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Today's issue of PD

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

Alzheimer's challenge

A WEALTHY US businessman has given US\$5 million to the University of Texas at San Antonio College of Sciences, to establish the new Oskar Fischer Project - an initiative that will “engage the world's brightest minds in a comprehensive literature review, with the goal of synthesising that information into one simple explanation for the cause of Alzheimer's disease”.

The initiative by James Truchard will award a grand prize of \$2 million, two second place prizes worth \$500,000 each and four third place prizes of \$250,000 each.

Truchard has been inspired by the work of the late Oskar Fischer, a Jewish pioneer in neuroscience who studied dementia at the same time as Alois Alzheimer.

He said despite over 130,000 research papers published on the condition, no definitive explanation and cure had been found.

A call for proposals under the project will open in Feb 2019.

SA pharmacist reprimand

AN ADELAIDE pharmacist has been formally sanctioned for inappropriate dispensing of S8 drugs, with his actions permitting the diversion of oxycodone within the pharmacy.

The South Australian Health Practitioners Tribunal this week released the reasons for the decision following a hearing which took place on 11 Oct 2018.

The alleged dispensing conduct occurred between Oct 2014 and May 2015, with a formal complaint saying the pharmacist provided oxycodone from the pharmacy safe to a staff member packing Webster packs for aged care home clients without a valid prescription from a particular patient's doctor.

Despite the amount of oxycodone provided substantially exceeding that patient's monthly requirements, the pharmacist is also alleged to have continued to supply the staff member with the S8 medication, did not always make timely entries in the drug of dependence register, and failed to ensure that once packed into Webster packs the oxycodone was returned to the pharmacy safe.

The Tribunal said the dispensing

conduct was sustained and serious, and involved failures across a range of pharmacy practice including not checking prescribing history; taking steps to dispense without a prescription; failing to take precautions to supervise a technician; failure to record S8 drugs in the register; and failure to follow up on securing medications.

At the time of the alleged conduct the pharmacist was aged 32, having first been registered in 2010, and his counsel in the proceedings presented evidence that the pharmacy had a practice of dispensing S8 medications on a “script owing” basis.

Following the notification the pharmacist lost his job, but had since undertaken relevant education at his own initiative and cost, with the issue having taken a significant toll on his mental health.

The Tribunal unanimously found the conduct constituted professional misconduct, and ruled that a reprimand needed to be imposed for several reasons, including that it “puts other practitioners on notice that such a departure from professional standards will not be tolerated”.

Several conditions were also imposed on the pharmacist's registration, including that he only practise at his current place of employment, work under direct supervision when working on any S8 medication, be subject to quarterly reporting and undertake mentoring and specified education.

Pharmacy Daily has chosen not to name the reprimanded pharmacist.

Maxigesic Korea deal

AFT Pharmaceuticals has kicked off a commercialisation program for its patented Maxigesic IV (intravenous) formulation, signing a licensing agreement with South Korean firm Kyongbo Pharmaceutical Co Limited.

Maxigesic IV is a paracetamol 1000mg + ibuprofen 300mg solution for infusion, and has been developed as a line extension to Maxigesic tablets for use post-operatively in hospitals as an alternative to opioid-based IV analgesics.

The product registration process in South Korea is planned for the near future, with sales expected to commence in 2019/20.

Asthma alert

HEALTH authorities have issued a warning about the potential for a “thunderstorm asthma” event in NSW today as a severe weather event crosses the state into southern Queensland.

The strong cold front may trigger high levels of pollen in the air, with NSW Health spokesman Richard Broome urging asthma sufferers to carry medication with them “at all times during this high risk period”.

Simmonds takes Chair

BRETT Simmonds has been named as the new Chair of the Pharmacy Board of Australia, taking the place of Bill Kelly who is retiring.

Other new appointees include pharmacists Elise Apolloni (ACT), Hannah Mann (WA), Cameron Phillips (SA) and Alice Gilbert (NT).

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*IRI MarketEdge, Hand products, unit sales - Chemist Warehouse, MAT 28/1/18

CMA welcomes new China policy

CONFIRMATION that Chinese authorities will continue to open up the local market for a shared future has been welcomed by Complementary Medicines Australia CEO Carl Gibson.

Gibson, who is currently attending the China

International Import Expo, hailed an announcement saying China would expand its free trade zones and provide more certainty around e-commerce rules for imported products.

"This is very welcome news for the Australian complementary

medicines industry," he said, noting that Australia was on the cusp of overtaking the USA as the top supplier of complementary medicines imported into China.

"Our products are well recognised as a premium brand in the complementary

medicines sector thanks to our strict quality and safety manufacturing standards and Australia's clean and green reputation," Gibson said.

Other key indicators include the Healthy China 2030 vision which makes health a priority for the country and a central consideration in all policy making.

"Supported by strengthened e-commerce rules, this provides huge potential for Australian complementary medicines," he said.

Gibson noted that with more than 60% of locally based companies in the sector engaged in export and increasing recognition for Australian brands abroad, "ours is an industry with huge potential to become a long-term success story".

NZ vaccine warning

NEW Zealand's Medsafe regulator has issued a "monitoring communication" about the possible risk of lichen planus or lichenoid drug eruption in relation to the use of zoster (shingles) or influenza vaccine.

The potential safety signal was triggered by a report received by the Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring, in relation to a 67-year-old female patient who experienced a lichen planus rash after receiving both zoster vaccine and influenza vaccine.

