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Pharmacies on watchlist

A FURTHER nine community pharmacies have been added to Victoria's list of COVID-19 exposure sites, with the number of confirmed cases in the state continuing to rise.

Over the weekend five Chemist Warehouse (CWH) locations were added to the list, with customers who visited the CWH store at the Epping Homemaker Center on 17 May between 6.30pm and 7.37pm, being advised to get tested and isolate until they receive a negative result

CWH Mickleham has also been identified as a Tier 2 exposure site, with people who were at the pharmacy on 22 May between 1.45pm and 2.45pm also being asked to go for testing, as were patients who visited the CWH stores at Chadstone Shopping Centre (between 11.53am and 2pm on 26 May) and the group's Northland Shopping Centre outlet on 22 May between 1.15pm and 3.15pm.

The CWH pharmacy and the Chemist Depot store at Pacific Epping Plaza were identified as Tier 3 exposure sites, with shoppers who attended the stores between 10.05am and 11.45am on 24 May being urged to monitor for



COVID-19 symptoms.

A further three My Chemist pharmacies (at Chadstone Shopping Centre and Northland Shopping Centre during the same times listed for the CWH stores) were also added to the Victorian Government's list of exposure sites, with patients who attended the My Chemist Broadway, Reservoir on 25 May between 4.45pm and 5.25pm, being asked to get tested and isolate until they get a negative

Today's issue of *PD*

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

- Pharmacium
- Winter Spotlight feature



pharmacy

network.









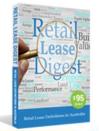
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Let pharmacists vaccinate: Tassone

POLITICIANS at both State and Federal levels need to stop arguing and focus their efforts on removing barriers to accessing COVID-19 vaccines, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, believes.

With Victoria in the grip of a fourth COVID-induced lockdown, Tassone reiterated calls for State Health Minister, Michael Foley, to give the green-light for community pharmacies to join the immunisation program.

"The Guild has been in ongoing contact with the Victorian Minister for Health and Department of Health over the weekend imploring them to activate community pharmacies in Victoria to deliver COVID vaccinations," Tassone said.

"Limitations of supply and certainty of future deliveries of vaccine stock continue to be the barriers put to the Guild as to why pharmacies have not been activated in Victoria.

"The Guild has reached out to the Federal Minister for Health, Greg Hunt's office to seek further assistance working with the Victorian Government of whether additional stock can be allocated to to address this.

"Over 800 community pharmacies in Victoria have been approved to deliver the COVID vaccination, yet look on from the sidelines as queues of up to six hours build up at mass vaccination centres or patients are turned away.

"Every day in pharmacies across Victoria - from Mildura to Gippsland and in between, there are ready, willing and eligible patients being turned away from being vaccinated as pharmacies don't have stock and don't know when they will.

"For a state in its fourth lockdown this beggars belief that eligible patients can't access the vaccine from their local pharmacy, may have to wait weeks for a GP appointment or can't get through the booking system to attend a



mass vaccination hub.

"Whether one thinks the vaccine roll out is a "race" or not - what we know is pharmacies aren't even on the track and the relay team needs help for the next leg to help finish the job.

"If State and Federal Governments could just put on hold their war of words for a moment and sort out activation of community pharmacies to help patients get vaccinated and protected - then we can take our next step on the road to recovery."

Make it happen

GETTING the chemistry of your store right can be critical to attracting patients and improving the efficiency of the pharmacy.

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See **page four** for more information.

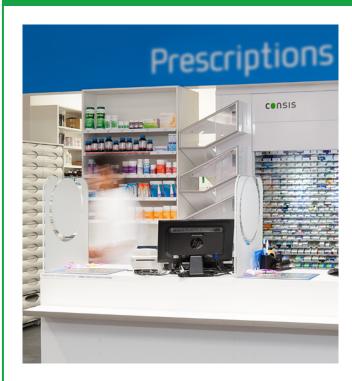
Tackling winter

TEMPERATURES are dropping around the country and winter is very much on its way.

However, there's no need to suffer in silence, with our first Winter Spotlight of 2021 featuring Chemists' Own Day and Night Cold and Flu Relief, and Flo Travel nasal spray.

