

Thank you first responders

We're showing our appreciation with **10% off storewide* tomorrow** on First Responders Day, Thursday 24 June.

At Priceline Pharmacy, we want to recognise the selfless work of first responders, including **doctors, nurses, paramedics, police and firefighters**. We also want to thank our wonderful **pharmacists**, who are always at the front line.

The COVID-19 pandemic has tested us all but it's important to remember we aren't alone.

Australians have done an incredible job of supporting each other, especially our incredible first responders. We're so proud of them.

To show our gratitude, Priceline Pharmacy is offering all of you (yes, even those who don't work in the brand!) **10% off storewide* tomorrow, Thursday 24 June**.

All you need to do is bring your photo ID showing your work identity or wear your work uniform in store.

We want to say a big, heartfelt thank you for keeping us all safe and healthy, every day.

*Excludes prescriptions, pharmacy and pharmacist only medicines, practitioner recommended vitamins (Swisse Nutra+, Medlab and Bioceuticals) and gift cards. Offer available in store only.



10% OFF*

FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

This offer extends to all our wonderful **Pharmacists** too

#FirstRespondersDay
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a festival of
you



NEW Ferro-Max C™

with Vitamin C to aid absorption.*

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For use when iron deficiency or iron deficiency anaemia has been diagnosed by your doctor and a therapeutic iron supplement is recommended. Always read the label. Follow the directions for use. If symptoms persist, worsen or change unexpectedly, talk to your health professional. *Vitamin C has been shown to enhance the absorption of iron when taken together.



Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features three pages of news, a front cover page from Priceline Pharmacy, plus a Spatone fact sheet.

Savings for First Responders

PRICELINE will recognise the heroics of firefighters, nurses and paramedics with a 10% discount (excluding scheduled medicines) as part of its First Responders Day offer tomorrow.

See the cover page for more.

Snowdonian iron

LEARN more about Spatone iron-rich water, which is collected from a "unique source in Snowdonia, Wales".

See the Spatone fact sheet on page four for more.

Activate pharmacy COVAX now

COMMUNITY pharmacies should have been activated to join Australia's COVID-19 vaccination (COVAX) rollout months ago, a Federal MP believes.

Australian Labor Party backbencher, Josh Burns, hit out at the Federal Government's COVAX campaign, noting the role pharmacies have played in accelerating vaccination programs around the globe.

With the vaccination rollout significantly behind schedule, Burns told the House of Representatives yesterday, "we should have well over 50% of our population vaccinated by now".

"We have an outstanding health network," he said.

"Look at the ways in which countries around the world have successfully rolled out the vaccines.

"They've used pharmacies, they've used mass vaccination clinics and they have procured as many vaccines as possible."

Burns said the Government

had placed too much reliance on the AstraZeneca vaccine, initially turning down the offer of additional doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech shot, while also putting too much of the burden of the COVAX rollout effort on GPs.

"They put all their eggs in the AstraZeneca basket, and now that AstraZeneca has had a change of medical advice we are stuck," he said.

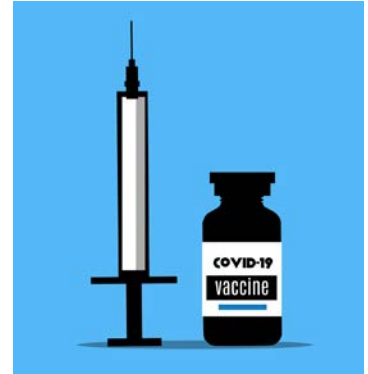
"The Federal Government also decided to roll out the vaccines through the GP network.

"I know many GPs, and they have done an amazing job.

"GPs have done a full list of vaccinations on top of their usual roster of patients.

"They have worked their backsides off because they, as health professionals, feel a sense of responsibility and duty to vaccinate as many people as possible.

"I say unashamedly that we are so grateful to our GPs, but they have been forced to do the majority of



the work when they didn't need to.

"Using mass vaccination clinics, community hubs and pharmacies, as well as procuring enough vaccines, could have supported them."

