. The power continues to a heart of cedarwood, oakmoss and salt grey amber with a base of leather and olibanum. Strong masculine overtones command respect and build confidence in wearers and those they encounter throughout the day, or the long night.



**Stockist:**  
**RRP:** from \$49.00 for 50mL  
**Website:** [www.cotyaustralia.com.au](http://www.cotyaustralia.com.au)

# APP 2018

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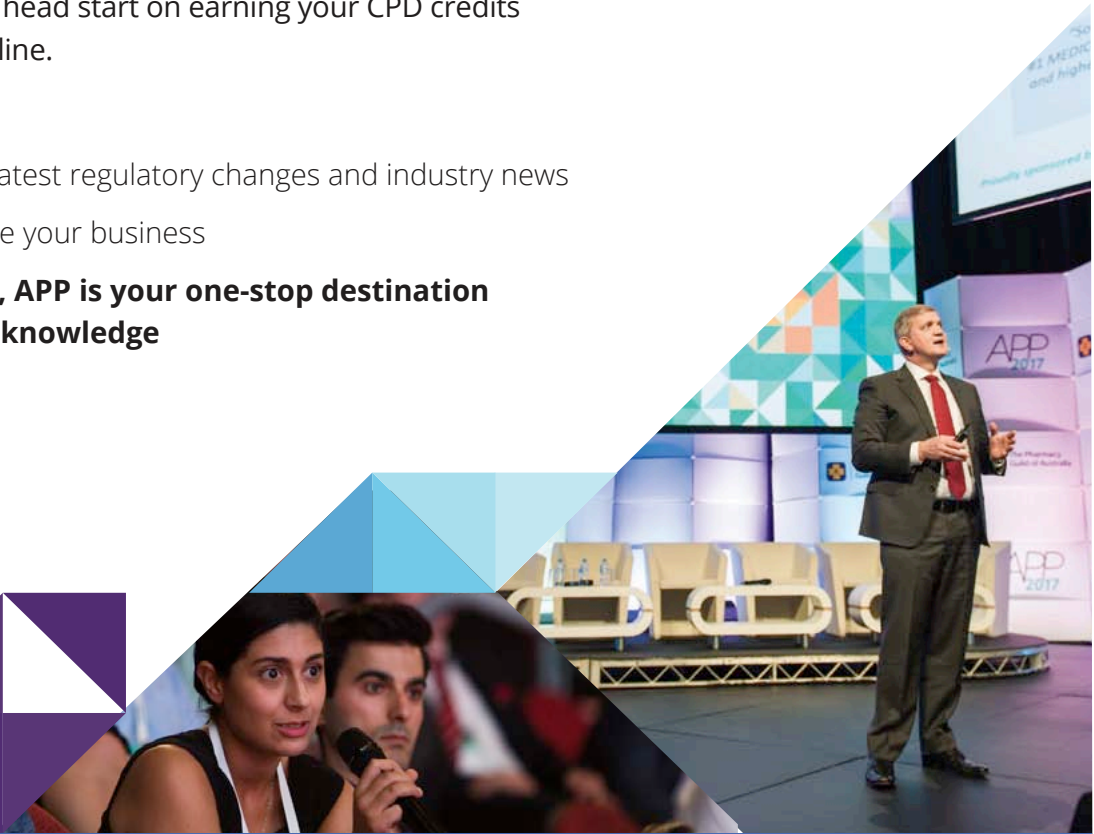
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