

MIMS MATTERS

Summer Edition 2012

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Can I crush it?

The administration of medicines is perhaps the most common clinical procedure that a healthcare professional undertakes. However, this task is often complicated when patients become non-compliant with their medication due to a problem with swallowing. This problem is frequent: swallowing difficulties are common with 60% of aged care residents and 40% of the general population finding it difficult to swallow their daily medications.

When a tablet or capsule cannot be swallowed, an obvious solution might be to crush the tablet or open the capsule and add the medication to food or drink. However, many tablets and capsules are not designed to be crushed or opened. Changing the form of the medication may cause toxicity to the patient or reduce the efficacy of the medication.

For example, crushing an extended release drug can destroy the medication time release properties with the whole dose being released within a few minutes rather than the intended 12 or 24 hours.

With the need for clear, professional advice regarding the suitability of crushing a medicine, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) published "Don't Rush to Crush" which is now available as additional optional content within MIMS Online.

The MIMS Online "Don't Rush to Crush" content provides monographs for over 500 Australian medicines and lists generic names, brand names and available forms and strengths. There are separate recommendations for administering solid oral dose forms to patients with swallowing difficulties and to patients with enteral feeding tubes. The information is delivered for appropriate medications in a tabbed window only one click away from the full product information, abbreviated information and consumer medicine information. The use of quick guide symbols in the "Don't Rush to Crush" monographs provides rapid access and intuitive guidance on the suitability of a medication to be crushed or dispersed. A clear indication is also given in the case where a medication is unsuitable for crushing.



Thank you for all
your support during 2012
Wishing you a safe, happy
Christmas and New Year
The Team at MIMS



UBM Medica

MIMS

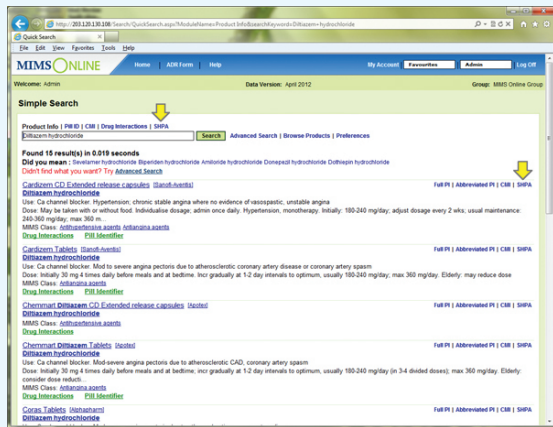
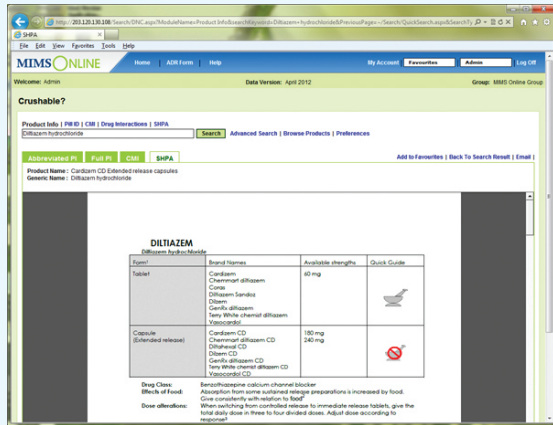
100% pure knowledge

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“Don’t Rush to Crush” is seamlessly integrated into MIMS Online and is instantly retrieved using the standard search methods that are used for finding product or consumer information. Searching for a product by brand name, generic or ingredient name, therapeutic class or action/indication will lead the user to a number of tabbed windows that display information about the medication, which are typically Abbreviated Product Information, Full Product Information and

Consumer Medicines Information. When “Don’t Rush to Crush” content is available, an additional tab which contains the DRTC advice and guidance is displayed. This information is always only one mouse click away from the standard MIMS information, but remains clearly separated to avoid confusing the content with the official MIMS product information.