MEANWHILE, a statement from National Cabinet said that "many more primary care providers, including community pharmacies, will be offered the chance to administer mRNA vaccines as the supply of Pfizer significantly increases and the first supplies of Moderna arrive in Sep/Oct".

"OUT-OF-THE-BOX SOLUTION"
"PIECE BY PIECE CONVENIENCE"
"FUTURE PROOF"
"PHARMACY SPECIFIC, 360° OFFERING"
"BLENDED BRICKS AND MORTAR APPROACH"

"MODERN LOOKING SITES"
"EASY TO USE"
"GIVING CUSTOMERS A CHOICE"
"LIFESAVER"

What are they talking about?

STORBIE.COM/PHARMACY

STORBIE

Fred adds AI to aid dispensing tasks

PHARMACY software provider, Fred IT Group, is adding artificial intelligence (AI) to its new dispensing platform, Fred Dispense Plus, to support pharmacists.

The new tool, Fred AID - which stands for AI Directions - uses AI to predict medication directions, to allow pharmacists to quickly and safely enter directions for dispensing labels.

Fred CEO and pharmacist, Paul Naismith, said the tool helps cut the time pharmacists spend doing manual tasks.

"We are proud to be the first pharmacy software company in Australia to introduce artificial intelligence to support pharmacists with smarter and more intuitive dispensing," he said.

"AI will never replace the pharmacist in making clinical decisions.

"Where it can help is to increase safety and reduce time spend on standard and repetitive tasks, such as keying in medication directions.

"Anything that reduces re-keying of information or manual tasks means that pharmacists can spend time where they need to - supporting patients with health and clinical advice, and taking care of



their business."

The new Fred Dispense Plus platform retains core elements of its predecessor, Fred Dispense, while introducing a host of new features including:

- Faster electronic prescriptions, with embedded My Script List and token management through MedView Flow, and a new touch-based interface.
- Smarter tools, including a price comparison check, as well as

Fred AID.

- Safer dispensing using a new secure Microsoft SQL local database, and integrated MIMS drug interactions.

The new platform also features enhancements designed to safeguard security and access management to reduce cyber risk, while providing users choice of approved third party applications directly within the Fred Dispense Plus platform.

Owners consider apprenticeship

A GROUP of British pharmacy brands is revising plans to introduce an apprenticeship training model.

Skills for Health, the body facilitating the development of pharmacy apprenticeships for Health Education England told *The Pharmaceutical Journal* that any apprenticeship program would include the full Master of Pharmacy degree alongside a year-long integrated preregistration period.

The pharmacy apprenticeship proposal was initially floated in Apr 2019 by the Pharmacy Apprenticeship Trailblazer Group.

However, proposals were paused in Jan 2020 to allow "misconceptions" about the program to be addressed, with Skills for Health shelving the concept in Jun 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Probiotics could boost flu vaccines

SPECIFIC strains of probiotics may have the potential to improve the effectiveness and longevity of influenza vaccines, Metagenics Head of Science, Nathan Rose, believes.

Rose reported that a range of clinical trials had indicated that probiotics LGG and BB-12 can boost levels of antibodies that protect against flu viruses.

"Antibodies to the flu vaccine

are produced when the body's Toll Like Receptor (TRL)-5 is signalled, however the vaccine itself doesn't stimulate TRL-5," he said.

"Rather, that process is part of the body's natural immune response and requires the help of the intestinal microbial flagella, which is where probiotics come in."

Rose also noted that antibiotic use impacted vaccine efficacy.

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QUM advocate honoured by AACCP

MEDICINES safety advocate, Dr Manya Angley (pictured), has been awarded the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy (AACCP) MIMS 2021 Consultant Pharmacist of the Year (PotY) title.

The South Australian pharmacist was presented with a medallion, certificate and \$5,000 travel grant to attend a pharmacy conference related to the practice of consultant pharmacy, at last weekend's ConPharm 2021 event in Adelaide.

In a statement announcing Angley's win, the AACCP noted she has made a significant contribution to the practice of consultant pharmacy and is a strong advocate for the role of accredited pharmacists in promoting quality use of medicines (QUM) and positive health outcomes for all.

