

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news plus a full page from Sigma.

Footy tipping prizes

GUILD Digital has come on board as a last-minute sponsor for the popular **Pharmacy Daily** footy tipping competitions this year.

With just a few weeks to go in the AFL and NRL comps, the top tipper in each comp will receive a \$100 EFTPOS gift card.

That will give even more incentive for participants to get their tips in, so don't forget to check out pharmacydaily.com.au/footy-tipping.

OET results format

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia has advised that test results format for the Occupational English Test (OET) will soon be updated.

Scores will continue to be graded A-E but a new numerical scale of 0-500 will be used as well.

Registration standards and the test itself are not being changed.

ACCC fishy capsule fight

THE Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is defending itself against Nature's Care in the Federal Court over its stringent "country of origin" ruling.

Chinese-owned Nature's Care, Australia's third largest vitamin seller, imports fish oil from China and encapsulates it in its Sydney manufacturing plant, claiming that this represents a "substantial transformation" of the product, which is the acid test under new laws the ACCC is expected to uphold.

The ACCC contests that to qualify as Australian-made, the raw ingredients would need to be sourced in Australia as well.

Nature's Care argues that if it was unable to market its products as Australian-made it would incur substantial costs in packaging changes across a wide range of its products.

An ACCC spokesperson said the



challenge was the first time the new laws had to be interpreted making this a watershed case but would comment no further on the matter.

The vitamin company marketing campaign is currently fronted by ex-TV host Kerri-Anne Kennerley.

PBA ups 2018/9 fees

THE Pharmacy Board of Australia (PBA) has announced an increase to the national general registration fee for pharmacists for 2018/19.

The fee for general registration has lifted to \$396 per annum.

It will cover the registration period for most practitioners of 01 Dec 2018 to 30 Nov 2019.

The full schedule of fees applicable to all situations has now been posted on the Pharmacy Board website and takes effect as of 01 Sep.

Visit pharmacyboard.gov.au to access the full schedule.

Med reconciliation

THE impact of medication reconciliation interventions, in particular pharmacist-mediated interventions on medication discrepancies, is uncertain due to very low statistical certainty of the evidence, according to a new Cochrane Systematic Review.

Despite reconciliation being recognised as a key aspect of patient safety, authors concluded that there was "also no certainty of the effect of the interventions on the secondary clinical outcomes of ADEs, PADEs and healthcare utilisation" - cochranelibrary.com.

PSA Self Care change

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia is set to roll out new subscription arrangements for its Self Care program later this month.

According to an update on the new-look PSA website, pharmacies will be able to subscribe solely to the Fact Cards, or additionally enrol in interactive online training programs for pharmacists and pharmacy assistants - psa.org.au.

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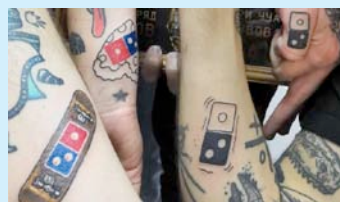


Dispensary Corner

EATING pizza every day for the rest of your life probably isn't a recipe for good health - but that hasn't stopped a wildly successful Domino's promotion in Russia.

The company's new "Domino's Forever" campaign offered "free pizza for your whole life" to anyone who got a permanent tattoo of the Domino's logo on a "visible spot" of their bodies.

Domino's was quickly forced to issue a clarification that only the first 350 people to post an image of their tattoo would be able to take advantage of the offer, after social media became flooded with hundreds of photos featuring flashy new Domino's ink.



WHATEVER antiperspirant was being used by players at the US Open Tennis tournament last week clearly wasn't strong enough, after one of the matches had to be stopped because sweat was making the court slippery.

Aussie John Millman was playing Novak Djokovic in the quarter final match, when he was allowed to leave the court to change.

The US Tennis Association confirmed "Millman approached the chair umpire to note his excessive sweating and the moisture it was leaving on the court," with the referee determining the surface was dangerous enough to invoke the 'Equipment out of Adjustment' provision in the rules.

Pharmacies pushed as part of 000 promo

THE Victorian Government has expanded its "Save 000 for emergencies" campaign to encourage consumers to visit their local pharmacist.

The overall campaign launched in Jan this year, with the pharmacy extension seeing new TV and radio commercials air in recent weeks highlighting the availability of whooping cough immunisations in pharmacies, along with treatments for minor ailments and injuries.

Advertisements feature Ali Mafi, proprietor of Commercial Rd Pharmacy in the Melbourne suburb of Prahran.

