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COVAX claim scheme finalised: Hunt

THE Federal Government is rolling out a no-fault indemnity scheme, which will compensate Australians who suffer injury or loss of income as a result of an adverse reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine (COVAX), irrespective of where they received the shot.

Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Greg Hunt, said the COVAX Claims Scheme offers protection to Australians receiving a Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved COVID-19 vaccine.

"Side effects, or adverse events, from COVID-19 vaccinations can occur, but most are mild and last no longer than a couple of days. Serious and life-threatening side effects are very rare, but it is important that we provide a safety net to support those affected," Hunt said.

"It also ensures that health professionals administering vaccines



will be able to continue with their crucial role in the vaccine roll out with assurance that the claims scheme will offer them protection." The scheme will be administered

by Services Australia and will provide Australians with a single front door to a simple and quick administrative process for compensation.

The TGA will provide guidance on recognised adverse reactions as part of their established surveillance program.

The cost of compensation payments under the scheme will be fully funded by the Commonwealth and has been designed to help the small number of people who unfortunately experience a moderate to significant adverse reaction to a COVAX.

Spring specials

SPRING is in the air and we're shining a light on the products that help you look a feel great as the pollen count rises, with our *Spring Spotlight*.

Today's edition features allergic rhinitis treatment, Chemists' Own Fexo 180 Tablets, with a 40% discount on offer across all SKUs, and Healthyroo Organic Detox Powder.

See **page five** for more.

Let Larri soothe

TAKE on the symptoms of laryngopharyngeal reflux with ENT Technologies' Larri Oral Spray.

The mint-flavoured throat spray provides relief from common symptoms of silent reflux including hoarseness, voice changes, recurrent throat clearing, the sensation of a lump in the throat and coughing.

See **page four** for more.

Today's issue of PD

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

- ENT Technologies
- Spring Spotlight

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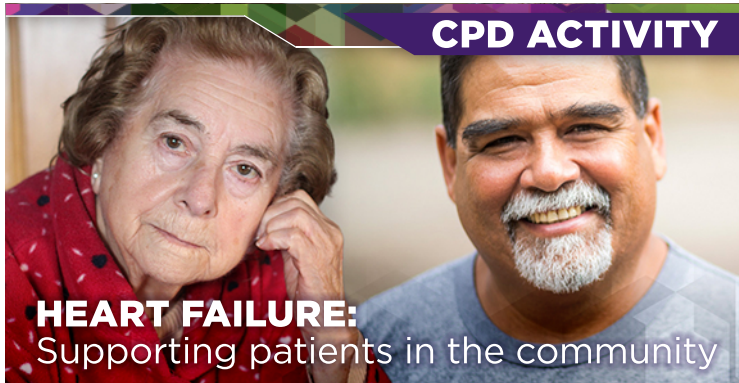
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CWH, DoorDash delivery deal

DISCOUNT pharmacy giant, Chemist Warehouse (CWH), has penned a deal with on-demand delivery service, DoorDash, to deliver online medication orders.

The store-to-door service aims to streamline CWH's ordering process, offering faster delivery than the group's normal service.

As part of the initial rollout, DoorDash delivery on all CWH products is being offered for free until Sun 05 Sep, CWH Director, Mario Tassone said.

"We're thrilled to be launching this campaign nationally with DoorDash," Tassone said.

"We're supporting our customers to 'Stay Home, Stay Safe and Stay Healthy' with access to free, fast delivery, at a time when they need it most".

Frontline doesn't stop at the hospital

RULES requiring all hospital, aged care and ambulance workers in NSW to have their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 30 Sep should be mandated for all health workers, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) believes.

PSA NSW Branch President, Chelsea Felkai, backed the State Government's mandate, which requires people working in those settings to be fully vaccinated by 30 Nov, but said it needed to go much further.

"This is an important move," Felkai said.

"But I cannot understand why the public health order does not apply to health workers in primary care - such as community pharmacists and general practitioners.

"Frontline healthcare doesn't just happen in hospitals.

"It happens in community pharmacies and medical centres.

"They are at an equally high-risk of transmission, as evidenced by their

frequent appearance on exposure site lists.

"All healthcare workers and the community should be able to have confidence that everyone working to support health has heeded the health advice.

"That is being vaccinated to protect themselves, their colleagues, and their patients."

PSA National President, Associate Professor Chris Freeman, added that other State and Territory governments needed to implement similar mandates to ensure healthcare workers are appropriately immunised.

"The actions taking by the NSW Government are a step in the right direction, protecting healthcare workers and mitigating the risk of further transmission in high-risk settings," he said.

"It is appropriate that requirements for vaccination are consistent across all high-risk settings, such as healthcare - rather



than being left as a decision for individual businesses and service providers.

"PSA asserts that the requirements must apply in all patient-facing settings, where pharmacists and other healthcare workers practise - including hospitals, community pharmacies, aged care, general practice and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations."

Freeman noted that while there may be genuine medical contraindications for a small number of people, there was a need to maximise vaccination rates within the health force to protect those workers.