For more details including pricing and availability of “Don’t Rush to Crush” please contact info@mims.com.au



HALOPERIDOL

Form ¹	Brand names	Available strengths	Quick guide
Oral liquid	Serenace	2 mg/mL	
Tablet	Serenace	0.5 mg 1.5 mg 5 mg	

Drug class: Dopamine antagonist/antipsychotic
Dose alterations: No dose change is required when switching between oral liquid and tablets¹
Warnings: Stopping antipsychotic medicines may cause a discontinuation (withdrawal) syndrome. This may be avoided by gradual dose reduction. Contact the prescriber²
Other: May cause dry mouth or excessive salivation.¹ See section 3.4

Oral liquid	
Enteral feeding tube	Give oral liquid • There is no information regarding jejunal administration. Monitor for increased side effects or loss of efficacy
Swallowing difficulties	Give oral liquid • See section 7.2 if there is an aspiration risk
Tablets	
Enteral feeding tube	Use Method B – tablets are slow to disperse² • There is no information regarding jejunal administration. Monitor for increased side effects or loss of efficacy
Swallowing difficulties	Use Method E – tablets are slow to disperse² • See section 7.2 if there is an aspiration risk
Preferred course of action*	
1. Give oral liquid	
2. Crush tablet (Method B or E)	
3. Injection available. Contact the prescriber to consider parenteral use if appropriate	

*Check PBS availability where formulation or medicine changes are being considered (www.pbs.gov.au)

- References**
1. MIMS Online, St Leonards, NSW: UBM Medica; 2010. Accessed 27/09/10
 2. Martin TP, Hayes P, Collins DM. Tablet dispersion as an alternative to formulation of oral liquid dosage forms. *Aust J Hosp Pharm* 1993; 23(6): 378-86
 3. Psychotropic Expert Group. Therapeutic Guidelines: psychotropic. Version 6. Melbourne, Victoria: Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd; 2008

Safer Use of Medicines

Did you know? Our new MIMS corporate website has a section for Safer Use of Medicines!

MIMS has been providing medicines information to healthcare professionals in Australia for nearly 50 years. Our team of expert clinical editors together with our involved and committed editorial board of clinicians guarantee that you have current information at your fingertips.

In this part of the website we endeavour to bring to you the latest thinking on medication management – nationally and internationally. You will also find useful links to peak industry organisations whose work is paramount in reducing medication errors and finding better ways to manage medications.

Categories covered are:

- Safer prescribing
- Articles of interest around medication management
- Research on medication management
- Medicine safety monitoring
- Useful links to peak industry organisations

We want to make sure that we provide useful, up to date medicines information that complements other information available within the Australian healthcare industry.

If you know of useful information that you think healthcare professionals would appreciate having in this section, please contact us at Caryn.Lind@mims.com.au

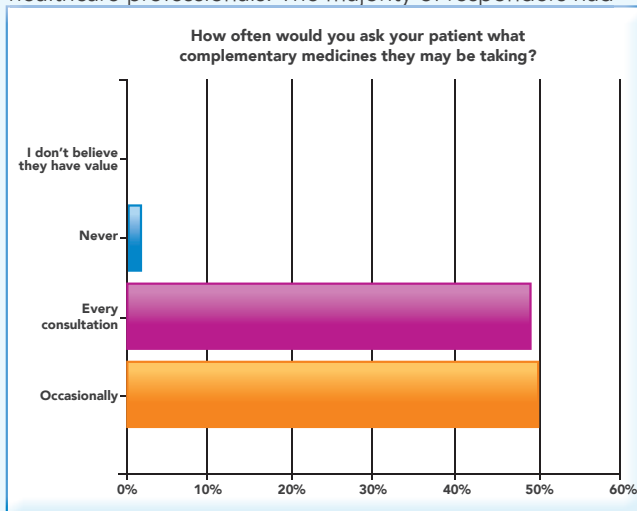


How do eMIMS users feel about the NEW IMgateway Drug/Herb Interactions Module?

In October we surveyed all of our eMIMS users who have had access to our complementary new, evidence-based drug/herb interactions module from IMgateway. All of the team would like to say a huge thank you to every one of our customers who took the time to give us your feedback and it seems we have a new module that is meeting the needs of those who have tried it so far.

"Absolutely brilliant, thanks for the inclusion"

Pharmacists from across the spectrum led the charge followed by GPs, medical specialists, nurses and other healthcare professionals. The majority of responders had



not seen or used the IMgateway drug/herb interactions before using it in eMIMS but, having done so, almost

80% of responders felt the content was beneficial to their practice and the majority of those told us they believe having the content available in eMIMS will enable them to provide better service for patients.

Respondents are asking patients about their use of complementary medicines and clearly having access to sound, evidence-based drug/herb interactions is very important in today's world with 96% of all responders indicating that these interactions concern them. Responders also loved having the module at their fingertips which they said provided easy and quick access to the interactions; almost 80% confirmed that having this information within eMIMS saved them time simply by not having to look in other resources.