Guild Vic branch president Anthony Tassone said the campaign was "a clear sign of the willingness and commitment of the Victorian Government to help inform the public of how best to use the health services available in the community."

"Focusing on community pharmacy makes sense, given how accessible it is and the high frequency of visits by the public."

One of the new commercials is live at pharmacydaily.com.au/videos.

MedAdvisor helps studies

LISTED digital medication management company MedAdvisor has announced an extension of its business to include supporting clinical trial recruitment, based on the company's level of patient connectivity.

With the clinical trial recruitment business valued at \$2 billion worldwide, the company believes it can cut trial recruitment periods sufficiently to reduce lead time between drug discovery and drug marketability.

The upshot of faster recruitment is improved access to new medications and treatments, the company statement said.

MedAdvisor ceo Robert Read said, "We believe this is a win for patients and a win for innovative pharmaceutical and biotech companies who globally have struggled to find efficient methods of clinical trial recruitment."

"Given a patient life is fixed, the cost of each week of delay is one week at full global sales for that product before the patent ends, not to mention one week longer before patients can access therapy."

The MedAdvisor approach can also be "quite targeted" by geographical, demographical or site availability parameters and charge on a per eligible-patient fee basis.



Guild Update

Chronic Pain MedsCheck Trial

THERE has been a very strong and positive response from the pharmacy sector to the announcement that expressions of interest are now being sought from pharmacies wanting to take part in the Chronic Pain MedsCheck Trial.

QCPP-accredited pharmacies that have a consulting room are urged to consider taking part in this trial which in the long-term has the potential to make a real difference to the health outcomes of chronic pain sufferers.

The trial is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health as part of the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement (6CPA) Pharmacy Trial Program (PTP).

The Expression of Interest period will be open until Monday 17 September. Please contact us on the below details if your pharmacy did not receive an invitation email.

You can call the 6CPA Helpline on 1300 555 262 or email chronicpain.ptp@6cpa.com.au for any further queries.

Full details are available [here](#).



Top Performing Amcal & Guardian Pharmacies Named for VIC/TAS/NT & SA

The state winners of the best performing Amcal and Guardian pharmacies in VIC/ TAS/NT and South Australia have been named at their respective annual Amcal and Guardian Pharmacy Assistant Annual Conference Gala & Awards.

The award winners will now represent the respective states at the National Amcal and Guardian Retail Conference and Gala Awards to be held on the Gold Coast in March 2019.

Brian Tomlin, Sigma's General Manager Amcal and Guardian congratulated all the award winners.

"Amcal and Guardian would like to acknowledge and thank all our award nominees, finalist and award winners. Our pharmacies play a pivotal role in providing complete healthcare solutions, to improve customer and patient health outcomes in our communities. We are very pleased to be able to recognise their achievements and celebrate the award winners," he said.

Queensland state winners will be announced in late October 2018

The Award Winners

Amcal and Guardian Pharmacy of the Year 2018

Guardian Award Winner: Lakes Esplanade Pharmacy VIC

Amcal Award Winner: Nagel's Pharmacy VIC

Guardian Award Winner: Swans Harbor Pharmacy SA

Amcal Award Winner: Loxton Amcal Pharmacy SA

Guardian and Amcal Community Engagement Pharmacy of the Year 2018

Guardian Winner: Beaconsfield Pharmacy VIC

Amcal Winner: Amcal Max Benalla VIC

Amcal Winner: Strathalbyn Amcal Pharmacy SA

Amcal Professional Services Pharmacy of the Year 2018

Award Winner: Wattle Park Pharmacy VIC

Award Winner: Murray Bridge Amcal Pharmacy SA

Amcal and Guardian Retail Manager of the Year 2018

Amcal Award Winner: Sally McGrath – Nagels Pharmacy VIC

Guardian Award Winner: Janelle Maw – New Norfolk Pharmacy TAS

Amcal Winner: Sarah Leckie – Murray Bridge Amcal Chemist SA

Amcal and Guardian Pharmacy Assistant of the Year 2018

Amcal Award Winner: Kelly Bellette – Lauderdale Pharmacy TAS

Guardian Award Winner: Ellie McAllister – Bellerive Quay Pharmacy TAS

Amcal Winner: Briohny Carr – Murray Bridge Amcal Chemist SA

Guardian Winner: Ann-Marie Jenkins – Craig Roberts Guardian Pharmacy SA