

## PSA supports Uluru Statement

**THE** Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has endorsed the historic 'Uluru Statement from the Heart', which calls for a First Nations Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution and for a Makarrata Commission as a process for agreement making and truth telling.

PSA National President Dr Chris Freeman said PSA was proud to add its voice to the call for recognition of the First Peoples of Australia in the Constitution.

"PSA is committed to ongoing work to support the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"We are proud to add our voice to this movement for a better future.

"As the peak national body for pharmacists, PSA has long advocated for closing the gap by supporting pharmacists to play an active role in improving medication management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," Freeman concluded.

## Time to nominate

**STROKE** Foundation is on a mission to find and celebrate the inspirational Australians who are making a difference in stroke and has opened nominations for the 2019 Stroke Awards.

These gongs recognise the stroke survivors, carers, volunteers, health professionals and researchers who work tirelessly to improve the lives of people affected by stroke.

Nominate by 15 Feb - for more information [CLICK HERE](#).

## WA pharmacist misconduct

**THE** Western Australian State Administrative Tribunal has found Perth pharmacist Emson Nyoni guilty of professional misconduct after dispensing 58 drugs in contravention of conditions applied to his registration.

The long-running case followed the revocation of his authority to dispense the medications in 2013, with the pharmacist subsequently continuing to offer 58 items on at least 160 occasions.

A number of proceedings in the interim included assertions by Nyoni that the conditions placed on his registration were "nugatory" and that the regulatory authorities were trying to "assassinate his

character on a world scale".

In a 14 Dec hearing the Tribunal cited a "complete lack of regard towards the authorities" by Nyoni, ordering written submissions from both the pharmacist and the Pharmacy Board of Australia in relation to orders and penalties to be filed in the coming weeks - see the ruling at [justice.wa.gov.au](http://justice.wa.gov.au).

## MHRA pings trio

**THREE** UK men were sentenced this week at Southwark Crown court for their involvement in the illegal supply of potentially dangerous prescription-only medicines.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) successfully brought the charges for supplying unauthorised medicines, including diazepam, zolpidem and zopiclone.

The regulatory agency seized more than 300,000 tablets, worth in excess of £315,000.

## Dispense fail injury

**OCULAR** chemical injury was caused to a Scottish patient when she was given an erectile dysfunction cream (Vitaros) instead of an ocular lubricant (VitA-POS).

Neither the GP, pharmacist or patient picked up on the error that an erectile dysfunction drug was being given to a female with instructions for application to the eyes.

See the full report in the BMJ at [casereports.bmj.com](http://casereports.bmj.com).

## NZ pharmacies speed GP access



**AN UNKNOWN** number of New Zealand pharmacies are cutting out the wait time for patients to see a GP by providing tablets or other internet-enabled devices for patients to use on the pharmacy premises to access SwiftMed.

The online GP access website provides a face to face general practice service which advertises: "Our qualified doctors can provide diagnoses, treatment, and prescribe medication for more than 60 common medical conditions".

The company boasts no wait times, no membership fees and no monthly premiums and prescriptions are provided and if necessary delivered to the home, office or pharmacy of choice.

See [swiftmed.co.nz](http://swiftmed.co.nz).

## USA meds adverts up

**SPENDING** by pharma companies promoting their medicines in the USA rose by more than 60% over the last two decades according to a study reported by *Scimex*.

Marketing of drugs, disease awareness campaigns, health services and laboratory testing increased to \$29.9 billion in 2016 from \$17.7 billion in 1997.

The data showed that while most of the advertising was angled at health professionals, direct-to-consumer advertising grew to \$9.6 billion, representing about one third of the investment.

## Podcasts multiply

**PODCASTS** have exploded in popularity as a way for the public to engage with science prompting a study by Durham University, UK, to analyse the numbers.

The study looked at nearly 1,000 science podcasts and analysed them to find that mainly scientists host science podcasts, and that most are geared towards the public.

Most of the science podcasts didn't appear to have any supporting income, giving the impression that they are being made simply in order to help educate consumers - [CLICK HERE](#).

Pharmacy-specific podcasts made in Australia include: the *Purple Pen Podcast* by the SHPA and the Alfred, and *Pharmacy Business & Career Network Podcast* by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.



