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WA flu vax change puts patients first

PHARMACISTS in Western Australia will be allowed to provide influenza vaccinations to children 10-years-old and over, following a decision by the State Government.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA Branch President, Andrew Ngeow, welcomed the Government's "commonsense measure" to boost herd immunity across the state.

"This measure is about putting patients and public health first," he said.

"We know hospital admissions due to influenza are up, and there have been tragic outcomes this flu season.

"It is impossible to ignore the evidence.

"This action being taken is very appropriate and effective immediately"

The decision comes a day after the WA Department of Health released its weekly winter respiratory illness



and influenza data showing the number of flu-related deaths in the state almost doubled in the week to 18 Jun, jumping from 15 to 29 for the year to date.

In the same seven-day period the number of laboratory confirmed cases in the state jumped by more than 50% of the annual total (9,016), while an additional 79,000 publicly

funded doses of the vaccine were distributed.

At this stage last year WA had recorded 1,399 confirmed flu infections and four deaths.

The move follows a similar decision expanding pharmacist vaccination announced last month by the Tasmanian Govt (*PD* 20 May).

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) WA Branch President, Dr Fei Sim, welcomed the decision, saying it provided pharmacists with an opportunity to highlight their expertise and training to better protect the community against vaccine-preventable diseases.

"The administration of vaccines by pharmacists complements the excellent work done by GPs, nurses, Indigenous health workers and other immunisers," she said.

"It increases the immunisation rate and has a positive effect on people's health in Western Australia."

TGA webinar

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is conducting a webinar on the TGA Business Services portal for sponsors of therapeutic goods, 02 Jul - see tga.gov.au.



Pharmaceutical Society of Australia



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Abstracts last call

THIS is the last call for abstracts for presentation at the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) Medicines Management 2019 conference.

This will be the 45th SHPA National Conference and is to be held on the Gold Coast, 14 to 16 Nov.

Abstract submission closes at 11:59pm AEST Thu 20 Jun.

For more information on the event visit mm2019.shpa.com.



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*New from Ego Pharmaceuticals.

References: 1. Australian Medicines Handbook (online). Dermatological drugs - Tables. Comparison of potency and uses of topical corticosteroids [Internet]. 2018 [cited 2019 July 25]. 2. Dermatology Expert Group. Therapeutic Guidelines: Dermatology, version 4. Dermatitis: Atopic dermatitis. Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd [Internet]. 2019 [cited 2019 July 25]. 3. Kloxema Cream Approved Product Information, 12 September 2017.

Before recommending please review full Product Information [here](#).



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Dispensary Corner

DISPENSING free samples from behind the counter in a pharmacy is usually frowned upon, but last weekend Sweny's in Dublin was doing just that.

Famed for its lemon-scented soap, the store featured prominently in James Joyce's epic novel, *Ulysses*, earning it a cult following (*PD* 03 Apr).

Located in the heart of the Irish capital, Sweny's was facing closure after its landlord announced a rent increase.

Unlike most pharmacies, Sweny's has given up on prescription medicines and is now a volunteer-run museum, with no real business plan.

However, the pharmacy has been saved, and Joyce would have appreciated its saviour, Writers' Tears Premium Whiskey.

Literary fan and founder of the whiskey brand, Bernard Walsh, agreed to stump-up the money to save the pharmacy.

"The role played by the volunteers who have kept Sweny's open for the last 10 years has been immense in preserving Irish literary heritage for Dubliners and people the world over to experience," he said.

"They both need and deserve our support if they are to carry on. All of us at Writers' Tears are proud to play our part."

To honour Writers' Tears' role in saving the pharmacy and the hero of *Ulysses*, Leopold Bloom, last Sun, visitors to the store were treated to a dram of whiskey.

Three cheers for a happy ending!

Horsham named Priceline of the Year



API CEO & MD Richard Vincent (left) with Priceline Pharmacy Store of the Year team from Horsham: Chloe McDonald, Cobie McQueen, and Stuart Hall

PRICELINE Pharmacy Horsham has been named as the Australian Pharmaceutical Industries franchise's Store of the Year.

The Victorian store operated by Stuart Hall and Cobie McQueen has been dubbed the "most successful Priceline Pharmacy", having claimed the national Store of the Year gong in 2015 and the Victorian/Tasmanian Store of the Year in 2016.

Priceline Pharmacy Horsham joined the network in Mar 2013 and its owners pride themselves on

being an integral part of the greater Horsham community, sponsoring the Horsham District Football League, the Wimmera Netball Association, and the Horsham football and netball clubs.

Woonona Priceline Pharmacy took home the Rising Star Store of the Year Award, while John Youssef from Menai Priceline Pharmacy was named Pharmacist of the Year.

Marie Spataro from the Bourke St Mall (Vic) store and Coralie Evans from Sutherland (NSW) shared the Retail Manager of the Year gong.

Win with John Plunkett

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away the John Plunkett Dark Spot Eraser and Facial Cleanser.

John Plunkett Dark Spot Eraser is a concentrated serum with Eventone Complex™ – a blend of multiple actives to visibly lighten dark spots and boost your skin's health and radiance, plus it's easy to incorporate into your daily skincare routine with guaranteed results. RRP \$39.95. Visit: www.JohnPlunkett.com.au for more.

To win, be the first from SA or NT to send the correct answer to the question to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Besides lightening pigmentation, what else does Eventone Complex do?

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Anna So.



Travel Specials

WELCOME to Pharmacy Daily's travel feature. Each week we highlight a couple of great travel deals for the pharmacy industry, brought to you by Flo Travel Nasal Spray.



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Regent Seven Seas Suite Sale

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Sail 10 nights Copenhagen to Stockholm onboard the mighty *Seven Seas Explorer* departing 02 Jul from \$8,898.

Consult your preferred travel agent and visit rsc.com.

Seabourn Winter Opportunity

BOOK with luxury cruise line Seabourn by 31 Jul to enjoy new special pricing and values such as verandah upgrade for ocean view or up to three category verandah upgrades, shipboard credit, air credit and a complimentary internet package - and more on combination cruises.

For example, cruise Java Sea & The Coral Coast for 24 days from \$10,498 pp - [CLICK HERE](#).