

## No masking Vic face mask bungle

**POOR** execution of the 'Masks for Vulnerable Victorians' scheme may make pharmacists reticent about participating in unremunerated programs in the future, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, warns.

Tassone told *Pharmacy Daily* that despite being repeatedly told by the State Government and Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that "community pharmacy is respected and valued", issues faced by the sector throughout the COVID-19 crisis left many feeling less than appreciated.

"The 'Masks for Vulnerable Victorians' initiative was very well intentioned, and community pharmacies showed their support by placing orders promptly to help respond to requests from their patients to obtain a mask," he said.

"Unfortunately, the execution of this program has nowhere near met the expectations of our members

or the public with long wait times for receiving any stock [if at all] and the Guild needing to continually follow up with the Victorian DHHS to obtain updates.

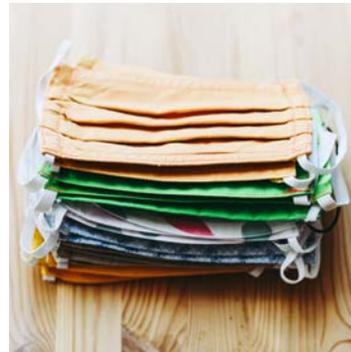
"Community pharmacies have continually turned up and opened their doors throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and been there for their patients.

"Amongst all of the challenges they have had to face, pharmacies have also had to field queries about the Victorian government's 'Masks for Vulnerable Victorians' and comfort the public for a poorly executed program that was beyond their control.

"This is all without any remuneration and very little recognition.

"The Guild continually hears from the government and the Victorian DHHS how much community pharmacy is respected and valued. It is increasingly difficult to believe and feel that when we are not kept updated and consulted despite being a major delivery arm of their own program.

"It is in the DNA of pharmacists and pharmacies to do whatever they can for their patients and communities.



"The COVID pandemic has been difficult for everyone and we can only hope that given the experiences had with this program that pharmacies won't have second thoughts participating in the future for similar initiatives."

**Today's issue of PD**  
*Pharmacy Daily* today features three pages of news, plus a full page from Bird Healthcare.

### iHealth®

**BETTER MONITOR HYPERTENSION**

TRACK Blood Pressure Monitor

Email results to GP



### Breathe easy

**PHARMACIES** can secure a 40% discount on e-Chamber's range of easy to use spacers, with Bird Healthcare.

The respiratory and sleep consumables specialist is also offering Suregard personal protective mask and filter liners.

Discover more on **page four**.

Call: Craig Simmonds  
**0484 340 420**

[craig@propellhealth.com.au](mailto:craig@propellhealth.com.au)

**PROPELL** AUSTRALIAN PARTNER OF iHealth®  
 BETTER PATIENT MONITORING

### Order Stock at the Best Price

**Purveyance Retailer**

<https://retailer.purveyance.biz>

- Free access for Pharmacies
- Cycle Deals and Promotions
- Orders supplied by API, CH2, CHS, DHL, SIGMA, SYMBION or Vendor

Serving the Pharmacy Channel for over 27 years

Vendors include:

- AFT Pharmaceuticals
- BSN Medical/Essity
- Key Sun Laboratories
- Nova Pharmaceuticals
- Roche Accu-Chek
- plus others

Please join us for a live webcast with **Joyce McSwan**

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

**Wed 7th Oct, 8 PM AEDT**  
**CPD points**  
 \*accreditation pending

Register with the link below:  
**Access code: PD0710**

[www.stressandnervepain.com.au](http://www.stressandnervepain.com.au)  
 Date of preparation: August 2020. SEQ/NVD/0820/0118b.

### POWERHOUSE PHARMACY BRANDS SPECIALISING IN PHARMACY & HEALTH

Powerhouse Pharmacy Brands is a leading Pharmacy & Health Sales Agency overseeing Award-Winning Global Brands, including **hand sanitiser** and **face masks**. Visit [www.powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au](http://www.powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au) to order and inquire.

For further information please contact  
 P: 0430 241 521 E: [helen@powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au](mailto:helen@powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au)  
 W: [powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au](http://powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au)

- Consulting
- Distribution
- Sales
- Agent



**CHILDREN'S DOSING COMPANION 2020 BOOK OR ONLINE OUT NOW**

To find out more go to [www.amh.net.au](http://www.amh.net.au)

**AMH**  
AUSTRALIAN MEDICINE HANDBOOK

## PPA COVID-test petition launched

**PROFESSIONAL** Pharmacists Australia (PPA) is stepping up its campaign to urge the Queensland State Government to drop plans for a trial of pharmacy-based COVID-19 testing in the State.

The union has launched a Megaphone.org.au petition calling on Queensland Health Minister, Dr Steven Miles to "abandon" the pilot, warning it "will endanger the occupational health, safety and welfare of pharmacy employees and the health of the community" (PD 07 Sep).

"We've seen that even with highly trained medical staff adhering to strict infectious disease protocols, COVID-19 has successfully infected large numbers of health workers," PPA said.

