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Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today has two pages of news, plus a full page from Good Price Pharmacy.

SA e-script first

TERRYWHITE Chemmart (TWC) Old Reynella in South Australia has become the first pharmacy in that State to begin dispensing electronic prescriptions, using the Minfos ePrescription dispense workflow.

TWC Armidale in NSW was the first pharmacy to dispense an e-script using the Minfos system, which was also used to dispense Tasmania's first e-script at TWC Prospect Vale.

GPPW celebrates

GOOD Price Pharmacy Warehouse (GPPW) is celebrating its Canstar Blue Most Satisfied Customers 2020 Pharmacy title, by offering pharmacy owners the opportunity to join the group.

Find out more about being a GPPW franchisee [HERE](#).

SA introduces tough new protections

CUSTOMERS who threaten or abuse pharmacy staff could face up to 15 years behind bars under new legislation enacted in South Australia.

The *COVID-19 Emergency Response (Further Measures) (No 2) Amendment Bill*, was introduced to the State Parliament on Tue by SA Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Stephen Wade.

The amendments will provide pharmacists and pharmacy staff with the same protections as other frontline workers under the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935*.

"The Bill focuses on building on the strong contribution that pharmacists, general practitioners and other health professionals have made to the pandemic response thus far and supporting their contribution to the ongoing response," Wade said.

"This change is particularly relevant for pharmacists and those performing duties in a pharmacy where they may be required to limit dispensing and sales of certain prescription and over-the-counter medicines in response to increased demand due to COVID-19."

The Bill also amends the *Health*



Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia) Act 2010, to provide the Pharmacy Regulation Authority SA with the power to authorise certain pharmacy premises to operate without a pharmacist physically in the store, provided a pharmacist can communicate with patients through video or audio links.

The amendments have been welcomed by professional bodies in the State, with Pharmacy Guild of Australia SA Branch President, Nick Panayiaris saying "the idea that pharmacy staff would be abused or assaulted while doing their work is absolutely abhorrent... this amendment gives notice to all in the community to respect the

safety and rights of people working in pharmacies".

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia SA Branch President, Robyn Johns, described the penalty for abusing pharmacy staff as the toughest in the country.

"We now have extremely strong protection for all pharmacists and pharmacy teams in South Australia and I am grateful for the Health Minister's support for this amendment," she said.

"Pharmacists and pharmacy staff have been among those frontline health workers who have at times been abused by members of the public during the COVID-19 pandemic and this sort of behaviour is not okay."



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Dispensary Corner

FOR many, a trip to the toilet is a rare moment of solitude, but based on a sign on the door of one NSW Hospital dunny, some see it as a group activity.

Keen to emphasise the need to maintain physical distance while on the loo, hospital bureaucrats posted a note stressing the single toilet facility was "limited to one" user at a time.

The sign restricting restroom capacity to one was highlighted on social media by a medical student, and may have seemed unnecessary when the video showed the door opening to show a rather cramped room.

However, a sign displayed on the door of a similar Eastern Health facility in Victoria was posted in response calling on staff to "please respect social distancing", before noting the "maximum room capacity is 1/2", adding "thank you for your cooperation".

While surprised by the NSW Health's toilet capacity restrictions, we're trying to work out the logistics of using a loo while only half being in the room.



Visitors flouting COVID precautions

VULNERABLE communities in rural and remote parts of Australia are being exposed to an increased risk of COVID-19 by tourists who refuse to follow hygiene guidelines, one NSW pharmacist believes.

In a post on the Rural Pharmacy Network Australia Facebook page, Bourke-based Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) 2019 Pharmacist of the Year Award winner, Peter Crothers, expressed his frustration with travellers' poor behaviour.

"The grey nomads have been driving us mad the last three weeks, with their demands for multiple repeats and disregard for infection control," he said.

Speaking to *Pharmacy Daily*, Crothers described the attitudes of some travellers, including grey nomads, towards COVID safety measures as "confronting" for the community.

"We have a sanitisation station at the entrance of our pharmacy and a limit on the number of people in

the pharmacy," he said.

"Local people are willing to wait patiently outside, but the visitors are a bit more likely to ignore that and push on in, without sanitising their hands.

"Our community is 40% Aboriginal, and they understand they're vulnerable and the rest of the community takes that on board to protect them."

Crothers noted that the northern NSW town's camping facilities were stretched to capacity adding pressure on local infrastructure including pharmacy services, with tourists coming in for prescriptions.

"It's very confronting for a community that's highly aware of its vulnerability," he said.

"Most travellers are well intentioned... [but] we've had a fair bit of pressure for extra repeats... [people] being pushy and demanding.

"We're not used to that.

"Our priority is our own people." Crothers said many in the town



would support the introduction of police-enforced restrictions to ensure tourists comply with COVID safety measures.

"There's a sub-group of people who are clearly determined to get across the Queensland border by whatever means," he said.

"People have openly enquired if there are any back roads to cross the Queensland border illegally."

Pictured, a make-shift toilet left behind by one tourist near Bourke, courtesy of the RPNA Facebook group.

Win with John Plunkett's

Everyday this week *Pharmacy Daily* & John Plunkett's are giving away a prize pack including: 1 x John Plunkett's Superfade Accelerator Serum 20ml and 1 x Plunkett's Aloe Vera Facial Mask valued at **\$29.98**.

Specifically created for those who have mild pigmentation concerns, Superfade Accelerator Serum is formulated with pigmentation reducing technology, containing a powerful blend of BHA, AHAs and Ferulic Acid Cytovectors. Superfade Accelerator Serum exfoliates surface discolouration and lightens sun damaged skin. Overnight improvement from day 1 and clinical results after 28 days of daily usage.



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Q: Can you use Superfade Accelerator Serum morning and night?

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V-MAX warning

PATIENTS who have V-MAX herbal tablets are being urged to stop taking them after they were found to contain undeclared quantities of sildenafil, by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

The TGA said patients should take the tablets to their local pharmacy for disposal.

The regulator added it is working with the Australian Border Force to prevent future shipments of the product from entering the country, noting they will be seized and destroyed.

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