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Today's issue of PD
Pharmacy Daily today has three pages of news including our weekly Health & Beauty feature.

Labor reiterates support

A SUPPLEMENTARY letter of support from the Labor Party has been received by the Pharmacy Guild, reaffirming the ALP's community pharmacy commitment.

Guild National President, George Tambassis, sought the additional communication because of developments since a previous ALP letter of support was received in Mar this year - in particular the Government's aborted attempt to increase prescription quantities.

Opposition leader, Bill Shorten and Shadow Health Minister, Catherine King both signed the new letter to Tambassis, which promises that "a Shorten Labor Government will work with you and your members collaboratively on the development of the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement and its implementation.

"Labor was surprised and disappointed by the Liberals' recent attempt to double the prescription volume of common drugs without any consultation with the Guild.

"Regardless of the competing views on this proposal, seeking to

implement it during the term of the 6th CPA without discussion with the Guild is demonstrably against the letter and spirit of that Agreement," Shorten and King wrote.

They contrasted this with Labor's approach to policy development and "the way we have developed relationships with valued stakeholders like the Guild.

"We look forward to working with you if elected at this Saturday's election," the letter concludes.

Chemo@Home NSW

PERTH-BASED startup Chemo@home, which administers chemotherapy and other medical infusions to patients in their homes, has announced the expansion of its service across NSW from this week.

Previously available in WA, SA and Vic, Chemo@Home is being backed by health fund HCF which will pay for the service with no out of pocket expenses for members with hospital cover that includes chemotherapy.

Watch for price cuts

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia has warned members of significant Jun price drops for three medications due to the price disclosure measures of the government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme reforms.

The impacted drugs are Lipidil (fenofibrate) 48mg and 145mg, as well as Aubagio (teriflunomide).

An update from the Guild yesterday urged pharmacies to keep an eye on its website for changes expected to be released by the Department of Health later this month.

Wholesalers should also be contacted to help manage stock levels carefully in the lead up to the expected changes, the Guild said.

Vaccines overview

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration has posted a new document on its website giving an overview of how it regulates vaccines in the Australian market, informed by independent advice & ongoing monitoring - tga.gov.au.

NZ pertussis push

NEW Zealand's pharmaceutical funding body Pharmac is conducting a consultation on proposals to widen access to whooping cough vaccine.

The plan would make the Boostrix pertussis immunisation available to all pregnant women in NZ at any time during their pregnancy, as well as for parents of infants admitted to a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or a Specialist Care Baby Unit for more than three days.

Currently Pharmac funds vaccination against pertussis for pregnant women who are between 28 and 38 weeks gestation.

Vaccination against pertussis during pregnancy is important because maternal antibodies give protection to babies before they can receive their first vaccination at six weeks of age.

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No compo for pharmacy party fall

A NATIONAL Pharmacies employee's bid to receive compensation for a head injury suffered while at the banner group's annual awards has been dismissed.

Mike Power suffered a medical episode, which contributed to a fall in a bathroom of the Adelaide Convention Centre on 21 Oct 2015, a South Australian Employment Tribunal heard.

The Tribunal was told Power suffered amnesia as a consequence of his injury and has no recollection of the incident.

Pharmacist, Meer Afsar Sultan, who was witnessed the incident said Power hit his head against the door handle before crashing to the floor hitting his head for a second time against the floor.

Sultan gave evidence that Power was "unsteady on his feet" at the time of the accident.

Counsel for Power argued that he was at the event at the request of his employer, making it a work-

related event covered by the Return to Work Act 2014.

However, the Tribunal ruled that his attendance at the event was not the cause of the injury, rather the injury was caused by a medical condition that was not connected to his work.

Dismissing Power's application the presiding judge said: "In my opinion the employment was merely the occasion of the injury rather than a significant cause".

"The fact that the hard floor in the bathroom created a situation in which a fall could result in a serious injury does not establish that Mr Power's employment was a significant contributing cause," the judge said.

"The medical episode and the injury just happened to occur while Mr Power was in the bathroom. There was nothing about his employment that caused the injury.

"I find Mr Power's employment was not a significant contributing cause of the injury and accordingly the Return to Work Act 2014 does not apply."

1st Group funding

ASX-LISTED 1st Group Limited has completed a "massively oversubscribed" \$2.6 million share placement, which will help drive growth over the next 12 months.

The company said that its MyHealth1st.com.au appointment booking platform was "transforming the way Australians...access and interact with healthcare services," claiming to already hold the leading position in pharmacy.

Monash licenses synthetic antibiotics

MONASH University has announced the grant of an exclusive licence of its portfolio of proprietary synthetic polymyxin antibiotics to Qpex Biopharma, a US-based biopharmaceutical company focused on developing new antibiotics to combat the growing threat of global antimicrobial resistance.

The novel polymyxin antibiotics have been developed by Monash researchers under funding by the National Institute of Health.



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Mayne generics challenge

MAYNE Pharma has faced what it calls a "challenging start to calendar 2019" in the face of generic drugs eating away at its hormone liothyronine business and antiarrhythmic agent dofetilide business, as reported in an investor update yesterday.

The company also identified "typical wholesaler destocking in the retail channel in the first quarter" as well as one-off failure-to-supply penalties and "shelf stock adjustments resulting from price changes on some products".

