

Tas gives COVAX booster green-light

COMMUNITY pharmacists in Tasmania are now able to administer Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (COVAX) booster shots, after the State Government granted approval for the sector to join the program.

The move brings the State's legislation into line with the rest of the country, and has been welcomed by Pharmacy Guild of Australia Tasmanian Branch President, Helen O'Byrne.

"As soon as the Federal Minister for Health announced that COVAX

booster shots would be made available through community pharmacies, we had patients asking for them", she said.

"Pharmacies across Tasmania have already provided over 30,000 first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccinations.

"Now we have the go ahead at the state level, we will be able to support requests from people eligible to receive their booster as well.

"Regardless of where someone received their original COVID-19



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vaccinations, whether that was through a state clinic, or from a general practitioner, they are able to receive their booster at any participating community pharmacy."

Tasmanian-based former Pharmaceutical Society of Australia National President, Dr Shane Jackson, noted that an order he had placed for the Pfizer vaccine had been cancelled earlier this week, because his pharmacy had not been approved to administer the vaccination.



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References: 1. Resolve Plus Product Information. Date of Most Recent Amendment 26 October 2018. 2. Van Cutsem JM, Thienpont D. Miconazole, a broad-spectrum antimycotic agent with antibacterial activity. *Chemotherapy* 1972;17:392-404.

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Fraud charges for attempted bribe

A WESTERN Australian woman is facing fraud charges after a failed attempt to bribe a pharmacist to falsify her COVID-19 vaccination history earlier this week.

The 34-year-old offered the Geraldton-based pharmacist an "unspecified" sum to fraudulently claim she had administered the vaccine, *PerthNow* reported.

"Geraldton police have charged a 34-year-old woman after an incident that occurred at a pharmacy on Mon 08 Nov," a police spokeswoman said.

"About 3.25pm, the woman attended a scheduled appointment at a pharmacy in Geraldton to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

"Upon attending, the woman

was escorted by a pharmacist to a consult room, where she requested the pharmacist fraudulently administer the vaccine in exchange for an unspecified amount of money."

The incident comes more than two weeks after Pharmacy Guild of Australia Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone, reported that a vaccine hesitant woman had offered him \$1,000 to falsify her vaccination record, as he was preparing to administer the shot.

Tassone told *The Age* that when he declined the bribe, the woman was verbally abusive towards him, and called him greedy.

In a Twitter post following the



incident, he said that he told the woman, "this needle is going in someone's arm, your's or the next person... roll up your sleeve or get out".

"She rolled up her sleeve," he said.



Dispensary Corner

BRITISH and Irish pharmacists are being warned to brace for a fake tan supply chain crisis as the northern hemisphere winter hits.

A shortage of ethoxydiglycol, a key ingredient of many tanning lotions and beauty products, is expected to deny many traditionally pasty-faced Paddies and Poms the opportunity to glow like overgrown oompa loompas during the festive season, *RSVLive.ie* reported.

The supply issue is likely to limit the impact of the expected post-COVID-19 lockdown bump in front-of-shop sales as life returns to something close to normal, and people refocus their attention on personal grooming, after ditching soap and deodorant.



Moderna for kids

THE Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has granted a provisional determination for the proposed use of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine in children aged six years and older.

The regulator said that in making its decision to grant the provisional determination it has considered evidence of a plan to submit comprehensive clinical data in relation to the vaccine's use in children.

Moderna has also submitted an application for the vaccine to be approved for booster doses.

PSA, NSW RDN to host rural workshop

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) and the NSW Rural Doctors Network (RDN) will host the inaugural Rural Pharmacists Workshop on Tue 16 Nov.

The two-hour long virtual event will discuss the integration of community pharmacy and general practice in rural settings, focusing on the benefits of team-based care approaches to healthcare in regional areas.

Organisers believe the event will follow-up on research from James Cook University which identified the opportunity, and the need, for community

pharmacy to be engaged in rural healthcare.

The event will also review real-life case studies and discuss practical learning, with the goal of bringing team-based approaches to healthcare to fruition in rural settings.

Delegates will be eligible for two Category 1 CPD points.

PSA members can avail of a \$50 discount on registration, while rural pharmacists may be eligible for an RDN bursary to cover their registration costs - [CLICK HERE](#) to check your eligibility.

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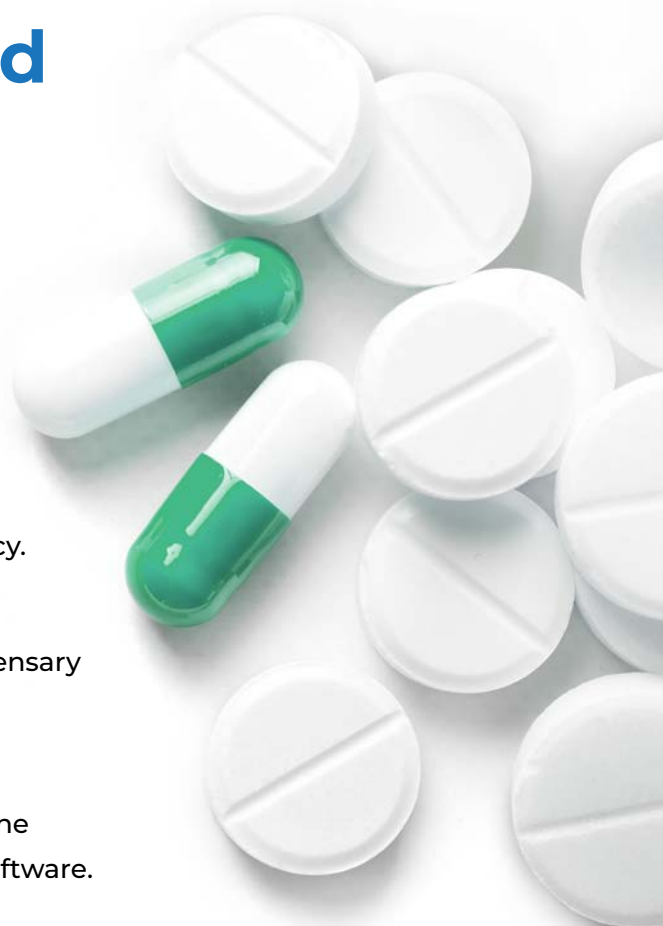
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