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Sanofi helps plug flu vaccine gap

SANOI Pasteur Australia has received a shipment of 150,000 influenza vaccines suitable for people aged 3 to 65 years, after drawing on its global supply chain to help address the local shortage of immunisations.

The company said it had now provided more than a million additional doses to help reduce wait times, with the vaccines distributed via the National Immunisation Program, state-based schemes and the private market.

Eagle China swoop

ASX-LISTED nutritional products business Eagle Health has announced the planned rollout of up to 100 "Education and Experience Stores" along China's east coast, after the success of its current four direct outlets in Xiamen.

The initial focus of the expansion will be in the company's home market of Fujian province, with the final retail footprint enabling access to up to 570 million consumers across the country, Eagle said.

"This retail strategy will also enable Eagle Health to directly sell the Hutang One pre-meal shake diabetes product, the company's new range of modern Traditional Chinese Medicine products and a selected range of health products sourced in Australia," according to ceo Zhang Mingwang.

Eagle will also distribute via pharmacy and supermarkets.

NeilMed joins Click & Collect platform

SALINE irrigation leader NeilMed has connected its global website to the Pharmacy Guild's Pharmacy Click & Collect Platform.

The addition means each pharmacy on the platform can receive consumer click & collect orders directly from the NeilMed website, with the revenue going directly to the pharmacy.

The platform now has more than 1,075 network pharmacies, and is free and exclusive to Guild members - more info at pharmacyclickandcollect.com.au.

First Pharma buys Kenkay

AUSTRALIAN-OWNED consumer pharmaceutical company First Pharma has flagged its expansion ambitions with the acquisition of pharmacy-only skin care company Kenkay Pharmaceuticals.

Kenkay has been a leader in the sorbolene market as well as a wide range of dermatological products for the whole family.

First Pharma ceo Justin Ooi (pictured) described the Kenkay acquisition as "a key milestone that adds a well-established Australian-made product range to the First Pharma stable of brands."

"Kenkay is a great strategic fit, delivering a highly regarded suite of products to bolster our presence and offering in the growing skin care market," he said.

Ooi added that the company has ambitious plans for further product development and reaffirmed his commitment to increase support for retail pharmacies.

"We look forward to connecting with our customers to learn how we can improve an already excellent product range."

"Pharmacists can continue to order Kenkay brands from



wholesalers or contact First Pharma for some great opening deals on our key lines," he said.

The purchase of Kenkay follows First Pharma's acquisitions of KraveGone mouth spray (PD 27 Feb 2018), an innovative OTC

product that suppresses cravings for sweet foods.

"Strengthening our portfolio and pipeline through targeted acquisitions and investments remains a priority for First Pharma," said First Pharma executive chairman, Andrew Howden.

Dolutegravir alert

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued a safety advisory in relating to dolutegravir, after preliminary results from a new study suggested risk of birth defects in babies born to women being treated with the medicine.

Dolutegravir is used to treat HIV infection in adults and children over 12, and is marketed in Australia under the brand name Tivicay.

The compound is also one of three active ingredients in Triumeq.

Early results of the Tsepamo Study conducted in Botswana identified a potential risk of neural tube defects in babies born to women with exposure to dolutegravir-containing regimens at the time of conception.

While the issue is being investigated the TGA has advised dolutegravir should not be used in women seeking to become pregnant

FIP annual report out

THE International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) has published its 2017 annual report, documenting the "diverse work of pharmaceutical educators, pharmaceutical scientists and pharmacists, all in the service of global health".

FIP president Carmen Pena said "let us be in no doubt that the pharmacy profession has a firm place in the universal health coverage agenda, and there is much more we can offer".

The full report is now available for download at www.fip.org.



For-benefit of HIV

FOR Benefit Medicines (FBM) and the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) have announced a partnership that will see 100% of profits from the sale of Famciclovir FBM medication go towards funding vital support services for people living with HIV.

FBM's generic medicine, Famciclovir FBM, is now available on prescription for suppression of herpes, and for dispensing through pharmacies nation-wide, at the same cost to patients as their current famciclovir treatment.

"There are over 26,000 people living with HIV in Australia and many of them would use famciclovir at some point as part of their medication adherence," said BGF ceo, Nick Lawson.

FBM was established under a social enterprise model with the sole purpose of distributing 100% of profits to patient support and medical research in Australia.

Guild POTY open

APPLICATIONS open today for the Guild Pharmacy of the Year competition for 2019.

It's the 20th anniversary of the competition which next year is sponsored by Care Pharmaceuticals and the Quality Care Pharmacy Program,

Once again there are three categories covering excellence in business management, community engagement and professional innovation - see guild.org.au.