"The plan by the Queensland Government to make every pharmacy in the state a COVID-19 testing centre is reckless and puts the health and safety of pharmacy employees and the community they serve at risk."

At the time of publication almost 220 people had signed the online petition, which was launched over the weekend.

**CLICK HERE** to view the PPA petition.

## New ADHA CEO

**INTERIM** Services Australia CEO, Amanda Cattermole, has been appointed as the Australian Digital Health Agency's (ADHA) Chief.

Cattermole will officially assume the position on 29 Sep, taking over from interim CEO, Bettina McMahon, who has been in the role since Feb, following the resignation of Tim Kelsey in Dec (PD 10 Dec 2019).

Cattermole brings expertise in digital transformation across government and within the health sector, to the role.

## Pharmacists critical to COVID vax

**PLANS** to implement a large scale COVID-19 vaccination program in Australia can only be achieved if pharmacist immunisers are engaged, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia National President, Dr Chris Freeman, believes.

Yesterday he issued a statement calling on State and Territory Governments to enact harmonised legislation allowing trained pharmacist immunisers, in line with the Federal Government's commitment in the Seventh Community Pharmacy Agreement (PD Breaking News).

Freeman highlighted the role pharmacists have played in boosting influenza vaccine uptake, while continuing to serve local communities and maintaining frontline Pharmaceutical Benefits

Scheme medication supplies, to push for the administration of any approved COVID vaccine to be included in pharmacists' scope of practice.

"The large scale rollout of this vaccine can only be achieved by also utilising pharmacist immunisers conveniently located in the community across Australia," Freeman said.

"This will be particularly critical in rural and remote areas where there may be a limited number of GPs."

Freeman's comments came after the Federal Government announced it had signed an agreement with AstraZeneca to secure 34 million doses of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate, currently being developed by researchers at the University of



Oxford, should it pass safety and efficacy standards, with the first batch of doses due early next year.

The Government has also signed a heads of agreement for CSL to supply 51 million doses of a vaccine being developed by the University of Queensland, with the first tranche of doses expected to be available by mid-2021 should it prove successful.

## Intern starts aged care pen pal program

**INTERN** pharmacist, Tahlia Parisella, has started a pen pal program between children at a primary school in Bicon, Western Australian, and local elderly patients, in an effort to reduce the impacts of social isolation.

Inspired by her interactions with isolated patients while delivering medications, Parisella said she had initially hoped to see the pen pals have "semi-regular meet-ups", but the COVID-19 pandemic stopped that.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia WA Branch President,

Dr Fei Sim said the program was an innovative way to help older patients deal with the impacts of COVID-19, which could lead to more serious mental health problems.

"This is such a great initiative and really showcases how pharmacies and community pharmacists are integral to local communities," she said.

"It provides an alternative lens to holistic healthcare provided by pharmacists in the community which extends beyond conventional consultations, very innovative and impactful."



- Kills 99.9% of germs on contact
- Multiple uses – surface spray, room freshener, germ killer.

**144 MEGA DEAL ORDER TODAY!**

NIS \$3.74 (MOQ 144)

To place your order contact Nova Pharmaceuticals on 1300 904 541



**Pure LIVING** AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND HEALTH PRODUCTS LIMITED

Pure Living is a trusted Australian health products brand under the umbrella of Australia & New Zealand Health Products Limited. We are experiencing excellent sales during these unprecedented times.

We sell high quality body thermometers, 3 ply masks and other health products to many pharmacies around Australia.

**PLEASE CONTACT US**

sunny@anzhpl.com.au 0413 760 326  
anzhpl.com.au

**PARTNERING**

If you are interested in partnering with Pure Living Health Products then please contact us. All enquiries will be treated as confidential.



## Dispensary Corner

**THE** noble game of cricket may be the latest victim of COVID-19, after an Australian player in the UK was suspended over accusations of using hand sanitiser to affect the spin of the ball during a match last month.

Veteran bowler Mitch Claydon will not play the next game for Sussex, pending the outcome of an investigation into "placing hand sanitiser on the ball in our match against Middlesex".

It wasn't quite a clean sweep, but 37-year-old Claydon took three wickets in the Bob Willis Trophy game, which Middlesex won by five wickets.

The England and Wales Cricket Board is currently looking into the allegations.

**AMERICA'S** creaking health system is once again under the microscope after the family of a woman who died six months ago received a letter telling her to self-isolate due to COVID-19 infection.

Tennessee-based Sandra Whittington died of respiratory complications on 16 Feb, some weeks before the virus was detected near her home.

The update from the local health department apparently related to the results of a test conducted in mid-Jun, some 20 weeks later.

Her family confirmed she had been cremated in Feb, making it somewhat difficult to comply with the quarantine order.

Health officials apologised for the mistake and the pain it may have caused the family, according to the local TV station.

