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FRED

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus full pages from:

- Eze Allergy
- Silverline Medical

COVID clean

DISINFECTING surfaces has been a hot topic since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and ensuring surfaces are properly cleaned has never been more important.

Silverline Medical's Vira San hospital grade disinfectant has been listed for use against COVID-19 on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

The product boasts that it kills the virus in 60 seconds, and is also effective against bacteria including Salmonella.

See **page four** for more.

Pharmacy never more important: FIP

COVID-19 has highlighted the "critical value" the pharmacy workforce around the world provides health systems, International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Global Pharmaceutical Observatory Director, Dr Ian Bates, believes.

Launching the FIP Workforce Reference Guide on Wed, Bates stressed the importance of the pharmacy workforce to global healthcare.

"There is no healthcare without a workforce," he said.

"We are chronically short of healthcare workers worldwide...and this is in the context of increasing complexity of medicines, increasing comorbidities, people living longer with more diseases and taking more medicines.

"We [pharmacists] have never been more important and critical for global health, and in particular primary health care, than we are right now.

"[The pandemic] has highlighted



the critical value and impact that pharmacists have."

Bates said the new reference guide provides a "starting point" for member organisations to use to support workforce transformation over the next five to 10 years.

Also speaking at the launch of the guide, FIP Workforce Development Hub Global Lead, Dr Barbel Holbein, noted the COVID pandemic had significantly accelerated the

transformation of the profession and the services delivered by pharmacists.

"COVID-19 broke out and immediately the pharmacy profession face changes with respect to workforce, information and education delivery," she said.

"Our group strongly believe that we must take advantage of these times now and shape the future of our profession."

GuildCare gets ADHA green light

PHARMACIES with GuildCare will soon be able to receive electronic prescriptions directly to their dispensaries.

GuildLink announced it has passed conformance testing with the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA), which will allow the myPharmacyLink app to securely accept a patient's e-script token, and display it directly into GuildCare for pharmacists to dispense.

GuildLink Head of eSolutions, Aaron D'Souza, said the app would provide a safe and efficient way for pharmacists to receive e-scripts.

"Without it, e-scripts are cumbersome and frustrating for patients who can only transmit [tokens] via email or SMS - an efficiency killer in the dispensary," he said.

CLICK HERE to watch a product demonstration.



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Facilitator:
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STRESS DURING THE COVID-19 ERA: Identifying and managing post-herpetic neuralgia in your pharmacy

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www.stressandnervepain.com.au

Access code: PD0710

Join Joyce McSwan as she examines the development of post-herpetic neuralgia in the context of stress in the COVID-19 environment and the importance of frontline pharmacy in recognising, advising and managing these patients.

Seqirus Australia. Date of preparation: August 2020. SEQ/NVD/0820/0118b.



Wed 7th Oct, 8:00 PM AEDT



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ACT urged to act now on pharmacy

POLITICIANS in the ACT are being urged to back pharmacists working to their full scope of practice by Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) ACT Branch President, Renae Beardmore.

Speaking ahead of this month's ACT Legislative Assembly elections, Beardmore called on all political parties to commit to improving the health and wellbeing of the population through pharmacy-related initiatives to boost medicine safety and to increase the range of vaccines pharmacists in the Territory can administer.

"The upcoming election is the perfect time to commit to new reforms that will allow pharmacists, as medicines experts to practice to their full scope that will lead to a

healthier ACT," she said.

"PSA urges all ACT political parties to sign up to Public Hospital Pharmaceutical Reform with the Commonwealth that will allow patients to receive a month's worth of medicines via the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) which is in line with other states and territories.

"Removing restrictions which limit the range of vaccines, and other injectable medicines, that ACT pharmacists can safely administer will increase vaccine coverage in the ACT."

Beardmore also called on politicians to pledge to appoint the ACT Chief Pharmacist to the Health Emergency Unit Steering Committee, to support preparation and planning efforts.



"Pharmacists feel an obligation to assist and are readily available to do so, as demonstrated during the recent bushfire crisis and COVID-19 pandemic," she said.

"During COVID-19 support to the community has been minimised, indeed impeded at times, by an early lack of involvement and engagement with pharmacists prior to an emergency, at the stage of planning and preparation."

Dispensary Corner

TAXES have been a hot topic of conversation around the world this week, with US President, Donald Trump's tax returns coming under scrutiny.

However, it was the Irish Supreme Court's ruling that torpedoed a claim by a franchisee of fast food chain, Subway, that its sandwiches should be exempt from Value-Added Tax (VAT), that caught the eye of *Dispensary Corner*.

Initially the franchisee seemed to have a strong case with staple foods such as bread, milk, preparations or extracts of meat or eggs, all excluded from the tax - all key ingredients for a wholesome sandwich - you'd think!

However, after reviewing the VAT Act of 1972, the Court ruled that Subway's "bread" was not in fact bread, but a form of confectionery, given its sugar content exceeded the Act's provision that sugar "shall not exceed 2% of the weight of flour included in the dough".



Go-slow paused

THE Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) has paused its "go-slow" action over a pay dispute between wharves and Patrick Terminals, the terminal operator at Port Botany.

In a statement issued last night MUA National Secretary, Paddy Crumlin, dismissed claims that medical supplies were being held up by the action (*PD* 28 Sep), noting Patrick Terminals stated on Wed that it was unaware of medical containers being delayed.

WIN WITH DERMAVEEN

This week Pharmacy Daily and DermaVeen are giving readers the chance to win a DermaVeen Sensitive Relief Calmexa range prize pack worth RRP\$ 65.97



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