

Did you know that goat's milk contains prebiotic oligos which are structurally closer to breast milk*



Please contact Pharmabroker 02 8878 9777

* When compared to cow's milk. Source: Urashima and Taufik, 2010.

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US Zika screening

THE US Food and Drug Administration has issued new guidance recommending universal testing of donated whole blood and blood components for Zika virus in all states of the US and its territories.

The update is an expansion of previous guidance recommending screening only for blood donations received in areas where there is active transmission of Zika virus.

Breast pump recall

MEDELA Australia in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced a recall of a detachable wall plug, which is a component of the power supply for certain Medela breastpumps sold via pharmacies and other retailers in Australia.

The recall does not apply to Lactina and Symphony pumps sold to hospitals or rental providers.

Between 2009 and 2016 the detachable wall plug and AC power adapter were sold together as a standalone product or supplied with Medela Freestyle, Swing, Swing Maxi, Swing Essentials and Swing Premium breastpumps.

The TGA said there had been a small number of reports of the plug breaking into two parts and potentially exposing the contacts leading to a risk of electric shock.

Medela Australia is recalling and replacing the affected plugs, which have no markings on the back.

Unaffected items have a zig zag pattern/etching or a white dot marked on them.

Aussies take awards

TWO senior Australian pharmaceutical researchers have been honoured for their services to pharmacy at the opening ceremony of the 76th annual World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the weekend.

Professor Parisa Aslani and Professor Timothy Chen, both from the University of Sydney Faculty of Pharmacy, were two of ten pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists awarded global FIP fellowships.

FIP awards PSA campaign

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has been recognised on the global stage having won the 2016 Pharmacy Practice Improvement Programme Award from the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP).

It's the first award of its kind, and was announced on Saturday at the 76th annual World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The PSA's Health Destination Pharmacy program which pitches pharmacists as the "providers of total health solutions" was regarded as the standout from a competitive range of challengers.

"The Australian program aims to improve business and financial planning, people and processes, marketing, layout and infrastructure", the formal FIP announcement said.

"Participating pharmacies receive visits from a specially qualified PSA coach who provides practical advice and resources tailored to the pharmacy's needs."

PSA president Joe Demarte, who's pictured above accepting the award from FIP president Carmen Peña, said: "We are proud that this work has been celebrated at an international level.

"It shows that, as in many countries around the world, there are many opportunities for



community pharmacies to play an enhanced role in patient care despite an increasingly uncertain financial future."

The Health Destination Pharmacy program has now been implemented in more than 25 pharmacies across the country, and PSA says locations which launched last year are already outperforming the industry average threefold.

The Federation also recognised Portugal's 'Medicines Use - We are all Responsible' as the recipient of the FIP 2016 Health Promotion Campaign Award.

NICE ticks cancer Rx

TWO cancer treatments, previously only available to patients through the Cancer Drugs Fund (CDF), will now be routinely available on the NHS, UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has announced.

NICE has approved bosutinib for leukaemia and pemetrexed for lung cancer for routine use on the NHS because the companies that market them lowered their prices.

Pharmacists could vaccinate one in eight

PHARMACIES across the globe have the potential to vaccinate at least 940 million people - equating to one eighth of the world population according to new research commissioned by the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

The survey of 45 countries, conducted by the FIP Collaborating Centre at University College London, found that 44% had community pharmacy premises offering vaccinations, "demonstrating the expansion and growing acceptance of pharmacy immunisation services around the world".

FIP said an increasing number of jurisdictions are introducing immunisation rights specifically for pharmacists - and in 13 of the 45 countries pharmacists themselves have the authority to administer vaccines "and therefore the potential to reach 655 million, the researchers estimated.

A report summarising the research was released overnight at the 76th annual World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Buenos Aires, and can be accessed via the FIP website at www.fip.org.

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