## Buyers be ready: Sirianni

**ASPIRING** pharmacy owners are being urged to prepare their finances and do their homework before going to the market looking to secure a store, by Attain Business Brokers Director, Natalie Sirianni.

In a buyer-focused edition of the *Sirianni Market Update*, Sirianni said preparation was key to making a successful pharmacy acquisition.

"Sometimes buyers can move a bit too slowly," she said.

"They don't have the information prepared, they don't have their finance ready to go and that means they can miss out on good opportunities, because what we have to remember is there is really strong demand in particular locations - particularly if you're looking at metropolitan Melbourne or metropolitan Sydney pharmacies.

"So it's really important that you have everything ready to go so you can move on those opportunities as they come up."

Sirianni added that while accessing advice from experts is important for those looking to get into pharmacy



ownership "it's really important to remember that it's your money that you're putting on the line".

"As the pharmacy buyer it's really important that you understand what's going on and you make your own decisions in that regard," she said.

"Have people around you that can help you keep that rational frame of mind, because it's easy to get caught up in the emotion [of buying a pharmacy]."

## Win with Hemp Worx

Everyday this week Pharmacy Daily & Hemp Worx are giving away one of their Hemp Worx Naturally Good Gift Set RRP \$24.95

Hemp Worx Naturally Good Gift Set is an awesome cosmetic bag, for all your daily needs, with 3 x 150ml products inside. Body Wash to wash away the daily environmental toxins, Body Veneer to scrub away those dead skin cells and our luxurious Body Dew for a sensual, moisturising spa experience.

Orders: Power House Pharmacy Brands | Phone: 0430 241 521  
 Website: [www.powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au](http://www.powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au)  
 Contact: [helen@powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au](mailto:helen@powerhousepharmacybrands.com.au)  
 For more information click [HERE](#).

**Q: What two scents does the Body Dew come in?**



To win, be the first to send the correct answer to [comp@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:comp@pharmacydaily.com.au)

## Guild Update

### Social media use

**AHPRA** and the National Boards say while they appreciate the importance of a vigorous national debate on public policy during the COVID-19 pandemic, they have received concerns about the conduct of some health practitioners engaged in online discussion, including in semi-private forums.

In a statement they have reminded all registered health practitioners that their obligation to comply with their profession's code of conduct, applies in all settings – including online.

The codes of conduct emphasise that practitioners must always communicate professionally and respectfully with or about other health care professionals.

AHPRA and the National Boards say community trust in registered health practitioners is essential.

"Whether an online activity can be viewed by the public or is limited to a specific group of people, health practitioners have a responsibility to maintain professional and ethical standards, as in all professional circumstances," the statement says.



**Pharmacy Daily**  
[www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)  
 Pharmacy Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.  
 Pharmacy Daily is Australia's favourite pharmacy industry publication.

**EDITORIAL**  
 Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper  
 Editor – Nicholas O'Donoghue  
 Contributors – Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman  
[info@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:info@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**ADVERTISING AND MARKETING**  
 Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi  
[advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@pharmacydaily.com.au)

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
 Jenny Piper  
[accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@pharmacydaily.com.au)

Pharmacy Daily is a publication of Pharmacy Daily Pty Ltd ABN 97 124 094 604. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd  
 Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
 PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia  
 Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Sign up free at  
[www.pharmacydaily.com.au](http://www.pharmacydaily.com.au)

Travel Daily  
**CRUISE**  
 WEEKLY  
 Travel & Cruise  
 Weekly  
**travelBulletin**  
 business events news

# BIRD HEALTHCARE'S RETAIL READY SUPPLIES

## chamber SPACER RANGE

- Australia's #1 hospital supplied spacer
- Healthy margins
- Clinically proven
- Easy to use

**40% OFF**  
NO MOQ

**symbion**  
**api**  
**CH2**  
Clifford Hallam Healthcare



## Suregard<sup>®</sup> REUSABLE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MASK

WITH 1 FILTER LINER

Porous polyurethane material for protection against dust & pollutants.

- Washable in water
- Comfortable fit with unrestricted breathing
- Universal sizing
- Available in valved or Unvalved versions



## Suregard<sup>®</sup> BACTERIAL/ VIRAL FILTER LINER

- Medical grade filtration material
- Electrostatic & Hydrophobic Polypropylene material
- Bacterial/Viral filtration - effectiveness of 99%\*

\*BFE (Bacterial Filtration Efficiency) and VFE (Viral Filtration Efficiency) tests using Staphylococcus Aureus (\*ATCC #6538) and bacteriophage PHI X174 (\*Dimension about 0.025 µm). Corona virus species range in size from 0.06 to 0.2µm. (documents available upon request)



ALSO  
AVAILABLE  
RETAIL PACKAGED

 Suresense  
PULSE  
OXIMETER



 Suresense  
INFRARED  
THERMOMETER



Contact your local BSA representative for more details, email [admin@bsaus.com.au](mailto:admin@bsaus.com.au), or phone Bird Healthcare on [1300 365 561](tel:1300365561)



BIRD HEALTHCARE