"A more confident & safer choice for the patient"

Reading through the comments our responders left behind, it appears that the IMg content provides healthcare professionals with more confidence in counselling patients and checking potential risks when questions move beyond their clinical knowledge. The feedback also supports the theory that if the healthcare professional has drug/herb information at their fingertips which they have confidence in using, they are more likely to initiate the discussion with their patients.

Developed by the University of Sydney's School of Pharmacy Academic staff, our new module is available as an additional subscription when you purchase eMIMS.

To order call 1800 800 629 or visit our website mims.com.au

MIMS for students

MIMS understands the importance of current medicines information for Medical, Pharmacy and Nursing students and has established a program to help provide such resources.

For many years, MIMS has been providing medical students in Australian universities and TAFEs with free copies of our eMIMS CD for use in their laboratories. This donation is made available to educational institutions where students learn to prescribe, dispense or administer medications.

To date we have a number of education organisations who have taken advantage of this offer.

We also provide eMIMS to interns under the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and Guild Pharmacy programs with personal copies of the program to assist them throughout their intern year.

MIMS is proud to support the Australian education system in this way and the donation is significant with over 2,500 eMIMS CDs provided each year.

If you would like to find out more about this program visit our website at:

<http://www.mims.com.au/index.php/markets.html?view=markets&id=2>

Access MIMS Online via DynaMed™ or Discovery

MIMS Australia and EBSCO Publishing have been working together to create a more Australian-friendly product link from within both the DynaMed™ and EBSCO Discovery products.

This link will provide Australian medicines information from the popular DynaMed™ product to MIMS Online where the user has a subscription. DynaMed™ can be found in the following state health portals and health and university libraries around the country:

State Portals

- Clinicians Health Channel, Dept of Health, Victoria
- Dept of Health, Northern Territory
- Dept of Health, Western Australia
- Dept of Health, Tasmania

Private Health Organisations

- Ramsay Healthcare
- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)

Universities

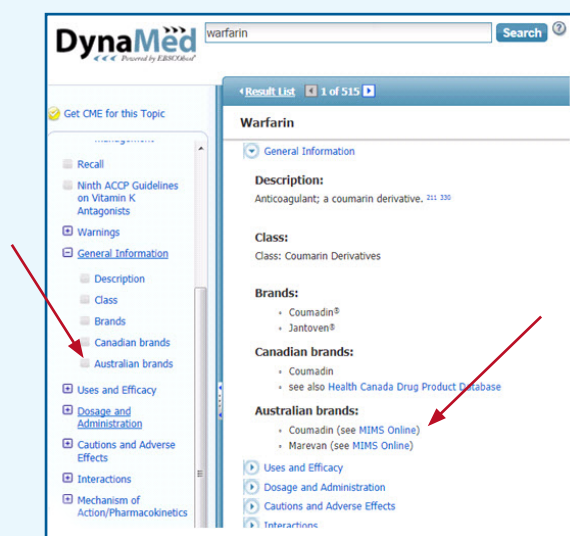
- University of Western Australia
- Queensland University of Technology
- Deakin University
- University of Tasmania

MIMS Online is available in all Australian States and Territories (except Northern Territory) public hospitals, many private hospitals including the Ramsay and Healthscope hospital groups, over 33 university libraries, and a wide range of healthcare organisations such as aged care, health funds, defence, and transcription services.

About DynaMed™

DynaMed™ is a clinical reference tool created by physicians for physicians and other healthcare professionals for use at the point-of-care. With clinically organised summaries for more than 3,200 topics, DynaMed™ provides the latest content and resources with validity, relevance and convenience, making DynaMed™ an indispensable resource for answering most clinical questions during practice.

To access MIMS Online from within DynaMed™, select a generic molecule from anywhere within the program and then open the “General Information” heading. You will find a list of the Australian brands in the main screen, with a hyperlink directly to MIMS Online.



When you click on the MIMS Online hyperlink, it will open MIMS Online at either the Abbreviated or Full Product Information (depending on the preferences set for your organisation). For most customers, this is the Abbreviated Product Information.