Discover more on page five.

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Weekly Comment

Welcome to Pharmacy Daily's weekly comment feature. This week's contributor is Gavin Fielding,



Marketing Manager, Wizard Pharmacy.

Customer loyalty

CONVENIENCE and price are key factors impacting pharmacy consumers shopping behaviour. To grow a profitable pharmacy, you need to attract new customers with strong promotional campaigns and strategic pricing; and then, develop brand loyalty through exceptional value and personalised service.

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Wizard Pharmacy have combined a strong promotional program with the value of Wizard Rewards and partnerships with top-tier brands to form a definitive competitive advantage. CLICK HERE to learn more.

PSA RAP gets endorsed

RECONCILIATION Australia has given its endorsement to the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's (PSA's) Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), Reflect.

PSA National President, Associate Professor Chris Freeman, said the RAP would give the organisation a structured approach to advancing reconciliation.

"PSA is delighted to launch our RAP, as it signifies an important milestone for the organisation," he said.

"PSA's RAP will build on current reconciliation initiatives within the organisation, driving reconciliation through awareness and action.

"Our RAP provides a strategic framework that will ensure PSA is a culturally safe workplace and welcoming for everyone, irrespective of their cultural heritage.

"As the peak body representing pharmacists, Australia's most accessible workforce, PSA is ideally placed to improve medicine safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, particularly in rural and remote communities."

PSA South Australia and Northern Territory Branch Manager, added that the RAP reflected the organisation's commitment to creating a culturally safe and inclusive environment for Indigenous pharmacists, patients and stakeholders.

"Providing culturally safe healthcare comes with understanding and acceptance of the impact that generational disadvantage has had and continues to have on the mental and physical health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," she said.

"The development of this RAP is a commitment to ensure the cultural literacy of PSA staff towards being a culturally safe workplace which is then reflected in our member education and practice support services."

Dispensary Corner

ROBBERS usually wait until they're caught by police before expressing remorse for their crimes, but that was not the case for an Italian pharmacy bandit last week.

After losing his job the man lapsed into crime on Thu holding up a pharmacy in Rome and making off with an undisclosed sum of money.

However, a sense of guilt saw him return to the store later that day to hand his ill-gotten gains back to a member of staff and to apologise for his actions, *ANSA* reported.

The unemployed man told a pharmacy assistant that he was "desperate" when he held up the store, but regretted his actions and was "sorry" about the incident.

ELSEWHERE in Europe, the notoriously fair-skinned Irish appear to be marching from the COVID-19 pandemic to a skin cancer crisis, with 66% of the Emerald Isle's population reporting they do not use sunscreen during the summer.

Reseach by Lloyds Pharmacy group found just 16% of Irish people reported using sunscreen on a daily basis during the summer, with many accepting "sunburn as just part of enjoying the good weather", RTE reports.

Despite the country's reputation with the ancient Romans as Hibernia - the land of eternal winter - there are more than 12,000 cases of non-melanoma skin cancer each year, with sun exposure the top risk factor.

Blooms making wishes come true

BLOOMS The Chemist is continuing its support of the Make-A-Wish Australia with its annual Charity Golf Day at Strathfield Golf Course, raising more than \$50,000 to make dreams come true for five seriously ill children.

The pharmacy group has raised more than \$1 million for the charity through local and national fundraising activities since 2016.

Blooms The Chemist Head of Retail, Emmanuel Vavoulas, thanked corporate sponsors and the group's brand ambassadors, including former Australian Cricket Captain, Steve Waugh, for supporting the event. "It is such a privilege to hit the green and put out the clubs today to raise much needed raise for Make-A-Wish Australia," Vavoulas

"Today's efforts alone raised a further \$50,000 for the children's charity, who work tirelessly to make the biggest and boldest of dreams a reality for seriously-ill children and their families.

"Blooms The Chemist would like to extend a huge thank you to the community and our partners for making this year's Charity Golf Day a massive success.

"Without your help, we would not have been able to raise this life-changing amount."



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DITORIAL

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