

Monash staff awards

MONASH University Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences staff have been recognised at the 2018 Vice-Chancellor's Education and Research Awards, with one team and one individual winning education awards, and a second team recognised with a nomination.

Professor Tina Brock, Dr Johnson George, Dr Chooi Yeng Lee, Benny Efendie and Thao Vu were part of a cross-faculty team that took out the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence in a Priority Area, while Dr Nilushi Karunaratne won the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning (Early Career).

Associate Prof Ian Larson, Prof Carl Kirkpatrick, Dr Suzanne Caliph and Associate Prof Paul White were also nominated for the Vice-Chancellor's Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning - monash.edu.

Dispensary Corner

A JAZZ musician in South Africa has undergone six hours of brain surgery with a twist - he played his guitar throughout the "wide awake" procedure.

Doctors at the Chief Albert Luthuli hospital in the coastal city of Durban adopted the unusual practice to reduce the risk to Musa Manzini's fingers, since his livelihood depended on them.

He is recovering well with no recognisable damage to his skills.



CHF urges CMI overhaul

PHARMACIES should give printed Consumer Medicines Information (CMI) leaflets to patients as standard practice when dispensing prescription medicines according to the Consumers Health Forum, which this week said alternate practices such as directing clients to a website were "not of any use".

Consumers Health Forum CEO Leanne Wells has raised the issue with Health Minister Greg Hunt, saying her organisation had received complaints that patients were not always given CMIs as required by legal regulations.

"It should be standard practice for pharmacies to give printed CMIs when dispensing prescription medicine," Wells told *9 Publishing*,

adding, "both doctors and pharmacists should ensure patients receive simple, clear and accurate advice, preferably on paper."

Consultant pharmacist Geraldine Moses has backed the call for change, saying CMIs mostly tell patients "how to be frightened of their medication or 'tell your doctor' if a side effect occurs but not what to do about it."

"Greg Hunt should fund a CMI overhaul," she tweeted this week.

Pharmacy Guild spokesman Greg Turnbull was quoted as saying that while pharmacists support maximum health literacy, making CMIs mandatory for "every one of the 300 million-plus PBS scripts per year might not be the best solution."

"Pharmacists exercise their professional judgement and clinical discretion in determining the best way to inform patients of what they need to know, always in the patients' best interest," he said.

A spokesperson for the Minister confirmed he would be writing to both the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Australian Medical Association to "reaffirm existing responsibilities" including ensuring written information is readily available when patients buy medications at the chemist.

Social media guide



THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has developed resources for community pharmacies seeking to use social media as part of their advertising mix in 2019.

The Guild guidelines provide direction for an individual pharmacy's social media policy development - see guild.org.au.

2018 PHARMACY MARKET REPORT

AVAILABLE NOW!

Jobs of the Week

- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Regional North West, QLD (Job# 200031668)
All levels of experience considered; location, adventure and career progression!
- **Pharmacist** - Eastern Melbourne, VIC (Job# 200031725)
Fantastic opportunity for a new graduate; customer focused pharmacy; \$\$\$
- **Pharmacist Manager** - North Coast, NSW (Job# 200031681)
\$\$\$ + lead an experienced professional team + popular town + beaches!

Share your career vision with us and we'll help get you there!

Diabetes sensors

DIABETES patients can expect something of a "revolution" in their care over the next five years as technology booms in their favour, according to forecasts from David Klonoff, medical director of the Diabetes Research Institute, Mills-Peninsula Medical Center in San Mateo, California, USA.

Pharmacists will become the prime monitors of some of this technology, he predicted.

Klonoff says GPS-based sensors worn by patients will be preprogrammed with dietary preference information and include continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) with alarms and personalized notifications.

CGMs will be portable, accurate, last longer, require less calibration, and yield more decision support.



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.

22 - 28 Jan: NAPSA Congress; University of South Australia, Adelaide; for more info see: www.napsacongressadelaide19.com

07 - 10 Mar: APP 2019; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; early bird registration now open: www.appconference.com

22 - 24 Mar: NSW/ACT Annual Therapeutic Update 2019; Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley; early bird registrations now open: www.psa.org.au/atu