"Angley is passionate about ensuring people with intellectual and developmental disability receive the best health care available," the AACCP said.

"In Sep 2020 she provided testimony to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with

a Disability where she spoke of issues with inappropriate use of medicines and how accredited pharmacists can contribute their skills and knowledge to interdisciplinary teams for people with disability."

In her statement to the Royal Commission, Angley noted that Home Medicines Reviews and Residential Medication Management Reviews that she had conducted for patients with intellectual disabilities had identified misuse of psychotropic medicines, which triggered adverse effects.

"It was a privilege to provide a testimonial at the Disability Royal Commission in Sep [2020] and highlight the opportunities for pharmacists to upskill and play a greater role in providing better health care to people with disability, especially intellectual disability," she said.

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) CEO, Kristen Michaels, said that Angley was the fifth SHPA member to be named as the AACCP MIMS Consultant PotY Award winner in the last 10 years,



with Deirdre Cridle (2013), Joy Gailer (2015), Jenny Gowan (2016) and Natalie Soulsby (2017) previous recipients of the title.

"On behalf of SHPA members and our Board, I congratulate Manya on the progress she's led in reducing harm to some of the most vulnerable patients in our health system," Michaels said.

"It is wonderful to see her important work recognised and celebrated across the broader pharmacy profession."



Dispensary Corner

THERE'S been a medical miracle at a zoo in St Louis, Missouri in the USA where an elderly penguin has been fitted with some custom-designed shoes.

The arthritic southern rockhopper penguin, named Enrique, arrived at the St Louis Zoo in 2016 but is actually estimated to be about 30 years old - three times his life expectancy in the wild.

Zookeepers noticed some mobility issues over the last year, with the penguin developing thick calluses at the bottom of his feet.

After various topical treatments and pharmaceutical interventions, they decided to "think outside the box" and have some special avian boots made with plenty of cushioning.

The footwear was made by a New Jersey-based company called - you guessed it - Thera-Paw.

The shoes strap on using Velcro and are compatible with his semi-aquatic lifestyle - although keepers have to fit them each morning and remove them before bed.

They are marked with an "L" and "R" to guide installation, with staff veterinarian Jimmy Johnson, saying the shoes have been a great success.

"He's swimming more than he used to, he's climbing higher on the rocks than he used to."

"We always say his longevity is a credit to the zoo continuing to provide him with great care and husbandry," he added.

All we can say is, these boots are made for waddling.

Win thanks to SNOTTY



SNOTTY offers constant suction anywhere, anytime.

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What type and size of batteries should be used in a SNOTTY?

To win, be the first person to send the correct answer to comp@pharmacydaily.com.au

Troy takes fight to blood cancer

GRAFTON pharmacy owner, Michael Troy, is set to take part in the World's Greatest Shave in Sep, to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.

Troy has pledged to have his strawberry-blond locks shorn off in his pharmacy on Fri 03 Sep for the charity, despite opposition from his partner.

CLICK HERE to show your support for Troy's hair-shedding effort and donate now.

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iron-rich water

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- ❖ Maintain vitality
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- ❖ Support healthy immune system function

Spatone® is a naturally occurring iron-rich water. It is collected from a unique source in Snowdonia, Wales.

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Taking Spatone® can help ensure one's daily absorbed iron intake.

It is ideal for people who may not be getting what they need from their diets.

Suitable for woman with heavy periods, people doing high level of physical activity.

Packed into convenient, daily sachets, Spatone® can fit into everyone's daily routine.

What does Spatone contain?

Original: iron-rich water, nothing added

Apple: iron-rich water with apple juice concentrate and vitamin C (ascorbic acid)

- ❖ Free from artificial flavours and allergens

How to take Spatone:

Adults and children 2+ years: 1 sachet daily

Pregnant women: 2 sachets daily

Best taken on an empty stomach, 30-45mins before/after meals. You can drink it straight from the sachet, or add it to fruit juice and drink immediately.

Do not exceed recommended dosage instructions.

Suitable for:

- ❖ All the family (Children 2+ years)
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