All other market segments have performed well in the first four months of the first half with Specialty Brands up 53%, Metrics Contract Services up 21% and Mayne Pharma International up 8% on the prior corresponding period.

CEO Scott Richards said, "While recent trading reflects a challenging

generic environment, the company expects the 4QFY19 to be stronger driven by a rebound in Generic Products, combined with ongoing growth in Specialty Brands, Metrics Contract Services and Mayne Pharma International".

Scott talked up the company's prospects for FY20 referencing business growth anticipated from recent launches of fungal treatment Tolsura (SUBA-itraconazole) and Lexette (halobetasol propionate) for psoriasis.

Generic and proprietary dermatology and women's health portfolios are also expected to lift company numbers as are improved retail generic performance and delivery on the pipeline of committed Metrics Contract Services business.

New generic products also await approval for positive impact, he said.



Win with Nutri-Synergy

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily and Plunkett's are giving away an NS prize pack valued at \$30.

Dry, rough cracked hands? NS Working Hands is an intensive repair treatment, it absorbs quickly so that hands get back to work fast. For dry, sensitive or problem hands, NS Protective Hand Cream and NS Cuticle and Nail Repair will soften, nourish and restore them back to their natural, healthy state. Visit: www.NutriSynergy.com.au for more.

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

True or False: NS Cuticle and Nail Repair is also suitable for toe nails.

Check here tomorrow for today's winner.



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

2019-2020 GUILD MEMBERSHIP

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guild.org.au/membership



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Dispensary Corner

EVERYONE loves a baby, right? Apparently not, according to British condom brand Skyn, which has launched new “baby blocker” software giving Facebook users the option of not seeing baby photos on their feed.

The company said it was responding to the high-profile birth of baby Archie, son of Prince Harry and wife Meghan, which means “numerous baby photos are being shared every hour”.

The free-to-download Google Chrome extension searches the Facebook feed and if a post contains babies or toddlers the page is immediately altered to block the post with an alternative image.

Skyn said the “social media contraceptive” aimed to give users “more browsing pleasure”.

See an overview online at pharmacydaily.com.au/videos.

NORMALLY a caffeine high is within everyone’s reach, but a California barista company has this week raised the bar with a US\$75 cup of coffee.

Klatch Coffee Roasters offered the “super exclusive” Elida Geisha 803 coffee beans from Panama, which cost about \$2,000 per kg.

The company said it owned the only 5kg stock available in the country, and offered it in a limited release in some of its outlets in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

“It’s like nothing you’ve ever tried,” said Klatch Vice President, Heather Perry.

“It’s almost got these beautiful tea-like qualities, it’s got fruit flavours,” she said, noting they also had another bean from the same farm for just US\$5 a cup.

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

Better Nature Pain Relief Cream

Better Nature **Pain Relief Cream** is a topical cream formulated to treating acute, sub-acute and chronic pain including osteoarthritis, neck and back pain, headaches, muscle aches and strains, tendonitis and bursitis. It is a 100% natural alternative that is pliable and viscous, leaves no residue and is fast absorbing. Better Nature Pain Relief Cream can be used with ice packs and heating packs and this Australian-made product has been manufactured under strict cruelty free specifications.

Stockist: 08 9474 1777

RRP: \$7.00 20g, \$15.50 50g, \$26.00 100g

Website: www.betternature.com.au



made for men Face & Body Wash



GAIA made for men Face & Body Wash is a soap and sulfate-free body wash for men. It gently cleanses the face and body without drying skin or stripping its natural oils. Organic evening primrose oil promotes elasticity and suppleness, while certified organic spearmint stimulates and smoothes the skin surface while softening body hair and re-energising. Free from mineral oil, it doesn’t clog pores or leave a greasy layer. This product

is suitable for skin affected by allergies, psoriasis, dermatitis or eczema, and helps remove excess oiliness from acne prone skin.

Stockist: 03 9703 1707

RRP: \$11.95

Website: www.gaiaskinnaturals.com

Dreambaby Medicine Set

Dreambaby **Medicine Sets** are your one stop shop for everything you need to make it easy to administer medicine to children: a Medicine Syringe 5ml (1 teaspoon) with unique cone shaped adapter fits into just about any medicine bottle to help ensure your little one gets the correct dose, a Medicine Dropper (3ml) with easy to use squeeze bulb and clear measurements and a Medicine Spoon (10ml) – simply fill the handle to the required dose and the medicine will go down with no mess or fuss every time!

Stockist: 02 9386 4000

RRP: \$8.95

Website: www.dreambaby.com.au



Blonde Tone-Correcting Shampoo



John Frieda **Sheer Blonde Colour Renew Tone-Correcting Shampoo** is a new shampoo that renews colour by reversing the look of damage and helps protect blonde from fading. Formulated with a UV filter, optical brightener and lavender technology, it converts UV rays to a white-blue light, making colour-treated hair appear lighter and brighter. John Frieda Sheer Blonde Colour Renew Tone-Correcting Shampoo protects salon-fresh blonde for longer and instantly reverses brassiness and damage from colouring.

This product deeply moisturises without weighing down the hair.

Stockist: 1800 214 393

RRP: \$17.99

Website: www.johnfrieda.com.au