Set Up for Success: How to run a successful COVID-19 vaccination clinic in community pharmacy

At Pharmacy Platform we have considered all aspects of your business, and there are some considerations to help ensure that you are set up for success in the COVID-19 vaccination roll out.

[Click here to read more](#)

Email george.vatousios@pharmacyplatform.com.au for more information.

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We can help you with:

- Practical workflow to implement COVID-19 vaccination through 1-on-1 coaching support
- Setting up your clinic room and signage
- Increase your reach and digital footprint online with a website or social media channels



Dispensary Corner

PUBLIC urination is never really socially acceptable, but surely when you've got to go, you've got to go?

Apparently not, on the banks of a border river in Norway, where a sign has been erected warning it is illegal to empty your bladder in the direction of the country's neighbour.

The new notice on the Jakobselva River (pictured) advises "No Peeing Towards Russia," with a fine of up to 3,000 kroner (about A\$500) applicable for anyone who feels the need to relieve themselves.

Visitors to the area are also advised that they are under video surveillance by Norwegian border guards, according to the *Barents Observer* which first highlighted the sign.

Norway's Border Commissioner, Jens-Arne Hoiland, told *AFP* that the area is popular with tourists, who can easily see Russia just a few metres away across the water.

"Urinating in nature is not necessarily offensive, but it depends on your point of view.

"In this case it falls under the law banning offensive behaviour at the border," Hoiland said.



MDR continues to grow

DIGITAL medication management provider, MedAdvisor (MDR), is reporting it now holds more than 65% of the Australian community pharmacy market.

Announcing its 2021 Financial Year (FY21) results this morning, MDR revealed operating revenue of \$38.8 million, up 27%, for its global business, with the pharmacy network delivering annualised recurring revenue (ARR) of \$6.6 million, and the lifetime value per customer now \$34,000 per store.

MDR said that the number of pharmacies using its services grew by more than 100 in FY21, adding that following the end of the reporting period it had secured the Priceline Pharmacy chain, which is expected to add a further 250 stores to the network, "along with significant patient growth".

"The pharmacy network has remained loyal with low churn due to significant product enhancements to the MedAdvisor



PlusOne solution," the company said.

Through its pharmacy network MDR reported it had more than two million digitally connected patients in Australia - up 25% on the previous year.

The company also reported that it had "played a vital role" in supporting community pharmacies throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with MDR pharmacies "responsible for [close to] 70% of all in-pharmacy vaccinations".

"These pharmacies are using MDR to book patients, record the service, connect with the Australian Immunisation Register and claim payments," the company said.

Arrotex's Anapen set for PBS listing

PATIENTS living with allergies will be able to access Arrotex's Anapen adrenaline (epinephrine) auto-injectors for the treatment of anaphylaxis through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) from 01 Sep.

Under the listing recommendation the Anapen 300 (300 microgram/0.3mL) and Anapen Junior 150 (150 microgram/0.3mL) auto-injectors will be substitutable with currently listed products.

Adult patients weighing more than 60kg will for the first time in Australia have access to a PBS-listed 500 mcg/0.3mL

adrenaline auto-injector with the listing of the Anapen 500 (500 microgram/0.3mL).

Arrotex General Manager of Marketing, Hayley Tamborini, said the addition of the Anapen range to the PBS would mean Australian patients are no longer reliant on a single brand.

"Anapen provides patients living with anaphylaxis more choice when they need it most," she said.

"This will enable patients to be better prepared for the life-changing impact of an anaphylaxis attack with Anapen."



Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is **Amit Saha, M-Pharm, MBA, MPS group technical manager, LaCorium Health**.



Getting a healthy head.

DRY, itchy or flaky scalp? You're not alone. Around half of us will suffer symptoms at some point. Many of us will experience symptoms caused by dry scalp, including dandruff, redness, itching and flakes, and, it can be more than just a mild irritation. Reports show that sufferers experience feelings of shame and embarrassment, which then affect confidence, self-esteem, and even relationships. There are four primary causes of dry, itchy scalp: dandruff, scalp psoriasis, seborrheic dermatitis and a reaction to hair care product.

Because symptoms are similar or the same, the biggest challenge for practitioners and sufferers is diagnosing which of the common causes is responsible, and then recommending the right way to treat it. While there are a mix of prescription, over the counter (OTC), and self-care remedies for itchy scalp, traditionally there has been no "one-stop shop" remedy for all four causes. Another challenge is that many of the treatments for itchy scalp are in the form of shampoo, which does not stay in contact with the scalp for long enough to adequately fix the underlying cause.

Dermal Therapy's new scalp range is the product for anyone with itchy scalp. Including a leave-on serum, and a rinse-off shampoo and conditioner, the Dermal Therapy range targets all four causes of itchy scalp. Cleansing, soothing and healing, these products are suitable for anyone over the age of two and are tar and steroid-free.

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Pharmacy Daily's Spring spotlight is your guide to all the essentials for the change of the seasons.
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Chemists' Own Fexo 180 Tablets RRP from \$9.95

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Phone: 1300 927 769

Website: www.chemistsown.com.au

Always read the label. Follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, talk to your health professional.



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