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Today's issue of PD

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

- TerryWhite Chemmart
- MIMS December Update

TWC support

PHARMACY owners looking to build their business can access support and expert advice through the TerryWhite Chemmart network.

See **page three** for more.

Doping changes

CHANGES to the World Anti-Doping Agency's prohibited list come into force from 01 Jan 2022.

The list includes a change to the daily dosing time intervals regarding salbutamol.

CLICK HERE for more.

Ownership rules backed

WITH concerns over the potential takeover of pharmacy wholesaler, and the Priceline Pharmacy franchise, by retail giants, Wesfarmers and Woolworths, the Victorian Pharmacy Authority (VPA) has reiterated its support for the pharmacy ownership rules.

In its Annual Report 2020-21, the VPA said it was "committed to ensuring that all pharmacies in Victoria are owned, operated and controlled by registered pharmacists".

The regulator noted that of the 45 ownership audits and one financial audit conducted by the Authority in the 2020 calendar year, no cases of silent or undeclared ownership were identified.

The VPA noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had created challenges for it in conducting audits, and said it had taken steps to minimise delays which included, "setting clearer expectations in correspondence to licensees



regarding turnaround times to respond to a request for further information", and "taking a tougher approach with licensees who are not cooperative, for example issuing notice of the Authority's intention to commence proceedings in the Magistrates Court if there was continued failure to produce documents".

The VPA also reported that it had started two reviews of established franchise agreements, and completed two others in the 2020-21 year.

Pharmacy cops cannabis ad fine

WESTERN Australian-based company, Commcare (WA) Pty Ltd - trading as St Francis Pharmacy - has been fined \$39,960 over alleged unlawful advertising of medicinal cannabis.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) reported that the pharmacy allegedly displayed a poster for a medicinal cannabis product that was not entered on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods at the time, in breach of the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*.

The regulator also said the company's website featured ad for the prescription medicine, while an ad on its Facebook page contained a restricted representation for the treatment of fibromyalgia, without TGA authorisation to do so.

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Dispensary Corner

THINK it's been hard keeping track of the changes in rules around COVID-19 vaccines in community pharmacy?

The acceleration of the booster campaign announced last weekend caught some off guard in Australia, but spare a thought for Irish pharmacists who saw the pool of people they could administer booster shots to expand dramatically only to shrink in a matter of hours.

On Wed morning pharmacies across the Emerald Isle were informed by the Health Service Executive (HSE) that they could provide boosters to patients aged 16 years and older, prompting many to open bookings for the service.

However, within a few short hours the HSE changed the rules to restrict pharmacists to administering the jabs to patients aged over 50 years, healthcare workers, pregnant women and those with underlying conditions - making appointments for those outside those groups void.

Booster fees not enough

AUSTRALIA'S COVID-19 booster vaccine program needs a fresh injection of cash to ensure it is economically viable for pharmacists and GPs to administer the doses, Australian Medical Association (AMA) President, Dr Omar Khorshid, believes.

Khorshid highlighted concerns over the Federal Government's funding of the booster campaign, as NSW and Victoria are grappling with surging COVID-19 case numbers, during an interview with *ABC News*.

"The Government has reduced the fee payable to both GPs and pharmacists for their participation in this third dose, compared with what was paid for the first two doses," he said.

"It's really raised eyebrows in general practice, and I know with the pharmacists as well.

"The Government needs to demonstrate its commitment to the booster program by upping that fee to make sure that GPs and pharmacists are able to make the investments they need to employ the staff, to set up extra clinics in the evenings, on weekends, and so on."

Pharmacy Guild of Australia



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[Click here for more info](#)

Advice secures donations

CUSTOMERS eager to acknowledge the support provided by one Sydney pharmacy during the COVID-19 pandemic have raised more than \$3,000 for Make-A-Wish Australia.

While many patients were willing to pay fees for pharmacy staff helping them to navigate the MyGov website or download vaccine certificates, Blooms The Chemist Burwood Retail Manager, Lorena Bravo, asked them to support the charity instead.