**2018 PHARMACY MARKET REPORT AVAILABLE NOW!**



**Jobs of the Week**

- **Pharmacist** - Great Ocean Road region, VIC (Job# 200031322)  
\$\$\$ + retention bonus + a passionate supportive team + coastal lifestyle!
- **Pharmacist** - Mackay region, QLD (Job# 200015476)  
Newly registered Pharmacists wanting opportunity with customer focus + \$\$\$
- **Pharmacist in Charge** - Central West, NSW (Job# 200031795)  
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## Dispensary Corner

**AUTHORITIES** in the UK town of Bristol have announced a ban on toasted cheese sandwiches. No, it's not because of their potential impact on cholesterol - it's being done as a way of combatting organised crime. A food van owner applied to extend his licence to offer the hearty warm cuisine in addition to his existing range of cold food and drinks in the city's Monks Park, but was denied because the planned menu was deemed to be a magnet for antisocial behaviour. Apparently officials believe cheese toasties are particularly attractive to motorbike gangs - and also because the park is close to a school the proposed food outlet was seen as a possible "gateway to truancy".



**AND** while we're on the subject of fine British cuisine, sanitation workers in the coastal town of Sidmouth have discovered a massive "fatberg" lurking in the sewers, with locals pouring oil down the sink after cooking fish and chips cited as the cause. The 70m-long mass of hardened fat, oil and tissue wipes is said to be the region's largest ever, with a South West Water spokesman saying it would take "around eight weeks to dissect this monster in exceptionally challenging work conditions".

## Aussie success story shines

**ARGUABLY** one of Australia's great industry success stories, global biotech company CSL presented its credentials at the JP Morgan Conference 2019 on Wed.



CSL CEO and MD Paul Perreault presented the company as the fifth largest global biotech in the world. He claimed number one position in the \$30 billion plasma therapies market and number two ranking in the \$6 billion global influenza vaccines industry. CSL can now boast significant business success in more than 60 countries with revenues totalling approximately \$8 billion.

The company has eight major manufacturing sites spread across six countries, a major capacity expansion program underway and a deep research and development pipeline to fuel future growth, Perrault said.

Overall, the company's strong financial position is exemplified by its net debt to earnings (EBITDA)

ratio of 1.3:1 resulting in an A+/A credit rating (stable/stable).

CSL operates across three main therapeutic platforms:

plasma fractionation, recombinant technology and gene and cell therapy, touching on immunology and neurology, haematology and thrombosis, transplant, respiratory function as well as cardiovascular and metabolic issues.

The Seqirus vaccines division is the only globally scaled maker of cell culture vaccines.

### Medicare resources

**THE** Department of Human Services is reminding pharmacists of its range of resources specifically designed to support health professionals, with topics covering compliance issues, DVA, Health Professional Online Services (HPOS), incentive programs, PBS education, and much more.

Visit [humanservices.gov.au](http://humanservices.gov.au).

## Win with Dermal Therapy

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Dermal Therapy are giving away a selection of the pictured products to the value of \$45.



Developed in conjunction with dermatologists, **Dermal Therapy Hand Balm** has been formulated to soothe itchy and irritated skin while protecting your hands from excessive moisture loss. Unlike other hand creams, Dermal Therapy Hand Balm is richly fortified with 10% Urea and Vitamin E, and a little goes a long way! Visit [www.dermaltherapy.com.au](http://www.dermaltherapy.com.au) to find out more.

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

**True or False: Dermal Therapy Hand Balm was developed in conjunction with dermatologist?**

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Samantha Higham from Flinders Medical Centre.

## ♥ your obligations

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has chosen Valentines Day (14 Feb) to present an SME Assist free workshop at Flinders University aimed at beginners who are unfamiliar with therapeutic goods regulation.

This may include small to medium enterprises (SMEs), start-ups or researchers.

If you are making therapeutic claims about a product or have a product that is likely to be considered a therapeutic good, this workshop will help you understand your responsibilities, the TGA said.

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

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

- 22 - 28 Jan:** NAPSA Congress; University of South Australia, Adelaide; for more info see: [www.napsacongressadelaide19.com](http://www.napsacongressadelaide19.com)
- 02 - 03 Feb:** SHPA Extension Seminar in Clinical Medication Management, Adelaide; for more info see: [www.shpa.org.au](http://www.shpa.org.au)
- 07 - 10 Mar:** APP 2019; Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre; early bird registration now open: [www.appconference.com](http://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](http://www.psa.org.au/atu)