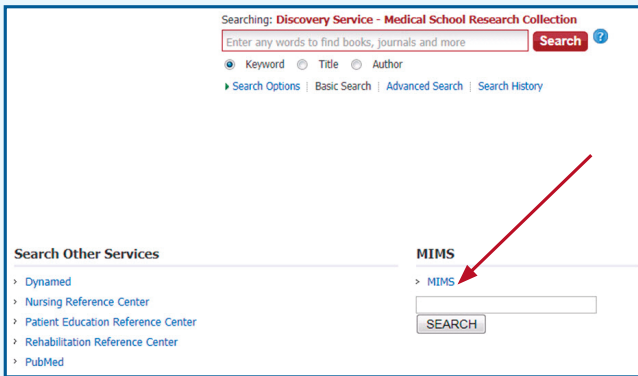


There is also the option to conduct a search of MIMS Online from the lower section of the EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) home page. EDS provides a fast and accurate search through all of an institution's information resources from a single search box and is already implemented as the primary search tool in a number of universities (including University of Melbourne, Deakin University and University of Southern Queensland), as well as a range of clinician portals (such as Clinicians Health Channel in Victoria) and government



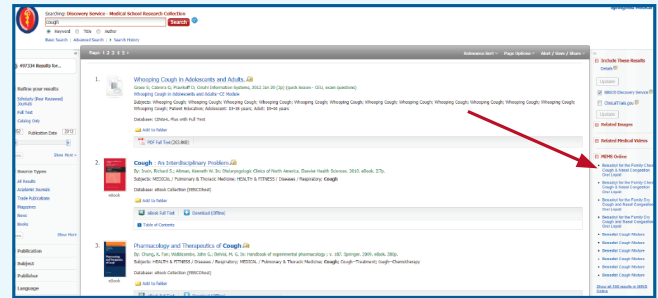
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departments (including the Dept of Health & Ageing library in Canberra).



You can also access the MIMS information from the right hand side bar within Discovery. When a topic is searched, the MIMS widget will open up with a list of medicines relevant to that topic.

In a future development, we hope to have the topic link to the brand and generic names as well as the action and indication for each medicine in the database.



Please note: A current subscription to MIMS Online is required for the hyperlink from within DynaMed™ to connect.

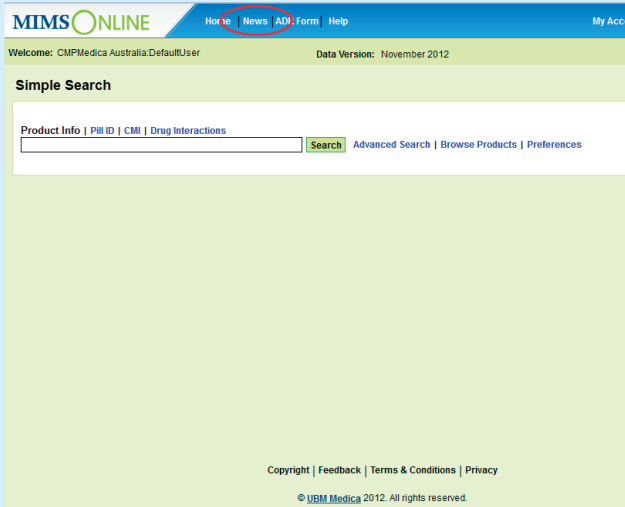
For further information regarding MIMS Online contact MIMS on 1800 800 629 or email info@mims.com.au

For additional information regarding DynaMed™, please contact your local EBSCO Publishing representative.

Find our latest news in MIMS ONLINE

In response to the popularity of our various newsletters we have added them to the Home Page of MIMS Online. You will find the latest edition of:

- MIMS Matters (quarterly industry news)
- MIMS Monthly Update (most important changes to product information)



- MIMS Navigator (training newsletter)

You can also sign up to receive these newsletters direct to your inbox.



myDr Practice Websites redesign

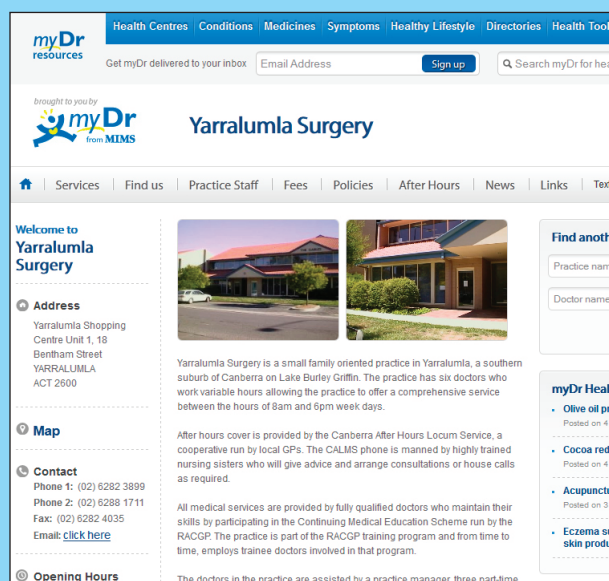
For more than 10 years, myDr has provided GP practices with a free practice website for their patients hosted on myDr and now the websites have been relaunched on a new platform with a new design.