The winners will be announced at APP2019 taking place on the Gold Coast from 07-10 Mar 2019.



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Jobs of the Week

- **Retail Manager** - Melbourne City, VIC (Job# 200015756)
Great location - Supportive owner & management - Good \$\$\$
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - North West, QLD (Job# 200013926)
Excellent package including Accommodation, Travel & Bonuses
- **Pharmacist, PIC, PM** - NSW Mid Coast (Job# 200015766)
Work across 3 locations, experienced Pharmacists + strong leadership

Love your work? ... So do Raven's!



Dispensary Corner

SANOFI-AVENTIS has issued a statement confirming that its zolpidem, marketed as Stilnox in Australia and under the brand name Ambien in the USA, was not to blame for an "abhorrent and repugnant" tweet by TV celebrity Roseanne Barr.

Barr initially claimed her lapse was because "it was 2 in the morning and I was ambien tweeting," with the drugmaker responding by saying: "While all pharmaceutical treatments have side effects, racism is not a known side effect of any Sanofi medication."

Barr's comment has had huge ramifications for the star, with her TV show cancelled immediately by the ABC network at an estimated cost of US\$60m in foregone advertising revenue.



IN A huge scientific breakthrough published in the *Nature Communications* journal this week, Irish paleontologists have discovered the earliest ever recorded case of dandruff.

A small feathered dinosaur called a microraptor, estimated to have lived about 125 million years ago, was found to have tiny flakes of fossilised skin on its body.

Researcher Maria McNamara from University College Cork said electron microscope scanning indicated the dinosaur exfoliation was made of tough cells called corneocytes containing keratin - just like modern human dandruff.

Top NZ supplement brand launches here

GO HEALTHY, described as "New Zealand's number one premium supplements brand," has launched in Australia with a range of over 60 products.



GO Healthy sells exclusively into pharmacies, and is one of the only major suppliers to manufacture all of its own products from start to finish in its fully owned and operated facility on NZ's North Island which produces more than 500 million GO Healthy capsules and tablets each year.

The local operation is being headed up by Alex McDonald (pictured) who said "the Australian market is incredibly discerning - it is not happy to take any old supplement - and this is why we are so confident in seeing a place for GO Healthy here".

GO Healthy has been operating in NZ since 2008 and is one of the country's most trusted brands. More info at gohealthy.com.au.

Cancer screening win

AUSTRALIA'S bowel cancer screening program is effective in reducing the risk of death from the disease, according to a new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The success was attributed to early stage detection giving a better prognosis - visit aihw.gov.au.

The study comes just as the American Cancer Society guidelines reduce colorectal cancer screen age to 45 years, with more younger adults developing the disease.

Sugar tax call lives on

WITH a world-wide trend all in the same direction, a new study from the University of Queensland Centre for Business and Economics of Health has shown a tax on sweetened drinks would save \$666 million in oral health costs over a decade - see academic.oup.com.

The first to explore the effects of a sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB) tax on oral health in Australia, lead author Dr Marcin Sowa said, "Findings suggest that a 20% SSB tax would lead to a reduction in decayed, missing and filled teeth by 3.9 million units over 10 years".

Switzer to address Pharmacy Connect

FINANCIAL commentator and businessman Peter Switzer has been confirmed as a speaker at the upcoming Pharmacy Connect conference, presenting on business success, introducing change and how to understand strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats - pharmacy-connect.com.au.



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.

15 - 17 Jun: ConPharm 2018; Sofitel Brisbane Central Hotel; for details and to register see: www.aacp.com.au

6 - 9 Jul: Life Long Learning in Pharmacy 2018 (LLLP2018); Rydges Southbank, Brisbane; registrations now open: www.illpharm2018.com

27 - 29 Jul: PSA18; The Hyatt Regency Sydney; register now: go to www.psa18.com

12 - 15 Aug: Medici Capital Pharmacy Snow Business Conference 2018; Mt Buller, Victoria; register your interest here: www.medici.com.au

7 - 8 Sep: Pharmacy Connect; Hilton Hotel Sydney; register at: www.pharmacy-connect.com.au

25 - 27 Oct: Pharmacy Assistant National Conference; Sea World Resort, Gold Coast; for details see: www.pharmacyassistants.com

Win with SkinB5

This week *Pharmacy Daily* & SkinB5 are giving away each day the Acne Control Skin Purifying Mask.

Utilising the power of vitamin B5, SkinB5's innovative Natural Acne Treatment System combines supplements and skincare to eliminate and treat the underlying causes of Acne from the INSIDE OUT. See www.skinb5.com for more.

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

How long does the SkinB5 Skin Purifying Mask take to work?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Kimberley Eckert from Iron Pharmacy Group.