The patient was also on other medications including quinapril + hydrochlorothiazide, which has been associated with lichenoid eruptions, Medsafe said.

The early warning alert aims to encourage further reports and increase the information on the potential adverse reaction - for more information on the issue see medsafe.govt.nz.



cma

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Support for myDNA



VICTORIAN Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy Philip Dalidakis visited the offices of myDNA in Melbourne last week to open the company's newly expanded laboratory.

The event was attended by several other dignitaries including Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President George Tambassis, and Anthony Tassone, Guild Vic Branch President.

myDNA is a company which aims to help people make better health and wellness decisions through greater access to personalised genetic information.

The company has expanded across Australia and into New Zealand, the UK, Singapore and Canada, with applications including fitness, nutrition, medication management, weight management,

heart health, vitamins, food sensitivities and caffeine.

myDNA co-founder Les Sheffield said the company was a great example of how Victorian know-how could be developed to have a global impact.

"It is testimony that an investment into local innovation into medical technology can result in Australia playing an international role in the future of personalised health and wellness," he said.

The company's in-house software allows it to take raw patient DNA results and use proprietary algorithms to produce meaningful insights that help them make better decisions about their health.

The organisation has grown quickly from six to 40 staff, with further expansion plans including a proposed US launch.

Win with Cetaphil

This week Pharmacy Daily & Cetaphil are giving away each day the Cetaphil Sun SPF50+ Ultra-Light Lotion and Cetaphil Sun SPF50+ Kids Liposomal Lotion valued at \$35.

Cetaphil, one of the leading brands in the therapeutic skin care category, provides the highest UV SPF (50+) for sensitive skin. Designed for sensitive and oily skin, **Cetaphil Sun SPF50+ Ultra-Light Lotion** nourishes with Vitamin E and is perfect on the face and body. **Cetaphil Sun SPF50+ Kids Liposomal Lotion** (meaning it spreads easily on your kids' skin) offers a paraben free formula and a pump dispenser with dosage leaf tablet for optimal protection. Cetaphil Sun offers everyday high-quality sun protection for the whole family. See www.cetaphil.com.au for details.

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

What ingredient does Cetaphil Sun Ultra-Light Lotion contain that nourishes the skin?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, *Kathy Myers*



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Pharmacy Daily



Dispensary Corner

WE'VE heard of healthy ageing, but this may be taking it too far.

A German pensioner has been discovered in the forest near Berlin near the headless body of a wild boar which he had managed to hunt and kill using an axe.

Police came on the ghoulish scene late on Sun night after receiving a report about a suspicious vehicle.

They found the 80-year-old hard at work dismembering the beast's body, with the gentleman telling officers he was unable to afford good quality boar meat so he decided to go right to the source.

Germany's *Der Tagesspiegel* newspaper reported that the man was a retired butcher.

Unfortunately he was hunting in a restricted area, with police confiscating the animal's body and charging the man with criminal poaching.

Now that's what we call the true definition of a pork chop.



TOO much beer isn't good for you - but usually it doesn't cause a bloody injury.

Unfortunately that was the case for a California man who is suing the makers of Corona because a bottle suddenly exploded and injured him in the leg.

The victim's lawyer colourfully described the popular brew as "glass hand grenades".

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

Hawaiian Tropic says aloha!

The Australian launch of **Hawaiian Tropic's Silk Hydration** sun care products promises to "ignite the senses and whisk Aussies away to the tropics". All four products in the range have the brand's signature mango and papaya scent, and ensure the skin is protected from sun damage with SPF 50+ protection and 12 hours of moisturisation.



Items include Hawaiian Tropic Silk Hydration Aftersun, Clear Spray, Face Lotion and Lotion, with pack sizes ranging from 100ml through to 240ml depending on the product.

Stockist: Contact Pharmabroker Sales Pty Ltd customer service for enquiries on 02 8878 9763
RRP: \$15.99 for 100ml Silk Hydration Face Lotion

Purify the air - intelligently



Hayfever sufferers may see a benefit from the new intelligent **Ionmax ION390 UV HEPA Air Purifier**, which uses a five step process to completely and efficiently clean indoor air. A pre-filter removes large airborne particles, followed by a HEPA air purifier to remove microscopic particles.

A carbon filter works on undesirable odours and VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds)

and then a Titanium Dioxide filter and UV lamp work together to break down contaminants and kill mould, bacteria and viruses. The ION390 also releases negative ions to revitalise and refresh indoor air.

Stockist: 1300 800 200
RRP: \$369 (HEPA filter)
Website: www.andatech.com.au

The only tanning mitt you'll ever need

Ecotan has launched a luxurious new double-sided mitt which promises to give a professional tanning salon result at home. The Gold Coast-based certified organic company says the mitt is suitable for creams, mousse and waters, covering all the different self-tans on the market. One size fits all, and the mitt is fully reusable.



Stockist: sales@ecotan.com.au
RRP: \$24.95
Website: www.ecotan.com.au

New DAA solution from Willach



Pharmacy automation specialist Willach Australasia has launched new **Consis Automated Tablet Packagers** in the local market, with the ability to fill unit-dose or multi-dose pouches with medication for individual patients, sorted by day and time of medication intake.

The systems feature multiple drawers filled with canisters calibrated for specific medication and are

able to fill up to 60 pouches per minute - ideal to help pharmacies pursue opportunities in the Dose Administration Aid market.

Stockist: Willach Australasia 03 9429 8222
Website: www.willach.com.au