

Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news, plus a full page from Silverline Medical.

COVID support

THE Black Dog Institute is looking to recruit 250 people to take part in a trial to evaluate a positive mood program to help manage COVID-19 related stress.

The program aims to provide participants with processes to help them to lower their stress levels and improve their mood.

CLICK HERE to find out more about the program.

Pharmacy faces permit demands

A RURAL Tasmanian pharmacy based in a former service station is facing the possibility of being closed due to a dispute over a planning permit, *The Advocate* reports.

The local newspaper revealed Yolla Community Pharmacy has been forced to apply for a permit from the Waratah-Wynyard Council, to allow the Section 90 approved pharmacy to continue to provide pharmaceutical services to the community.

Speaking to *The Advocate*, Adrian Pilcher, the husband of pharmacy owner, Lynne Pilcher, said the council had initially said the building had been zoned as retail, and the pharmacy was retail.

"Retrospectively they have come up with things requiring us to comply [with]," he said.

"The difficulty has been getting experts to come and do the inspections.

"Like this used to be a garage; there would be oil and petrol and spills, so we've had to have an environmental report done with zero nasty chemicals.

"Then (they said) we had to check if the septic system might not cope.

"We've had a traffic management consultant to make sure we've not

impacting traffic; sufficient parking, [and] a building surveyor.

"Every report that came back was glowing."

However, the council's General Manager, Shane Crawford, said the Pilchers had been advised that they would need a planning permit approved before opening the pharmacy.

He added the council issued a Building Notice and Building Order after the pharmacy commenced operation without the necessary approvals.

Guild launches 2021 events calendar

THE Pharmacy Guild of Australia is planning to revive face-to-face events in 2021, releasing its events calendar starting with an invite-only Pharmacy Groups Symposium in Brisbane in Feb 2021.

The calendar will see the return of the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP)

on the Gold Coast from 20 to 23 May 2021, after being hosted online this year (*PD* 19 Mar).

Pharmacy Connect will be hosted in Sydney from 12 to 14 Aug 2021, after the 2020 event was cancelled.

Earlybird registration for APP 2021 will open on Mon 19 Oct, **CLICK HERE** for more.

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References: 1. Resolve Plus Product Information. Date of Most Recent Amendment 26 October 2018. 2. Van Cutsem JM, Thienpont D. Miconazole, a broad-spectrum antimycotic agent with antibacterial activity. *Chemotherapy* 1972;17:392-404.

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Tackling air pollution

EDUCATION and remuneration are two barriers currently limiting pharmacists' ability to help combat the impacts of air pollution on respiratory health, the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) believes.

In its *Mitigating the impact of air pollution on health: The role of community pharmacists* report, FIP found many pharmacists "do not have an optimal understanding of the protective role of the nose against external aggressors and pollutants", while 50% of respondents to the organisation's global survey "were not entirely aware of the link between air pollution and immune response to viral infections".

"Pharmacists' position in the community makes them instrumental in raising the public's awareness of this significant threat to their health and to support them in mitigating the risks posed by air pollution on respiratory health," FIP said.

"This is not a new threat, but it is one that has become increasingly harmful at an accelerated pace, and one that exhorts the pharmacy profession to expand its scope of practice to embrace new roles and responsibilities.



"With increased access to evidence-based guidelines and increased availability of practice-support tools and devices, strengthened educational and regulatory frameworks, and improved funding models to ensure the sustainability of these services, the pharmaceutical profession stands to contribute meaningfully to tackling air pollution and minimising its effects on the health of patients."

FIP added that improved interprofessional collaboration supported by shared electronic patient records could improve respiratory outcomes.

The organisation said it would continue to advocate for an expanded role for pharmacists to mitigate against the impact of air pollution on respiratory health.



Dispensary Corner

COVID-19 has certainly led to some amazing innovations, including the this week's release of bacon-scented face masks.

US smallgoods maker Hormel Foods said it's been working on the groundbreaking technology for some time, and has now launched so-called "Breathable Bacon" - a revolutionary face mask featuring the latest in pork-scented technology".

Apparently it's a real thing, with the company urging its customers "Don't just eat bacon - inhale it".

The company is giving away 10,000 of the unique items via a new dedicated website at breathablebacon.com which also includes some handy tips including ensuring the mask covers your nose because "nose exposure allows essential bacon scent to escape".

Customers are also advised not to eat the face masks, and while it's obviously a temptation, Hormel also recommends not using them over your eyes as a bacon-infused sleeping mask.

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