The new design practice websites have these features:

- Searchable on myDr's "Find a GP"
- More Google friendly
- Inbuilt Google maps
- New customised URL
- Improved contact details and Directions page
- Larger practice photos
- Patient information from myDr.com.au
- Health tools from myDr.com.au
- Health news feed from myDr.com.au

If you would like a myDr practice website so that your patients can easily find your practice and access information about your practice, please register via the webform at:

www.mydr.com.au/practice-websites-register



Conferences

Pharmacy Australia Congress (PAC)

Another busy time for the MIMS team at Pharmacy Australia Congress (PAC) and the AACP Consultant pharmacists' forum. Thank you to all those who took the time to come and visit us and while on the stand complete our MIMS survey. It's your feedback that is helping us change the face of our products to better meet your needs.

Pharmacists can be relied on to give us valuable feedback about our products so we always look forward to seeing the results of our annual AACP/PAC survey. A couple of things you may be interested in: when asked what we could do to improve you told us (among other things) you wanted more herbal information and information on crushable meds. On the first, we have just launched the new drug/herb interactions module from IMgateway and the University of Sydney's School of Pharmacy as an "add on module" in eMIMS (see story on Page3). Those of you who use MIMS Online will find the SHPA Don't Rush to Crush book available as an additional module there in the next couple of months (see story on Page 1) and in eMIMS in the first half of 2013.

38th SHPA National Conference

MIMS recently exhibited at "Medicines Management 2012", the 38th Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) National Conference held in Canberra, and by all accounts the meeting was a great success. More than 900 delegates were treated to an inspiring and stimulating program, with 80 contributed papers, almost 200 posters, and a series of entertaining and thought-provoking invited speakers.

The MIMS stand was extremely busy, with the majority of the delegates being current subscribers to our well established digital products, MIMS Online (web delivered) and eMIMS (CD-ROM delivered), and our mobile device solutions.

A constant crowd of delegates at the MIMS exhibition stand experienced "Don't Rush to Crush", the addition of the SHPA's crushable medication advice to the popular MIMS Online reference system and the evidence-based drug herb interactions database which is now available in eMIMS.



New Medical Observer Hot Apps Directory

GPs looking to make the most of their smartphones and tablets can find the best medical apps with the new *Medical Observer* Hot Apps Directory.

There are thousands of health and medical apps on the market, some aimed at patients and some at clinicians.

To help guide GPs to the best and most relevant apps, each week's iPad edition of *Medical Observer* features the Hot Apps Directory, with reviews and ratings of the most useful apps for iPhones and iPads.

There are already more than 50 apps reviewed across four categories, with more reviews being added each week.

The clinical tools category includes apps aimed at aiding GPs with everything from interpreting ECGs and pathology tests to prescribing new drugs.

Meanwhile the reference app category features apps that promise to ease the burden on the practice bookshelves, offering convenient access to medical journal databases and resources such as the Australian Medicare Benefits Schedule.

A host of apps designed to make running the business side of the practice are found under the business and productivity category, while the patient category is devoted to apps designed to be used by patients to improve their health outcomes. Apps already reviewed include programs to remind patients what medication to take and when, or to help them monitor their own skin for signs of damage and others aimed at helping users quit smoking or improve their diet.

The *Medical Observer* iPad app has proved a hit with readers since its launch in February and is currently rated at four-and-a-half stars out of five in the Apple App Store.

To access the Hot Apps Directory, visit the Apple App Store on your iPad and download the latest issue of *Medical Observer*.

Meanwhile, GPs who think they know their haemangiomas from their melanomas can now put their diagnostic skills to the test with a new interactive feature on the *Medical Observer* iPad app.

Each week's iPad issue of *Medical Observer* features Spot Diagnosis, a new interactive page testing GPs on their ability to recognise and diagnose both common and seldom-seen skin conditions.

iPad-equipped readers are able to view real case photos to make their determination before being presented with a final diagnosis and advice on treatment.

Spot Diagnosis is an extension of long-running *Medical Observer* column Skin Deep by Dr Ian McColl, a consultant dermatologist at John Flynn Hospital in Tugun, Queensland.

"Every GP spends a lot of time dealing with skin disease," he said.

"Depending on where in the country they are, it could be inflammatory or it could be skin cancer.

