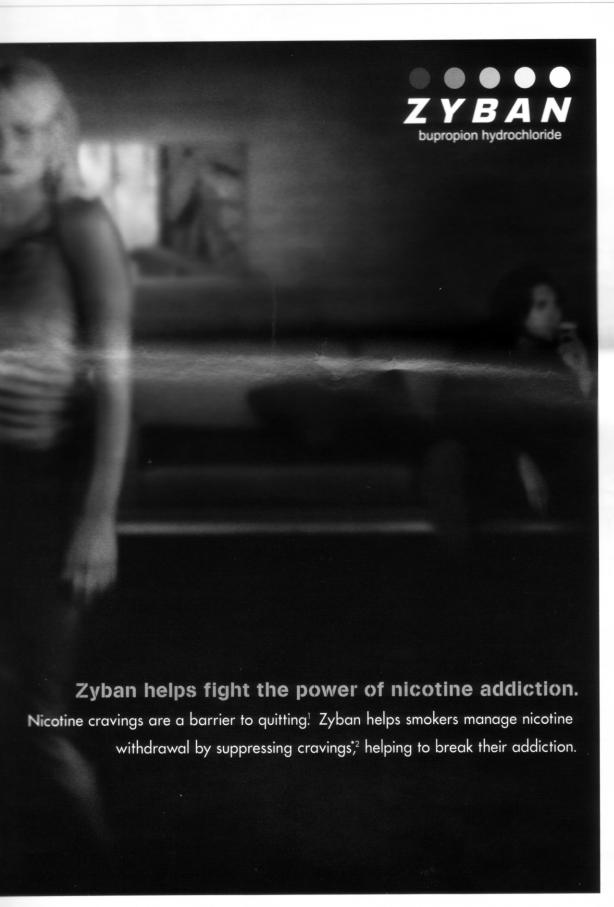
rease in the risk of harmful tcomes, including episodes self-harm and potentially

suicidal behaviour". The report, based on nine previously unreleased trials of had been limited. While the TGA was

reviewing the data, the guide-

less common, but any young child taking an antidepressant should be closely monitored, on appropriate labelling that best reflected the risk of use in children and adolescents.



imes, current or previous bulimia or anorexia nervosa, concomitant MAOIs. At least 14 days should elapse between ban. Exercise extreme caution with predisposing risk factors known to lower seizure threshold eg: History of head trauma, known to lower seizure threshold, alcohol abuse, diabetes. Pregnancy (Cat B2), lactation, psychiatric illness, renal or nicotine replacement therapy, effect on ability to drive and use machinery. Zyban should be discontinued and ence a seizure, hypersensitivity or anaphylactic reactions. ADVERSE EFFECTS: Common adverse effects include anxiety, entration and GI disturbances. Rare adverse effects include: postural hypotension, seizures, arthralgia. PBS Dispensed and Schneider N. Br J Addiction 1987;82:407-415. 2. Zyban Approved Product Information. ursa GZY1269/ADA4DPS

Units treat psoriasis at home

HOME-use UVB light units are a new option for patients with psoriasis who find regular hospital or specialist clinic visits inconvenient.

The narrow-band UVB units - some as small as a hairdryer - can be bought or rented, saving patients from travelling long distances for treatment at major centres.

Nick Balgowan, whose company supplies such units in Australia, said the problem with UV treatment was that most patients needed it every day or 4-5 times a week, and even if the fee for treatment in hospitals or specialist clinics was covered by Medicare, there was a significant extra cost in terms of travel and time.

Leading dermatologist Dr Chris Baker, from Melbourne's St Vincent's Hospital, said narrow-band UVB treatment used only a fraction of the UVB spectrum, corresponding to the most "biologically effective" wavelengths for treating psoriasis.

Dr Baker said this could reduce the risk of side effects such as sunburn. UVB had the added advantage of not requiring patients to take psoralen tablets, unlike UVA phototherapy.

"The trend in recent years has been that narrow-band UVB is the first phototherapy we use," Dr Baker said.

However, he stressed the need for careful medical supervision when using the devices because there was always a risk of complications.

Mr Balgowan said the units, which were available nationally from the distributor BeatPsoriasis, came in a range of sizes, with the smallest costing \$1100 to buy or \$110 a month to rent.

Bianca Nogrady