"It can be a time-consuming task, but we didn't feel it was necessary to ask for payment for our support," she said.

"The donation to Make-A-Wish felt like a win-win - we were able to support those kids' wishes and make our customers happy at the same time."



Christmas is coming early.

Unwrap →



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New Products

- **Casirivimab/imdevimab (Ronapreve)** are two recombinant human monoclonal antibodies which are unmodified in the Fc regions. Casirivimab and imdevimab bind to non-overlapping epitopes of the spike protein receptor binding domain (RBD) of SARS-CoV-2 with dissociation constants $K_D = 45.8$ pM and 46.7 pM, respectively. Casirivimab, imdevimab and casirivimab and imdevimab together blocked RBD binding to the human ACE2 receptor with IC_{50} values of 56.4 pM, 165 pM and 81.8 pM, respectively. Ronapreve has provisional approval for the treatment of COVID-19 in adults and adolescents (aged 12 years and older and weighing at least 40 kg) who do not require supplemental oxygen for COVID-19 and who are at increased risk of progressing to severe COVID-19; and for prevention of COVID-19 in adults and adolescents (aged 12 years and older and weighing at least 40 kg) who have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2 AND who either: have a medical condition making them unlikely to respond to or be protected by vaccination, or are not vaccinated against COVID-19. Ronapreve solution for infusion contains casirivimab 120 mg/mL and imdevimab 120 mg/mL in separate vials and is available in pack sizes of 1 + 1 single-use or 1 + 1 multidose vials.
- **Labetalol hydrochloride (Labetalol SXP)** lowers blood pressure primarily by blocking peripheral arteriolar alpha-adrenoceptors thus reducing peripheral resistance and, by concurrent beta-blockade, protects the heart from reflex sympathetic drive that would otherwise occur. Labetalol SXP is indicated for the emergency treatment of severe hypertension when prompt and urgent reduction of blood pressure is essential. It is contraindicated in patients with a history of asthma or a history of obstructive pulmonary disease; bradycardia (< 45 - 50 bpm); sick sinus syndrome (including sino-atrial block); second or third degree heart block; cardiogenic shock; symptomatic heart failure; severe peripheral circulatory disturbances; metabolic acidosis; untreated pheochromocytoma; Prinzmetal's angina; where peripheral vasoconstriction suggests low cardiac output, to control hypertensive episodes following acute myocardial infarction; hypotension; right ventricular failure secondary to pulmonary hypertension; and significant right ventricular hypertrophy. Labetalol SXP solution for injection contains labetalol hydrochloride 50 mg/10 mL and is available in a pack size of 10.
- **Lanadelumab (Takhzyro)** is a fully human, monoclonal antibody (IgG1/ κ -light chain) produced in Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells by recombinant DNA technology. Lanadelumab inhibits active plasma kallikrein proteolytic activity without binding prekallikrein, the inactive precursor found in the circulation. Increased plasma kallikrein activity leads to angioedema attacks in patients with hereditary angioedema (HAE). Lanadelumab provides sustained control of plasma kallikrein activity and thereby limits bradykinin generation in patients with HAE. Takhzyro is indicated for routine prevention of recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema (C1-esterase-inhibitor deficiency or dysfunction) in patients aged 12 years and older. Takhzyro solution for injection contains lanadelumab 300 mg/2 mL and is available in pack sizes of 1 pre-filled syringe or 1 single-dose vial.

New Indications

- **Anidulafungin (Eraxis)** is now indicated for invasive candidiasis, including candidaemia in adult and paediatric patients one month and older.
- **Influenza virus vaccine, surface antigen, quadrivalent (inactivated) (Influvac Tetra)** is now indicated in adults and children from 6 months of age and older.

New Contraindications

- **Meloxicam (Mobic)** is now contraindicated in pregnancy.

This list is a summary of only some of the changes that have occurred over the last month. Before prescribing, always refer to the full product information.