"It can be up to 30–50% of a GP's work, so it's very important that they keep up and improve their diagnostic abilities."

Dr McColl said changes to medical school course structures in recent years meant students now received less formal education in dermatology.

"Their knowledge of the spectrum of skin disease is seriously limited," he said. "They mostly learn when they're out doing their rotations with GPs."

Dr McColl runs www.skinconsult.com.au, an online portal offering GPs dermatology education services as well as a teledermatology service giving diagnosis and management assistance.

To access Spot Diagnosis, visit the Apple App Store on your iPad and download the latest issue of *Medical Observer*.

The screenshot shows the 'HOT APPS DIRECTORY' section of the Medical Observer app. The featured app is 'BrainyApp' by b2cloud, which is described as a fun app with brain teasers developed by Alzheimer's Australia and Bupa Health Foundation. It includes a Brain Heart Survey and 'Brain Games'. The app is free, compatible with iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, and Android, and requires iOS 4.0 or later. It has a rating of 4.5 stars. Below this, there is a 'REFERENCE APPS' section with three entries: 'Medical Encyclopaedia' (4.5 stars), 'iMIMS' (4.5 stars), and 'PubMed On Tap Lite' (4.5 stars). Each entry includes a brief description, cost, registration requirements, and compatibility information.

Staff Profile



Picture: Client Services Team – Wendy Thomas, Brett Stanish, Joy Cainglet & Jack Niven

Introducing the Client Services Team

Our highly experienced and diverse client service team at St Leonards in Sydney look after all subscription orders and renewals and provide first level technical support. We also look after operations ensuring your orders are fulfilled accurately and efficiently. Our team is trained to provide high quality customer service – we love happy customers!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our customers a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Brett Stanish

Brett joined MIMS in March 2012 as the Systems and Operations Manager. He has over 20 years of experience in publishing, information technology, and managing operational strategies and systems. Brett is originally from New Zealand and loves to travel.

Wendy Thomas

Wendy has been working in MIMS clients Services for over 20 years and has seen many changes with products from print only options to Print & Electronic. Wendy continues to enjoy assisting the new and many long-term customers she has been dealing with over the years. In her spare time Wendy is very busy with her two teenage children especially on the weekends.

Joy Cainglet

Coming from the Philippines, Joy joined MIMS in August 2007 as one of the Customer Service Officers. Having an accounting background, Joy is expert in the team when it comes to numbers and computations. Joy loves cooking and baking, and is considered the resident baker of the company.

Jack Niven

Jack is the newest member of the team having been with us for only two months. He was previously working in the finance sector for 2 years and enjoys and is very knowledgeable on all things computing. Hailing from Ireland, taitneamh sé i ndáiríre prátaí.

Conferences

ALIA Information Online

Tuesday 12 February – Friday 15 February, 2013

Brisbane Convention Centre

www.information-online.com.au

ALIA Information Online is the premier event for information professionals in the Asia Pacific region and has a strong track record of providing an innovative and engaging program. With a balance of great content and opportunities to connect, ALIA Information Online 2013 will be a conference experience unlike any the information professions have seen before.

Health-e Nation

Tuesday 19 March – Thursday 21 March, 2013

RACV Club, Melbourne

www.health-e-nation.com.au

In an environment dominated by PCEHR and the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, Health-e-Nation Leadership summit is ideally timed to influence future development and shape next stages.

Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference

Friday 22 March – Sunday 24 March

Gold Coast Convention Centre

www.apconference.com

The Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP) is The Pharmacy Guild of Australia's annual national conference and the largest pharmacy conference and trade show in Australia. APP offers attendees a comprehensive four-day educational program, an exciting social program and a trade exhibition showcasing the latest products, services and industry innovations.

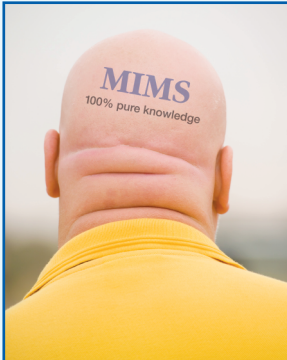
Information Technology in Aged Care

Wednesday 1 May – Thursday 2 May, 2013

Crown Function Centre, Melbourne

www.agedcare.org.au

The theme of the conference, Consumer Centric Service Delivery – driving the efficiency gain, emphasises the importance of information technology in establishing a sustainable, quality focused aged care environment.



Because you can't keep it all in your head

Millions of drug decisions made easier with MIMS

