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That's a Log 6 reduction... a top quality sanitiser.

Freight charges apply - at this ridiculously low non-profit price we cannot give freight free. \*As per microbiology test report against 10 pathogens by independent Australian Testing Laboratory: Eurofins AMS Laboratories - July 2020 report available on request.

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## Today's issue of PD

Pharmacy Daily today features two pages of news plus a front cover page from Piksters and a full page from PharmX.

## Sanitiser deals

PHARMABROKER Sales is offering discounts of up to 51% on Piksters Shield hand sanitiser with vitamin E.

Pharmacies can also avail of a 20% price cut on Pikster Shield Level 2 face masks.

See cover page for more.

## Get more from IT

ELECTRONIC stock management and invoicing platform, PharmX is helping pharmacies support their communities.

See page three to learn how you can optimise your use of PharmX.

# No more cupcakes and applause

PHARMACISTS' calls for "same job, same pay" in relation to the administration of COVID-19 vaccinations has received support from Federal Shadow Assistant Health Minister, Emma McBride.

Speaking during last night's Pharmacy Guild of Australia fortnightly update webinar, the pharmacist-turned-politician said the time, skills and effort of pharmacist immunisers "just hasn't been properly recognised" under the national vaccination rollout.

"I can't understand how the Government can justify the gap in remuneration [between pharmacists and GPs]," she said.

"It should be 'same job, same pay', and pharmacists should be properly recognised for the work that they're doing, for the skills and expertise that pharmacists have.

"There shouldn't be that disparity between what pharmacists are remunerated [and what GPs are paid].

"Pharmacists have told me [that]



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some of them are going backwards in order to be able to provide the vaccine... they want to do their bit, but the way that they're being remunerated is hindering them from doing it.

"I don't want to see any community pharmacist not join the vaccine rollout, or feel that they can't continue to stay in it because of the remuneration - it's just not right."

McBride added that the Government needed to go beyond

paying lip service to the profession for the work pharmacists do across the board.

"It's one thing for the Government to say 'we recognise pharmacists', or 'we acknowledge your contribution'," she said.

"In properly valuing it, they need to remunerate it, as some people have said to me 'the time for cupcakes and applause is over'.

"What we really need to see is proper remuneration to really see the value of what pharmacists do."

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## AMA's pharmacy plan a 'terrible idea'

**PROPOSALS** to deregulate the community pharmacy sector put forward by the Australian Medical Association (AMA) this week are not based on evidence, Pharmacy Guild of Australia Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, believes.

Speaking on *Radio Melbourne's The Conversation Hour* yesterday, Tassone described the AMA's call for the removal of the existing pharmacy location and ownership rules as "a terrible idea".

"It's not based on any evidence," he said.

"What the location rules actually do here in Australia is they help spread out Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) approved pharmacies, so that there is greater accessibility for patients to PBS medicines.

"Over 87% of the Australian public

live within 2.5km of an approved pharmacy to get PBS medicines.

"Sadly that's just not the case in terms of accessibility to a GP.

"They tend to be clustered in metropolitan areas - we have even seen this in Melbourne during the COVID-19 pandemic, there's been gaps in access in some of the western and northern suburbs to getting a vaccination.

"So when you remove things like location rules it actually has really bad unintended consequences on patient access.

"I can tell you that I can't think of a town in Australia that has a GP clinic but doesn't have a pharmacy, but there's plenty of examples of the opposite."

Tassone also rejected the AMA's assertion that deregulation of the sector would drag medicine prices down.



"I don't understand the logic behind that, because the majority of prescriptions dispensed in Australia, that's over 300 million prescriptions every year which are subsidised under the PBS, so there's a set price based on a government subsidy," he said.

"I have to pull the AMA president up here - he's got it wrong in terms of what Australians are paying in terms of out of pocket costs - the figures quoted in their paper is a PBS subsidy, and that's flatlined... due to reforms to the PBS."



## Dispensary Corner

**WHILE** many world leaders are gathered in Glasgow for this week's global climate summit, it's not clear whether they are considering toilet-training cows as a solution to global warming.

A scientific paper recently published in the *Cell Biology* journal suggests it may be possible to get cows to cut down their frequency of peeing to just once or twice a day in designated areas, making it easier to process and neutralise their urinary methane emissions.

The study was a collaboration between NZ's University of Auckland and the Research Institute for Farm Biology in Germany, with researchers saying "learned control of urinary reflexes...is an original and hitherto unrealised opportunity" in the fight against climate change.

An experiment saw calves which urinated in a so-called "MooLoo" rewarded with a sweet liquid, while those which just used the great outdoors were mildly punished with a three second cold water spray.

After 15 sessions of 45 minutes each, carried out over a two week period, the scientists found 11 of the 16 cows were successfully toilet trained.

## TWC boasts strong sales performance

**OVER** the last four weeks TerryWhite Chemmart (TWC) stores have delivered front of shop sales growth of 4.5% year-on-year, the group's network partners were told during a virtual event last night.

The group's performance significantly outpaced the overall market rate of 0.8% for the same period, with Executive General Manager, Nick Munroe, reporting the growth was driven by "key

destination categories like pain management, cough and cold, and digestive health".

Munroe added that TWC stores have received close to 400,000 COVID-19 vaccines, with the network having administered more than 20% of all Moderna vaccines given to date, "which is driving many new customers into our pharmacies".

He added that the group was continuing to add new stores.

## One Night ban

**THE** Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is urging consumers against taking One Night Love and 777k capsules.

The regulator warned that both products contain undeclared quantities of sildenafil, pose "a serious risk to your health".

The TGA said it is working with the Australian Border Force to stop shipments of the drugs from entering Australia.

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